



Strasbourg, 23 May 2016

**CDL-REF(2016)040**  
Engl. only

**Opinion no. 846 / 2016**

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**  
**(VENICE COMMISSION)**

**UKRAINE**

**LAW<sup>1</sup>**  
**ON ELECTIONS OF THE PEOPLE'S**  
**DEPUTIES OF UKRAINE**

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<sup>1</sup> *Unofficial OSCE/ODIHR translation*

**Law****On Elections of the People's Deputies of Ukraine  
(Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (BVR), 2012, № 10-11, p. 73)**

{On recognizing certain provisions as unconstitutional see the Constitutional Court Decision

№ 7-rp/2012 dd. 04.04.2012

№ 8-rp/2012 dd. 05.04.2012}

{As amended pursuant to the Laws

№ 5463-VI dd. 16.10.2012, BVR, 2014, № 4, p. 61

№ 245-VII dd. 16.05.2013, BVR, 2014, № 12, p. 178

№ 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013, BVR, 2014, № 22, p. 794

№ 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014, BVR, 2014, № 18-19, p. 696

№ 1227-VII dd. 17.04.2014, BVR, 2014, № 27, p. 904}

**Chapter I****GENERAL PROVISIONS****Article 1.** Basic Principles of Elections of Members of Parliament of Ukraine

1. The People's Deputies 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. The quantitative composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is 450 MPs.

3. The election of MPs shall be conducted on the basis of a mixed (proportional-majority) electoral system:

1) 225 MPs shall be elected on the basis of a proportional system in a nationwide multi-member election district (hereinafter, nationwide election district) under electoral lists of MP candidates (hereinafter, electoral lists) from political parties (hereinafter, parties);

2) 225 MPs shall be elected on the basis of a simple majority system in single-mandate election districts (hereinafter, single-mandate election districts).

**Article 2.** Universal Suffrage

1. Elections in Ukraine shall be based on universal suffrage. The right to vote in an election of MPs may be exercised by Ukrainian citizens who are eighteen years old on the day of voting. Ukrainian citizens who have the right to vote are the voters.

2. A voter may exercise his or her right to vote in the election, provided that he or she is included in the voter list for the respective election precinct.

3. The documents that identify a voter and his or her Ukrainian citizenship in an election of MPs shall be:

1) a passport of a citizen of Ukraine;

2) a temporary certificate of Ukrainian citizenship (for persons who were recently granted citizenship);

3) a card (certificate) of a penitentiary institution or a pretrial detention center that must contain: the voter's last name, first name, patronymic, day, month and year of birth, citizenship, photograph, the director's signature and the institution's seal (for persons who are detained in penitentiary institutions or pretrial detention centers);

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- 4) passport of a citizen of Ukraine for traveling abroad;
  - 5) a diplomatic passport;
  - 6) a service passport;
  - 7) a military service record card (exclusively for military conscripts).
4. The documents specified in Clauses 1, 2, and 7 Part 3 of this Article shall be the basis for obtaining a ballot paper and can be used in both regular and special election precincts.
5. The document mentioned in Clause 3 Part 3 of this Article shall be the basis for obtaining a ballot paper and can be used in a special election precinct established in the respective penitentiary institution or pretrial detention center.
6. The documents specified in Clauses 4 – 6 Part 3 of this Article shall be the basis for obtaining a ballot paper and can be used in foreign election district and special election precincts established on ships sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, as well as at Ukraine's polar station. A passport of a citizen of Ukraine may serve as the basis for obtaining a ballot paper in foreign election district created in countries that citizens of Ukraine may visit on the basis of their passports.
7. Citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote may participate in the work of election commissions as members, in election campaigning, in observing the conduct of the election of MPs, and in other activities in accordance with the procedures set forth by this Law and other Laws of Ukraine.
8. Any direct or indirect privileges or restrictions on the electoral rights of Ukrainian citizens based on race, color of skin, political, religious and other beliefs, gender, ethnic and social origin, material status, place of residence, language or other grounds shall be prohibited. Restrictions on the participation of Ukrainian citizens in the election process, except those provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Law, shall not be allowed.
9. A citizen who has been declared incompetent by a court shall not have the right to vote.
10. A voter who resides or on the election day stays in the territory of a foreign state as well as a citizen of Ukraine who temporarily changed his or her voting address (without changing the election address) for another election precinct outside the single-mandate election district to which such voter belongs on the basis of the data of the State Register of Voters on his election address, has a right to vote at the elections of MPs only in the nationwide election district. The exercise of this right shall be insured by including the voter in the list of voters at a respective election precinct stating that such voter shall receive only the ballot to voting in the nationwide election district.

*{Part 10 was added to Article 2 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

### **Article 3. Equal Suffrage**

1. Elections in Ukraine shall be based on equal suffrage: Ukrainian citizens shall participate in the election of the MPs on an equal basis.
2. Each voter shall have one vote in a single-mandate election district and one vote in the nationwide election district. A voter may exercise his or her right to vote only at one election precinct where he or she is included in the voter list. A voter shall exercise his or her right to vote in an election according to the procedures set forth by this Law.

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3. All candidates for People's Deputy of Ukraine (hereinafter, MP candidates) shall have equal rights and opportunities to participate in the election process.

4. All parties that are electoral subjects shall have equal rights and opportunities to participate in the election process in accordance with the procedures and within the limits prescribed by this Law.

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

1) prohibition of candidates' privileges or restrictions based on race, color of skin, political, religious and other beliefs, sex, ethnic and social origin, material status, place of residence, language or other grounds;

2) prohibition of interference of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and self-government bodies with the election process, except for cases specified by this Law;

3) equal and unbiased treatment of the candidates and parties that are electoral subjects by the state bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and self-government bodies, as well as their officials;

4) prohibition on the use by candidates and parties that are electoral subjects of resources other than those of their electoral funds for election campaign funding;

5) equal and unbiased treatment of the candidates and parties that are electoral subjects by mass media.

#### **Article 4. Direct Suffrage**

1. Elections of MPs in Ukraine shall be direct. Ukrainian citizens shall elect MPs by voting for MP candidates included in the voter list of a party, as well as for candidates in single-mandate election districts.

#### **Article 5. Voluntary Participation in Elections**

1. Participation of Ukrainian citizens in the election of MPs shall be voluntary. No one may be compelled to participate or not to participate in the election.

#### **Article 6. Free Elections**

1. The election of the MPs shall be free. Ukrainian citizens shall be provided with conditions for free formation of their will and its free expression when voting.

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

3. In order to ensure conditions for free expression of their will, on the day of voting members of the military shall be granted leave of absence for no less than four hours to participate in the voting.

#### **Article 7. Secret Voting**

1. Voting in the election of MPs shall be secret: control over a voter's will expression shall be prohibited.

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2. Members of election commissions and other persons shall be forbidden from taking any actions or making public any information enabling anyone to find out the result of a particular voter's expression of will.

**Article 8. Personal Voting**

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

**Article 9. Right to Be Elected**

1. A citizen of Ukraine who has reached the age of 21, shall have the right to vote, and has been residing in Ukraine for the previous five years may be elected an MP.

2. Residing in Ukraine under this Law shall mean:

- 1) residing in the territory within the state borders of Ukraine;
- 2) staying on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine;
- 3) staying of citizens of Ukraine, pursuant to the procedure established by the law, in foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine, international organizations and in their bodies, as a result of their foreign assignment;
- 4) staying at Ukraine's polar station;
- 5) staying within the command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine stationed abroad

3. Persons residing with persons specified in Clause 3 of Part 2 of this Article as their family members shall be also be deemed to be residing in Ukraine.

4. A person who has been convicted of committing a deliberate crime can neither be nominated nor elected as an MP, unless this criminal record has been cleared or canceled pursuant to the procedure established by law.

**Article 10. Right to Nominate MP Candidates**

1. Ukrainian citizens who have the right to vote may nominate MP candidates. This right shall be exercised through the parties or by means of self-nomination pursuant to this Law.

**Article 11. Election Process**

1. The election process shall mean the implementation by the subjects listed in Article 12 of this Law of the election procedures provided for by this Law.

2. The election process shall be based on the principles of:

- 1) compliance with the principles of suffrage laid down in Articles 2 – 10 of this Law;
- 2) legality and prohibition of unlawful interference of anyone in the election process;
- 3) political pluralism and multi-party system;
- 4) public nature and transparency;
- 5) freedom of election campaigning, equal access of all candidates and parties that are electoral subjects to mass media, regardless of their form of ownership, except mass media established (owned) by parties or MP candidates in single-mandate election districts;

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6) unbiased treatment of parties that are electoral subjects and MP candidates by state bodies, bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies, courts, enterprises, establishments, institutions, organizations, their heads or other officials.

3. Executive bodies of the state, including a specially authorized central executive body responsible for the implementation of state policy in the area of management of the budget funds, a specially authorized central executive body responsible for implementation of state policy in the area of state registration of legal persons and individual entrepreneurs, as well as courts, election commissions, and law enforcement agencies (prosecutor's office, police), bodies of the State Register of Voters, shall organize their work during the election process, including the days-off and the day of voting, in a manner that will ensure the receipt and consideration of documents related to the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs, lawsuits, complaints and appeals of the election commissions within the terms and in the manner prescribed by this Law.

*{Part 3 Article 11 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4. The start the election process for a regular election shall be announced by the Central Election Commission within the time framework specified by this Law.

5. The election process shall include the following stages:

- 1) nomination of MP candidates;
- 2) establishment of election commissions (except the Central Election Commission);
- 3) registration of MP candidates;
- 4) election campaigning;
- 5) establishment of special election precincts existing on a temporary basis;
- 6) compiling voter lists, their verification and updating;
- 7) voting;
- 8) vote counting and tabulation of the results of the voting;
- 9) establishment of the results of the election of MPs and their official promulgation;
- 10) termination of the powers of district and precinct election commissions.

6. In the cases provided for by this Law, the election process shall also comprise the following stages:

- 1) repeat voting;
- 2) vote counting and tabulation of the results of the repeat voting.

7. The election process shall be completed fifteen days following the day of official promulgation of the election results by the Central Election Commission.

8. The powers of district and precinct election commissions may be partially exercised outside of the official time frame of the election process in the cases provided for in this Law.

9. Repeat elections and by-elections of MPs may be conducted simultaneously with the All-Ukrainian or a local referendum, election of the President of Ukraine, election of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local councils as well as village, settlement and city mayors.

*{Part 9 was added to Article 11 pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

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10. Regular and early elections of MPs may not be conducted simultaneously with the All-Ukrainian or a local referendum, regular or early elections of the President of Ukraine, regular election of members of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local councils as well as village, settlement and city mayors.

*{Part 10 was added to Article 11 pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

#### **Article 12. Electoral Subjects**

1. The following shall be electoral subjects:

- 1) voter;
- 2) the Central Election Commission, as well as any other election commission established in accordance with this Law;
- 3) a party that has nominated an MP candidate;
- 4) an MP candidate who has been registered according to the procedures established by this Law;
- 5) an official observer of a party that has nominated candidates to the nationwide district, of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, of a non-governmental organization, who has been registered according to the procedure set out in this Law (hereinafter, the official observer of a party, an MP candidate, an NGO).

*{Clause 5 Part 1 Article 12 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

#### **Article 13. Publicity and Transparency of the Election Process**

1. The election of the MPs shall be prepared and conducted in a public and transparent manner.

2. The election commissions shall ensure the public nature and transparency of the election process by:

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

3. Decisions of election commissions as well as decisions of executive bodies relating to the right of voters to vote in an election shall be made public by the aforementioned bodies through printed mass media or, if that is not possible, through other means. Decisions of the Central Election Commission and of district election commissions that pertain to the election process and are of public interest shall be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

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4. The mass media shall report on preparations for and conduct of elections in an unbiased manner. Mass media representatives shall be guaranteed unrestricted access to all public events related to the election, as well as to meetings of election commissions and to the premises of election precincts on the day of voting, subject to the conditions specified by Part 3 Article 34 of this Law. Within the scope of their authority, election commissions, executive bodies and officials thereof shall provide the mass media with information relating to the preparation for and conduct of the election.

5. Diplomatic offices of Ukraine abroad in which foreign election district are established shall ensure the publication in local mass media of information on the time and place of voting, the location of the respective election precincts and premises for voting, the terms and procedure for applying to precinct election commissions, in particular with respect to inclusion of a voter in the voter list for the foreign election precinct.

**Article 14.** Legislation Applicable to Elections of Members of Parliament

1. The preparation and conduct of elections of MPs shall be governed by *the Constitution of Ukraine*, the Laws of Ukraine *On the Central Election Commission*, and *On the State Voter Register*, by this and other Laws of Ukraine, as well as other legislative acts adopted in accordance therewith.

**Chapter II**  
**THE PROCEDURE AND TIMELINES FOR THE CALLING AND CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS**  
**OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

**Article 15.** Forms of Elections of Members of Parliament and the Procedure by Which They Are Called

1. The election of MPs may be regular, pre-term, repeat, or a by-election.
2. A regular election of MPs shall be conducted in connection with termination of the term of office of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, as established by the Constitution of Ukraine, and shall not require a separate decision on its calling.
3. A pre-term election of MPs shall be called by the President of Ukraine on the grounds and in accordance with the procedure provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine.
4. A repeat election of an MP in a single-mandate election district shall be called by the Central Election Commission, if the election in such a district was declared invalid, or if a person who was elected has not acquired an MP mandate pursuant to the procedure established by this Law.
5. A by-election of an MP shall be called by the Central Election Commission pursuant to the procedure established by this Law, in case of pre-term termination of office of an MP elected in a single-mandate election district.

**Article 16.** Time Frames for Conduct of Elections

1. A regular election to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be held on the last Sunday in October of the fifth year of the term of office of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

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2. In a regular election, the election process shall start ninety days prior to the day of voting. The Central Election Commission shall announce the start of the election process no later than ninety one days prior to the day of voting.

3. A pre-term election of MPs shall be held on the last Sunday of the sixty-day period following the day of publication of the decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the term of office of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, issued in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine.

4. In a pre-term election, the election process shall start on the day following the day of publication of the decree of the President of Ukraine specified in Part 3 of this Article.

5. A repeat election in a single-mandate election district shall be called no later than ten days following the day when the election was declared invalid or the Central Election Commission adopted a decision whereby a person who was elected is declared to have failed to acquire the mandate of an MP. A repeat election shall be held on the last Sunday of the sixty-day period following the day of publication by the Central Election Commission of the decision calling for such an election. In a repeat election, the election process shall start on the day following the day of publication of the Central Election Commission's decision calling for such election.

*{Part 5 Article 16 as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd.08.04.2014}*

6. A decision calling for a by-election of an MP in a single-mandate election district shall be adopted by the Central Election Commission no later than ten days following the day of early termination of the powers of an MP elected in that district. A by-election shall be held on the last Sunday of the sixty-day period following the day of publication by the Central Election Commission of the decision calling for such election. In a by-election, the election process shall start on the day following the day of publication of the Central Election Commission decision calling for such election.

*{Part 6 Article 16 as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

7. No by election or repeat election shall be held during the fifth year of the term of office of the current convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

#### **Article 17. Procedure for Defining Election Time Frames**

1. The time frames specified in this Law shall be counted in calendar days; in certain cases the time frames shall be counted in hours or minutes.

2. The first day of a time period that, under this Law, begins with the occurrence of a certain event, shall be the day following the day of occurrence of that event.

3. The last day of the time period that, under this Law, ends with the occurrence of a certain event, shall be the day preceding the day of occurrence of that event.

### **Chapter III TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

#### **Article 18. Election Districts**

1. The election of Members of Parliament shall be held in a nationwide election district, which shall include the whole territory of Ukraine and foreign election district, and in 225 single-

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mandate election districts, which shall be established by the Central Election Commission and shall exist on a permanent basis.

The foreign election district (hereinafter, foreign district) shall include all foreign election precincts established as provided for in Article 22 of this Law.

2. Single-mandate districts, where possible, shall meet the following requirements:

- 1) single-mandate districts shall be created within the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the oblasts, the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol, with approximately equal number of voters in each district. The approximate average number of voters in single-mandate districts shall be determined by the Central Election Commission on the basis of data of the State Voter Register. A deviation in the number of voters in a single-mandate election district may not exceed twelve percent from the approximate average number of voters in single-mandate election districts;
- 2) a single-mandate district shall be determined by the territory, within the boundaries of which the election precincts belonging to it are located. The center of the single-mandate district is an administrative territorial unit where the district election commission is located;
- 3) the boundaries of single-mandate districts are determined taking into consideration the boundaries of administrative territorial units, interests of the members of territorial communities and national minorities residing in the respective territory.

Neighboring administrative territorial units with dense population of certain national minorities shall belong to the same election district. In the cases when in neighboring administrative territorial units the number of voters belonging to national minorities is higher than necessary for creation of one election district, districts are formed in such a way that in one of them the voters belonging to the national minority constitute the majority of voters in this election district.

The data on the density of population of national minorities in the respective territory shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission by a central executive body responsible for implementation of the state policy in the sphere of inter-ethnic relations and protection of the rights of national minorities in Ukraine.

3. When it is necessary to create new (eliminate) regular election precincts or to change the boundaries of the existing election precincts within a single-mandate election district, the Central Election Commission makes a respective decision to change the boundaries of the neighboring single-mandate districts and their centers.

No boundaries and centers of single-mandate districts may be changed during the election process.

4. The Central Election Commission not later than one hundred seventy-five days before the day of voting shall publish on its official web-site the list of single-mandate election districts with their numbers and boundaries as well as the addresses of the respective election commissions premises; and not later than on the second day after the beginning of the election process it shall publish these data in the national and regional printed media.

*{Article 18 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

#### **Article 19. Election Precincts**

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

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2. An election precinct may be regular, special, or out-of-country. Regular and foreign election district shall be created by the Central Election Commission and shall exist on a permanent basis. A special election precinct may exist on a permanent or temporary basis, as provided for by this Law.

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

Election precincts shall be divided into:

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

4. If the number of voters in a particular territory, establishment, or institution is less than twenty, an election precinct may be established by a decision of the Central Election Commission in the respective territory, establishment, or institution with a number of voters falling short of the limit established by Paragraph 1 of Part 3 of this Article. Foreign election district can be created with more than two thousand five hundred voters.

5. An election precinct shall be the same for the election in both the nationwide election district and single-mandate election districts.

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

7. Requirements relating to the office of a precinct election commission and the premises for voting shall be set forth by the Central Election Commission taking into account the requirements of Article 83 of this Law.

#### **Article 20. Regular Election Precincts**

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

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

#### **Article 21. Special Election Precincts**

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

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

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

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

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

3. Special election precincts existing on a temporary basis shall be established by the district election commissions no later than forty-five days prior to the day of voting.

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

5. Special election precincts existing on a temporary basis shall be established by a district election commission on the basis of a submission, of a form approved by the Central Election Commission, from the relevant rayon or city rayon state administrations or executive committees of city councils in cities of oblast (republican in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) subordination. The aforementioned submissions shall be presented to the relevant district election commission no later than forty-eight days prior to the day of voting.

6. A submission regarding the establishment of a special election precinct in the respective establishment or institution shall contain:

- 1) the name of the institution or establishment;
- 2) the legal address of the institution or establishment;
- 3) the approximate number of voters who will stay at the institution or establishment on the day of voting;
- 4) the availability of the respective premises to be used for voting and their address (if the address of the premises for voting differs from the legal address of the institution or establishment);
- 5) commitment of the administration of the establishment or institution to provide unimpeded access to the premises to be used for voting to members of the respective election commission and for persons who, under this Law, have the right to be present therein during the voting and vote counting.

7. A submission regarding the establishment of a temporary special election precinct on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine shall contain:

- 1) the ship's name;
- 2) the ship's port of registration;
- 3) the approximate number of voters on a ship;
- 4) the latest day preceding the day of voting of the ship's departure from the port of registration;
- 5) the estimated day closest to the day of voting of the ship's return to a Ukrainian port.

8. In an exceptional case of establishment of a new inpatient care establishment, penitentiary institution, pretrial detention center, or other establishment for temporary stay of voters with restricted mobility, and in case of unforeseen departure of a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, a special election precinct may be established by the Central Election Commission no later than ten days prior to the day of voting upon a submission of the relevant district election commission.

The aforementioned submission shall be filed by the district election commission no later than fifteen days prior to the day of voting on the basis of a submission of the relevant rayon state administration or executive committee of a city council in a city of oblast (republican in the

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Autonomous Republic of Crimea) subordination. The application shall include the information specified in Parts 6 and 7 of this Article.

9. In the case when the election of MPs is held simultaneously with the election of the President of Ukraine, special election precincts are used for the election of MPs that were created on a temporary basis as well as election precincts that were created as provided for in Part 10 Article 20 of the *Law of Ukraine on Elections of the President of Ukraine*;

*{Part 9 was added to Article 21 pursuant to the Law 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

**Article 22.** Foreign election precincts

1. A foreign election precinct shall be established for the purpose of organizing and conducting voting for voters residing or, on the day of voting at the election of MPs, staying in the respective territory of a foreign state.

*{The provision “distributed evenly among all single-mandate districts being created in the territory of the capital of Ukraine – city of Kyiv” of Part 2 Article 2 was invalidated as unconstitutional pursuant to the Constitutional Court Decision № 7-rp/2012 dd. 04.04.2012}*

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

*{Part 2 Article 22 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

3. A foreign election precinct that has its premises for voting located in a diplomatic institution of Ukraine or at the location of a military unit (command) outside Ukraine shall be deemed a permanent election precinct.

4. A foreign election precinct shall have its own number, address of premises for voting, and address of office of the precinct election commission of the foreign election precinct.

**Article 23.** Announcement of Decisions on Establishment of Election Precincts

1. The Central Election Commission shall ensure the publication, in nationwide and relevant regional or local printed mass media and on the official website of the Central Election Commission, of a list of respective election precincts established on a regular basis, with indication of the election districts to which the election precincts are assigned and of the [identification] numbers of the election precincts no later than one hundred seventy-five days prior to the day of voting.

2. A district election commission shall publish its decisions on establishment of special election precincts, with indication of the numbers of the election precincts, their boundaries or institutions (establishments) at which they have been created, office addresses of the respective precinct election commissions and premises for voting. Such a decision shall be published in the respective regional and local printed mass media no later than on the fifth day following the day of adoption of that decision, or, if that is impossible, shall be made public in another manner within the same time frame.

3. The Central Election Commission shall ensure the publication of its decisions on the establishment of special election precincts as stipulated by Part 8 Article 21 of this Law in the respective regional and local printed mass media no later than on the fifth day following the day of adoption of that decision, or, if it is impossible, in another manner within the same time frame.

4. The Central Election Commission shall ensure the publication of its decisions on the establishment of foreign election district in nationwide printed mass media no later than on the fifth day following the day of adoption of that decision, or, if it is impossible, in another manner within the same time frame. The respective foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine in the country where the foreign election precinct is established shall publish a notice on the establishment of the election precinct in printed mass media accessible to Ukrainian citizens residing or staying in the respective territory or, if that is impossible, shall make such notice public in another manner no later than on the fifth day after the receipt of such decision.

## **Chapter IV ELECTION COMMISSIONS**

### **Article 24. System of Election Commissions**

1. The preparation for and conduct of the election of MPs shall be carried out by a system of election commissions consisting of the following:

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

2. The powers of election commissions relating to the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be exercised as follows:

- 1) the Central Election Commission – in the whole territory of Ukraine and at the foreign election district;

*{Clause 1 Part 2 Article 24 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 2) by a district election commission – within the single-mandate election district;
- 3) by a precinct election commission – within the election precinct.

3. The powers of the district election commission of the foreign election district shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 3 was added to Article 24 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

### **Article 25. Status of Election Commissions**

1. Election Commissions shall be deemed special collective bodies responsible for the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs and ensuring observance and uniform application of Ukraine's legislation on the election of MPs.

2. The status of the Central Election Commission shall be determined by the Constitution of Ukraine, the Law on the Central Election Commission, and this and other Laws of Ukraine. The Central Election Commission shall lead the system of election commissions that organize the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs, and shall be the highest level commission for all district and precinct election commissions specified by this Law.

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

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4. The status of district and precinct election commissions shall be determined by this Law.

5. A district election commission shall be a legal person and have a seal, the sample of which is to be approved by the Central Election Commission. A district election commission shall be the higher level commission for all precinct election commissions within the respective single-mandate election district.

6. A precinct election commission shall not be a legal person. Each precinct election commission shall have its own seal, the sample of which shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.

**Article 26.** Requirements for Members of a District or Precinct Election Commission

1. Voters residing in the territory of Ukraine may be members of a district election commission or a precinct election commission of a regular or a special election precinct.

2. A voter may be a member of only one election commission responsible for the preparation and conduct of an election of MPs, an election of the President of Ukraine, an election of the deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the deputies of local councils, village, town and city mayors, or commission of a national or local referendum, if the election process of the aforementioned elections or referendum takes place simultaneously with the election of MPs.

*{Part 2 Article 26 as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

3. A district or precinct election commission may not include MP candidates; parties' representatives in the Central Election Commission; parties' authorized persons; proxies of MP candidates in a single-mandate district; official observers; officials of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-government bodies; employees of courts or law enforcement bodies; citizens detained in penitentiary institutions or pretrial detention centers; or citizens that have a criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights, unless such a record has been cleared or canceled pursuant to the procedure established by law.

4. A precinct election commission of a special election precinct established in an inpatient care establishment or penitentiary institution or pretrial detention center may not have among its members the employees of the respective establishment or institution.

5. If an election process of any other elections or a referendum process takes place simultaneously with the election of MPs, a district or precinct election commission may not include candidates running in these other elections, their authorized persons or proxies, or authorized persons and representatives of other subjects of the respective election process, or official observers.

*{Part 5 Article 26 as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

6. The Central Election Commission shall appoint the head, deputy head, and secretary of a district election commission at the time that it establishes the commission.

*7. {Paragraph 1 Part 7 Article 26 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

The secretary of a district or precinct election commission must have command of the state language to the extent necessary for the management of the records of the commission.

**Article 27.** Procedure for Establishing a District Election Commission

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

2. The following entities (hereinafter, nominating entities) may nominate candidates for membership in district election commissions:

- 1) any political party whose parliamentary faction is registered with the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of current convocation;
- 2) political parties that are subjects of the election process whose MP candidates are registered in the nationwide election district.

*{Clause 2 Part 2 Article 27 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

3. A district election commission shall necessarily include one representative from each nominating entity specified in Clause 1 Part 2 of this Article that has made the required submission. Any remaining seats on the district election commission shall be filled by no more than one representative from the nominating entities specified in Clause 2 Part 2 of this Article, selected by means of drawing of lots by the Central Election Commission in accordance with procedures that it establishes, no later than three days following the day of expiration of the time for filing the submissions specified in Part 4 of this Article. Persons nominated to a district election commission may be rejected [by the Central Election Commission] only on the grounds of their noncompliance with the requirements of Article 26 of this Law, violation of the requirements set forth in Parts 4 – 7 of this Article, or application of the mechanism of drawing of lots specified by this Part.

4. No later than sixty-seven days prior to the day of voting, the central governing body of a nominating entity shall submit to the Central Election Commission, in accordance with the format approved by the Central Election Commission, the paper and electronic forms of the list of persons that it wishes to nominate to the respective district election commissions (no more than one nominee for each commission). Each submission shall be signed by the head of the nominating entity (or by a person acting in his or her capacity) and affixed with the seal of the respective nominating entity.

5. Submissions of nominations to district election commissions shall include the following information on each nominee:

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic (if any);
- 2) date, month, year of birth;
- 3) citizenship;
- 4) place and address of residence, as well as contact phone numbers;
- 5) confirmation of his or her command of the state language;
- 6) educational attainment;
- 7) place of employment and occupied position;
- 8) experience in participating in the work of election commissions;

*{Clause 9 Part 5 Article 27 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 10) position in the commission for which the person is nominated;

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*{Clause 10 Part 5 Article 27 enters in force on 1 January 2013 - See Clause 1 Chapter XV of this Law}*

11) information on whether the nominee has no criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights.

6. The submission shall be accompanied by hand-written statements of the persons nominated to a district election commission, expressing their consent to participate in the work of the commission on behalf of the nominating entity; and if a person is nominated for the position of head, deputy head, or secretary of the commission, their consent to perform the respective official responsibilities.

7. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of nominees. When such errors or inaccuracies are found, the Central Election Commission shall immediately notify the nominating entity. The nominating entity may submit a corrected submission that addresses the errors or inaccuracies in question on the day following the day of the receipt of the aforementioned notification. If no corrected submission is received within that time limit, the respective nominees shall be rejected.

8. If the submission of nominees to a district election commission fails to be filed within the time period prescribed by Part 4 of this Article, or if the number of persons nominated to the district election commission is less than twelve, the Central Election Commission shall appoint, within the time frame specified by Part 1 of this Article, the twelve members of the district election commission, upon proposal submitted by the Head of the Central Election Commission with observance of the requirements specified by Article 26 of this Law, necessarily having regard to the nominees proposed by the relevant nominating entities specified in Part 2 of this Article.

9. Each entity that nominates candidates to district election commissions shall have the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions in district election commissions. The share of managerial positions for each entity nominating candidates to district election commissions within the nationwide district shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of all selected district election commission members who were nominated by that entity. A person appointed to a district election commission upon proposal of the Head of the Central Election Commission cannot be appointed to a managerial position in that election commission, unless no submissions, or less than the required number of submissions, for appointment of respective nominees to the positions of the head, deputy head, and secretary of the commission have been submitted. Managerial positions shall be distributed between the nominating entities based on the shares determined in accordance with this Part of this Article according to procedures to be established by the Central Election Commission. Such procedures shall provide for approximate evenness of the territorial distribution of the positions received by representatives of each nominating entity.

10 The head, deputy head, and secretary of a district election commission shall represent different nominating entities specified in Part 2 of this Article.

11. The Central Election Commission shall make public its decision on the establishment and composition of the district election commissions, made in accordance with this Law, on the official website of the Central Election Commission no later than on the day following the day on which the decision was adopted. The Central Election Commission shall publish an excerpt from such decision on the establishment of the district election commissions in a particular region, including their composition, in the regional printed mass media within seven days from the date when the decision was adopted. A decision on changes in the composition of a district election

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commission shall be published pursuant to the procedure and within the terms provided for by this Part, but in any case no later than on the last day prior to the day of voting.

**Article 28.** Procedure for Establishing the Precinct Election Commission of a Regular or Special Election Precinct

1. A precinct election commission shall be established by the respective district election commission no later than thirty-one days prior to the day of voting and shall consist of the head, deputy head, secretary, and other members of the commission.

2. A precinct election commission shall be formed with the following number of members:

1) for small election precincts - 10-14 members;  
{*Clause 1 Part 2 Article 28 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013*}

2) for medium election precincts - 12-16 members;  
{*Clause 2 Part 2 Article 28 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013*}

3) for large election precincts - 14-18 members.  
{*Clause 3 Part 2 Article 28 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013*}

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

4. The right to nominate candidates to precinct election commissions shall be granted to the nominating entities specified in Part 2 Article 27 of this Law, as well as to MP candidates in the respective single-mandate election district.

A submission may be filed on behalf of a party by the authorized representative of the party on the basis of a letter of attorney issued by the party. A submission from an MP candidate may be filed by the MP candidate personally or by his or her proxy.

5. The precinct election commission of a regular or special election precinct (except the cases provided for by Part 12 of this Article) shall include one representative of each nominating entity specified in Clause 1 Part 2 Article 27 of this Law that has made the required submission. No more than one representative of each nominating entity specified in Clause 2 Part 2 Article 27 and each MP candidate in the respective single-mandate district shall be included in the precinct election commission on the basis of drawing lots, to be conducted by the district election commission no later than on the third day following the day of expiration of the term for filing the submissions specified in Part 6 of this Article, in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission. Persons nominated to a precinct election commission may be rejected only on the grounds of their noncompliance with the requirements of Article 26 of this Law, or as a result of application of the mechanism of drawing of lots specified by this Part, or if the filing of the submission failed to comply with the requirements set forth in Parts 6, 7, or 9 of this Article.

6. Not later than thirty-nine days prior to the day of voting, a nominating entity wishing to nominate candidates to precinct election commissions shall submit to the respective district election commission, in a format approved by the Central Election Commission, the paper and electronic forms of the list of persons nominated by that entity (no more than one candidate to one election commission) to the respective precinct election commissions. The submission shall indicate the persons suggested by the nominating entity for the positions of the head, deputy head, and secretary of the election commission. The submission from a party shall be signed by the head of the party (or a person acting in his or her capacity) and affixed with the seal of that

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party. The submission from an MP candidate shall be filed with the signature of the respective MP candidate.

7. A submission of nominees for precinct election commissions shall contain the information listed in Part 5 Article 27 of this Law. The submission shall be accompanied by statements of the persons being nominated, expressing their consent to participate in the work of the election commission on behalf of the nominating entity; and if a person is nominated for the position of head, deputy head, or secretary of the commission, their consent to perform the respective official responsibilities.

8. If nominations for a precinct election commission are not received within the time period prescribed by Part 6 of this Article, or if the number of nominees for a precinct election commission is less than the minimum number specified by Parts 2 and 3 of this Article, the district election commission shall establish the precinct election commission upon a proposal by the head of the district election commission, the number of its members not exceeding the average of the numbers established by Parts 2 or 3 of this Article, having regard to nominees proposed by the nominating parties specified by Part 4 of this Article. Members of the district election commission can submit proposals for such nominees to the head of the district election commission.

9. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of nominees. When such errors or inaccuracies are found, the district election commission shall immediately notify the respective nominating entity. The said errors or inaccuracies can be corrected by way of filing a corrected submission for the respective nominees no later than on the day following the day of the receipt of the aforementioned notification. If no corrected submission is received within that time limit, the respective nominees shall be rejected.

10. Each entity nominating candidates to precinct election commissions shall have the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions in precinct election commissions of, respectively, small, medium, and large size within the election district. The share of managerial positions for each nominating entity in each election precinct category within the election district shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of all selected precinct election commission members who were nominated by that party or candidate in the respective category. A person appointed to the precinct election commission upon proposal of the head of the district election commission cannot be appointed to a managerial position in the election commission, unless no submissions or less than the required number of submissions for appointment to the positions of the head, deputy head, and the secretary of the commission have been filed. The distribution of managerial positions among the nominating entities shall be performed, within the shares determined in accordance with this Part, by the district election commission according to the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

11. The head, deputy head, and secretary of a precinct election commission shall represent different nominating entities specified in Part 4 of this Article – parties and MP candidates.

12. A precinct election commission of a special election precinct established on a ship which on the day of voting will be sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, shall be established by the district election commission according to the place of registration of such a ship or Ukraine's polar station upon a submission, respectively, of the ship's captain or the polar station's head, which can be sent via technical means of communication within the time period prescribed by Part 6 of this Article.

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13. If a special election precinct is established in an exceptional case, pursuant to Part 8 Article 21 of this Law, the precinct election commission shall be established by the Central Election Commission simultaneously with the establishment of the election precinct upon submission of the district election commission.

14. If a district election commission makes a submission to the Central Election Commission seeking to establish a special election precinct in an exceptional case, it shall notify all parties or candidates eligible to nominate candidates to precinct election commissions and invite them to file submissions concerning nominations to the precinct election commission under the procedure established by this Article and within the terms prescribed by the district election commission, but no later than five days following the day of such notification.

15. A decision establishing a precinct election commission shall be published in the regional or local printed mass media no later than on the fifth day following the day when such a decision was adopted or, if that is impossible, shall be made public in another manner within the same time period. A decision establishing the precinct election commission of a special election precinct established in an exceptional case, or a decision changing the composition of a precinct election commission shall be published or made public pursuant to the procedure and within the terms prescribed by this Part, but no later than on the last day prior to the day of voting.

16. When an election of MPs is held simultaneously with an election of the President of Ukraine, precinct election commissions of regular and special election precincts are not created, and their functions are performed by respective precinct election commissions created for the election of the President of Ukraine.

*{Part 16 was added to Article 28 pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

**Article 29.** Procedure for Establishing the Precinct Election Commission of an Foreign Election Precinct

1. The precinct election commission of an foreign election precinct shall be established by the Central Election Commission no later than thirty-one days prior to the day of voting and shall consist of the head, deputy head, secretary, and other members of the commission. The number of members of a precinct election commission of an foreign election precinct shall be determined in accordance with Parts 2 and 3 Article 28 of this Law.

2. The precinct election commission of an foreign election precinct shall be made up of voters residing or staying, during the period of preparation and conduct of election, in the territory of the respective foreign state.

3. The right to nominate candidates to the precinct election commissions of foreign election district shall be granted to the parties specified in Part 2 Article 27 of this Law as well as to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

4. No later than thirty-nine days prior to the day of voting, an entity eligible to nominate precinct election commission members in an foreign election precinct shall submit to the Central Election Commission, in a form approved by the Central Election Commission, the paper and electronic forms of the list of persons nominated by that entity (no more than one candidate to one commission) to be appointed to the respective precinct election commissions. Such a submission shall indicate the persons nominated to the positions of the head, deputy head, and secretary of the commission. The submission shall be signed by the head of the nominating

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entity (or a person acting in his or her capacity) and affixed with the seal of the respective nominating entity.

5. In a submission filed within the time period specified by Part 4 of this Article, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall include the employees of foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine (in compliance with the requirements of Part 3 Article 26 of this Law), members of military units (commands) deployed abroad, or other citizens of Ukraine entitled to vote who reside or stay during the period of preparation and conduct of the election in the territory of the respective foreign state, having regard to the requirement that their number must not be less than the minimum or more than the average precinct election commission membership specified by Parts 2 or 3 Article 28 of this Law.

6. The submission of nominees to precinct election commissions shall contain the data required by Part 5 Article 27 of this Law. The submission shall be accompanied by statements of persons nominated to the precinct election commission, expressing their consent to participate in the work of the commission on behalf of the entity that nominated them or on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; and if this person is nominated for the position of head, deputy head, or secretary of the commission, his or her consent to perform the respective official responsibilities.

7. No more than one representative of each nominating entity shall be appointed (if the respective submission has been filed) to a precinct election commission of an foreign election precinct, subject to the requirements set forth by Part 3 Article 27 of this Law.

8. Candidates proposed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall be appointed to the precinct election commission of an foreign election precinct in accordance with the requirements set forth in Parts 2 and 6 of this Article and in Article 26 of this Law, having regard to the requirement that the overall number of members of the established election commission must meet the requirements of Parts 2 or 3 Article 28 of this Law.

9. Nominees may be rejected only on the grounds of their noncompliance with the requirements specified in Article 26 of this Law, as well as in Parts 2, 6, or 10 of this Article, or application of the mechanism of drawing of lots specified by Part 5 Article 28 of this Law.

10. Technical errors or inaccuracies contained in a submission of nominees shall not constitute a reason for the rejection of a nominee. When such errors or inaccuracies are found, the Central Election Commission shall immediately notify the nominating entity. The nominating entity may submit a corrected submission that addresses the errors or inaccuracies in question on the day following the day of the receipt of the aforementioned notification. If no corrected submission is received within that period, the nominees in question shall be rejected.

11. Each entity whose nominees have been appointed to a precinct election commission shall have the right to a proportional share of each category of managerial positions in precinct election commissions of, respectively, small, medium and large foreign election district, depending on the number of nominees from the respective entities who were selected to the election commissions. The share of managerial positions for each party in each category of foreign election district shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of all selected precinct election commission members who were nominated by that entity in that category. Managerial positions shall be distributed between the parties according to the shares determined under this Part according to the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission.

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12. A person appointed to a precinct election commission upon submission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine can be appointed to a managerial position in the election commission only if no candidates for such a position have been nominated by other nominating entities.

13. Decisions on the establishment and composition of precinct election commissions of foreign election district, adopted in accordance with the requirements of this Law, shall be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission on the day following the day on which that decision was adopted and shall also be published by the Central Election Commission in the national printed mass media. Information on the location (address of the premises) and working hours of the precinct election commissions established at foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine and in military units (commands) deployed abroad shall be published by the respective foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine in accordance with the local conditions of the country in question.

14. When an election of MPs is held simultaneously with an election of the President of Ukraine, precinct election commissions of foreign election precincts are not created, and their functions are performed by respective precinct election commissions of foreign election precincts created for the election of the President of Ukraine.

*{Part 14 was added to Article 29 pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

#### **Article 30.** Powers of the Central Election Commission

1. The powers of the Central Election Commission related to preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be determined by this Law, the *Law on the Central Election Commission*, and other Laws of Ukraine.

2. In addition to the powers provided for by the *Law on the Central Election Commission*, the Central Election Commission shall:

1) exercise control of compliance with and uniform application of the legislation on the election of MPs by the voters; district and precinct election commissions and their members; state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, their officials; enterprises, establishments, institutions and organizations and their officials; mass media organizations, their owners, officials and production personnel; MP candidates; parties, their representatives in the Central Election Commission and authorized persons; proxies of MP candidates in single-mandate election districts, official observers, and non-governmental organizations;

2) provide the election commissions with organizational and methodological support;

3) organize training for members of district election commissions pursuant to the procedure it identifies;

*{Clause 3 Part 2 Article 30 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4) identify the procedure for training of members of precinct election commissions by district election commissions; ensure preparation of methodological recommendations for training of members of precinct election commissions by district election commissions;

*{A new clause was added to Part 2 Article 30 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5) convene, if necessary, on its own initiative, a meeting of a lower level election commission;

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6) establish the norms and the list of equipment and inventory for the premises of the election commission and the voting premises, as well as the types of services or works that can be provided to election commissions;

7) establish the forms of election documents, approve samples of seals and signboards of election commissions, specify the procedure for the storage and submission of election documents to the relevant state archival institutions;

8) suspend the flow of funds in the accounts of the district election commissions at banking institutions when the term of powers of these commissions has expired, or when accounting standards or financial discipline have been infringed by them; adopt decisions on the transfer of the remaining funds to the account of the Central Election Commission;

9) register MP candidates;

10) register a party's representative in the Central Election Commission, and party's proxies;

*{Clause 10 Part 2 Article 30 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

11) register proxies of an MP candidate registered in a single-mandate election district;

*{A new clause was added to Part 2 Article 30 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

12) make decisions granting a non-governmental organization the right to have official observers during the election of MPs;

13) register official observers from foreign states and international organizations;

14) approve the form, color, and text of the ballot papers for voting in the nationwide district and the single-mandate election districts; ensure centralized printing of the required number of ballot papers, stock-taking thereof, and distribute them to the district election commissions;

15) call repeat elections and by-elections in circumstances specified by this Law;

16) deliver to a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine ballot papers, forms of other documents, seals and stamps for the delivery thereof to the precinct election commissions of foreign election district;

17) consider applications and complaints concerning decisions, actions or inaction of district election commissions, and adopt decisions on them;

18) approve the text and form of information posters as well as posters clarifying the voting procedures and the liability for violating the legislation on the election of MPs;

19) provide clarifications to the district and precinct election commissions regarding the filling out of the respective vote counting protocols and tabulation of voting results;

20) establishes the voting results and prepares the protocol on the voting results in the foreign election district;

*{A new clause was added to Part 2 Article 30 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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21) exercise the powers of a district election commission, if it does not receive, within the time frame specified by this Law, the protocol from the district election commission on the voting results in the nationwide district within a single-mandate district or the protocol of the district election commission on the voting results in a single-mandate district, or in the case of inaction of a district election commission;

*{Clause 21 Part 2 Article 30 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

22) exercise other powers provided for by this Law or by other Laws of Ukraine.

3. Normative legal acts of the Central Election Commission provided for in this Law shall be adopted and published pursuant to the established procedure, usually – before the beginning of the election process, unless otherwise provided for by this Law.

*{A new part was added to Article 30 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4. In order to ensure organizational, legal, informational, and technical support for the exercise of the powers granted by this Law and the Law on the Central Election Commission, the Central Election Commission shall be granted the right to engage in the election of MPs, for the period of the election process, specialists, experts, and technical personnel as needed.

#### **Article 31. Powers of a District Election Commission**

1. A district election commission shall begin to exercise its powers as soon as no less than two-thirds of its minimum composition specified in Part 1 Article 27 of this Law are sworn in at its first meeting, which shall be held no later than on the third day following the day on which the decision establishing the district election commission was adopted.

2. A district election commission shall:

- 1) ensure the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs in a single-mandate election district, as well as in the nationwide election district;
- 2) exercise control, within the respective single-mandate election district, of compliance with and uniform application of the legislation on the election of MPs by the voters; precinct election commissions and their members; state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, their officials, enterprises, establishments, institutions and organizations and their officials; mass media organizations, their owners, officials and production personnel; MP candidates; parties, their representatives and authorized persons; proxies of MP candidates in single-mandate election districts, official observers, and non-governmental organizations;
- 3) provide legal, organizational, methodological, and technical support to the precinct election commissions, organize training for their members on the matters related to the election process organization;

*{Clause 4 Part 2 Article 31 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5) establish the precinct election commissions in accordance with the requirements of this Law, except in cases specified in Part 13 Article 28 of this Law;

6) convene, if necessary, on its own initiative, a meeting of a precinct election commission;

7) decide on matters pertaining to the use of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated to the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission;

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- 8) control the observance of applicable legislation regarding the compilation of voter lists in election precincts within a single-mandate election district by the bodies authorized to that end by the law, and control the presentation of the voter lists for public review;
- 9) control the activities of local executive bodies and local self-government bodies with regard to provision of voting premises, transport, means of communication, and equipment; within the scope of its powers, consider and decide on other issues pertaining to the material and technical support of the election of MPs within the single-mandate election district;
- 10) distribute to the precinct election commissions ballot papers and forms of other documentation in accordance with this Law, ensure control of stock-taking of the ballot papers within the single-mandate election district;
- 11) provide for the production of information posters clarifying the voting procedures and the liability for violations of the legislation on the election of MPs, and of the seals for the precinct election commissions, and deliver them to the precinct election commissions, and also provide for the production of other election documentation;
- 12) provide the precinct election commissions with legal, organizational, methodological, and technical support, organize training for the heads, deputy heads, and secretaries of the precinct election commissions;
- 13) take into account information from precinct election commissions, local executive bodies and the bodies of local self-government pertaining to the preparation and conduct of election;
- 14) register official observers of parties, of MP candidates, and of non-governmental organizations;

*{Clause 14 Part 2 Article 31 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 15) consider applications and complaints concerning the decisions, actions or inaction of the precinct election commissions, and take decisions on these matters;
- 16) tabulate voting results in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election precinct and in the single-mandate election district, compile the tabulation protocols, submit the protocols and other election documents specified in this Law to the Central Election Commission;
- 17) invalidate the results of voting at an election precinct in cases provided for by this Law;
- 18) ensure delivery of election and other documents for storage to the relevant archival institution in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission;
- 19) generalize information concerning applications and complaints submitted to the district election commission and regarding the process of election of MPs as well as the results of their consideration, post information on the official information stand of the commission for general access and submit it to the Central Election Commission pursuant to the procedure established by it for publication on its official web-site;

*{A new clause was added to Part 2 Article 31 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 20) exercise other powers provided for by this Law and other Laws of Ukraine.

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

4. A district election commission shall cease to have legal personality in accordance with the procedure and within the terms prescribed by Article 38 of this Law.

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**Article 32.** Powers of a Precinct Election Commission

1. A precinct election commission shall begin to exercise its powers as soon as no less than two-thirds of its minimum composition, specified in Parts 2 and 3 Article 28 of this Law, have been sworn in at its meeting, which shall be held no later than on the third day following the day when the decision on its establishment was adopted.

2. A precinct election commission shall:

- 1) control strict compliance with and uniform application of the legislation on the election of MPs during the voting and vote counting at the election precinct;
- 2) receive a voter list from the State Voter Register maintenance body or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, or compile a voter list in the cases specified by this Law, present the voter list for public review, and amend it in the cases specified by this Law;
- 3) ensure the possibility of voter access to the electoral lists of MP candidates nominated by parties, to information on MP candidates in the single-mandate election districts, and to decisions adopted by the Central Election Commission, the respective district election commission, and its own decisions and notifications;
- 4) deliver or send to each voter a personal invitation indicating the date of voting, the address of the voting premises, and the time of beginning and close of voting, in accordance with the procedure and within the time framework prescribed by Part 2 Article 40 of this Law;
- 5) ensure stock-tacking of the ballot papers received by the commission;
- 6) ensure preparation of the voting premises and ballot boxes;
- 7) amend the ballot papers in accordance with decisions of the Central Election Commission and in accordance with the procedure and within the time framework of this Law;
- 8) organize voting at the election precinct;
- 9) conduct the counting of votes at the election precinct, compile the vote counting protocols for the election precinct, and deliver them and other election documents to the respective district election commission in accordance with the procedures prescribed by this Law;
- 10) invalidate the results of voting on the grounds specified by Article 92 of this Law;
- 11) consider applications and complaints concerning the preparation and organization of voting at the election precinct and, within the scope of its powers, adopt decisions on them;
- 12) generalize information concerning applications and complaints regarding the process of election of MPs as well as the results of their consideration, post this information on the official information stand of the commission for general access and submit it to the Central Election Commission pursuant to the procedure established by it for publication on its official web-site;

*{A new clause was added to Part 2 Article 32 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

13) exercise other powers provided for by this Law and other Laws of Ukraine.

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

4. The activities of a precinct election commission shall be terminated simultaneously with the termination of its powers.

**Article 33.** Organization of Activities of District and Precinct Election Commissions

1. An election commission shall be a collective body. The main form of work of an election commission shall be its meeting, which shall be convened by the head of the commission or, in case of his or her absence, by the deputy head, or, in case of absence of the head and deputy head, by the secretary of the commission.

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2. If necessary, a meeting of an election commission may be convened by a decision of the higher level election commission.
3. Upon a written request of at least one-third of the election commission members, the head or deputy head of the election commission shall convene a meeting of the commission no later than on the day following the day of the receipt of such a request.
4. The first meeting of an election commission shall be convened by its head no later than on the third day following the day of its establishment, with subsequent meetings being convened as needed. If an election commission is established simultaneously with the establishment of an election precinct as provided for by Part 13 Article 28 of this Law, the first meeting of a commission shall be convened no later than on the day following its establishment.
5. A meeting of an election commission shall be deemed plenipotentiary if more than half of the commission members are present.
6. A meeting of an election commission shall be convened with mandatory notification of all members of a commission of the time, place where the meeting will be held, and its agenda.
7. The members of an election commission shall be provided with draft decisions of the commission and the necessary documents, as a rule, no later than on the day preceding the day of the commission's meeting, but in any case no later than before the beginning of the meeting.
8. A meeting of an election commission shall be chaired by the head of commission or his or her deputy; should the head or his deputy fail to exercise their duties or be absent, including on the day of voting and in particular during the vote counting at the election precinct and tabulation of the voting results within the single-mandate election district, at each such meeting the commission shall elect a chairman of the meeting from among its members.
9. Upon request of three members of a commission, as well as by decision of a higher level election commission or judgment of a court, an election commission shall consider at its meeting matters within the scope of its competence, no later than within three days of the submission of the request or the adoption of the decision, but in any case no later than on the day of voting; and on the day of voting (except for a precinct election commission), without delay. A precinct election commission shall consider at its meeting matters within the scope of its competence upon request of the aforementioned commission members [submitted] on the day of voting, or at its meeting immediately after the close of voting in case of a decision of a higher level commission or a court judgment.
10. Any decision of an election commission shall be adopted in an open vote by a majority of the commission members, except in cases provided for by this Law, after its consideration and discussion at a meeting of the election commission.

*{Part 10 Article 33 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

11. Any decision of a commission shall come into effect as soon as it is adopted, except in cases provided for by this Law.
12. On the day of voting, and in particular during vote counting and tabulation of the voting results within an election district, if at the meeting of a district or precinct election commission less than two-thirds of the commission members are present, decisions of the commission shall

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be adopted by at least two-thirds of the commission members present at the commission meeting.

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

14. A decision of an election commission made within the scope of its competence shall be binding upon all electoral subjects, state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, their officials, enterprises, institutions, establishments, organizations and their officials, mass media organizations, their owners, officials and production personnel, and civic associations.

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

16. Applications, complaints and other documents filed with an election commission shall be accepted and registered in accordance with procedures approved by a decision of the Central Election Commission.

17. In order to ensure organizational, legal, and technical support for the exercise of the powers provided for by this Law, an election commission shall be granted the right to engage, on the basis of contracts, relevant specialists, experts, and technical personnel.

18. No one may interfere with the activities of election commissions, except in cases stipulated by the law.

#### **Article 34.** The Right to Be Present at an Election Commission's Meeting

1. Parties' representatives in the Central Election Commission who have been registered pursuant to this Law shall be entitled to participate in the meeting of the Central Election Commission in an advisory capacity.

2. The following persons shall also be entitled to participate in meetings of the Central Election Commission without any permission or invitation:

- 1) MP candidates, their proxies and authorized persons of the parties (together no more than two persons from one party and no more than one person from each candidate);
- 2) official observers from non-governmental organizations that have been granted permission to have official observers during the election of MPs (together no more than two persons from one non-governmental organization);
- 3) official observers from foreign states and international organizations;
- 4) mass media representatives (no more than two persons from each mass media organization).

3. At meetings of a district or precinct election commission, in particular during vote counting and tabulation of the voting results on the day of voting at the voting premises, only the following persons shall be entitled to be present without any permission or invitation of the respective commission:

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- 1) members of the higher level election commissions;
- 2) MP candidates, their proxies, and authorized persons of the parties (no more than one person from each party or candidate);
- 3) official observers of a party, of a candidate, of a non-governmental organization (no more than one person from each party, candidate, or non-governmental organization);

*{Clause 3 Part 3 Article 34 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII вið 21.11.2013}*

- 4) official observers from foreign states and international organizations;
- 5) mass media representatives (no more than two persons from each mass media organization).

4. Persons other than those listed in Part 3 of this Article and Part 1 Article 82 of this Law may be present at a meeting of an election commission only on permission or invitation of the commission, which shall be approved by the decision made at a meeting of the election commission. Presence of persons not listed in Part 3 of this Article at the election precinct during the voting or at a meeting of the election precinct during vote counting and tabulation of voting results shall be prohibited.

5. An election commission may adopt a reasoned decision to deprive any of the persons listed in Part 2, Clauses 2 – 5 of Part 3, and Part 4 of this Article, of the right to be present at the meeting if they illegally hinder the conduct of the meeting. Such a decision shall be taken by no less than two-thirds of the commission members present at the meeting.

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

#### **Article 35. Documenting the Activities of District and Precinct Election Commissions**

1. The activities of the district and precinct election commissions shall be documented in accordance with the procedures provided for by this Article and in accordance with procedure for keeping records of election commissions approved by a decision of the Central Election Commission.

2. At a meeting of an election commission, minutes of the meeting shall be kept by the secretary of the commission. Should the secretary of a commission be absent or fail to exercise his or her duties at the meeting, the commission shall appoint a secretary of the meeting from among its members who shall exercise the duties of the secretary at the respective meeting and complete the documents of the meeting. The minutes of a commission meeting shall be signed by the chairperson of the meeting and by the secretary of the commission (or by the secretary of the meeting). Members of a commission shall be granted access to the minutes of a commission meeting, upon their request, no later than at the next commission meeting, and each member of the commission shall have the right to sign the minutes. The protocol of a commission meeting can be released to a subject of election process upon his or her request no later than at the next commission meeting. Within the same time frame, the minutes of the meeting shall be posted on the official information stand of the commission for general access and sent to the Central Election Commission. The Central Election Commission shall publish the minutes of the election commission meeting on its official web-site immediately after it has received it.

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*{Part 2 Article 35 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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

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

4. A resolution shall be signed by the head of the election commission (by the chairperson of the meeting) and by the secretary of the election commission (the secretary of the meeting). The content and the number of the resolution shall be indicated in the respective minutes of the election commission meeting.

5. Any resolution adopted by a district or precinct election commission shall be placed for public review on the official information stand of the commission installed in the commission's premises, in a place freely accessible to the visitors no later than the morning after the day on which it was adopted; and if adopted on the day preceding the day of voting, on the day of voting, or in the course of vote counting and tabulation of the voting results, it shall be so displayed no later than four hours after the end of the meeting of the election commission. Within the same time frame, a resolution adopted by a district or precinct election commission shall be forwarded to the Central Election Commission that has to publish it on its official website immediately after the resolution was received.

A copy of a resolution adopted by a district or precinct election commission signed by the head of the election commission or the deputy head and by the secretary of the election commission and stamped with the seal of the election commission, shall be issued to the subject of election process whom it concerns, upon his or her request, no later than four hours after its adoption; and if adopted on the day preceding the day of voting or on the day of voting, it shall be issued without delay. Within the same time frame, a resolution adopted by a district election commission shall be forwarded to the Central Election Commission through the computerized information and analytical system.

*{Part 5 Article 35 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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

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

8. Reports and protocols of an election commission shall be drawn up in cases provided for by this Law, in accordance with the forms approved by a decision of the Central Election Commission, and in the number of copies specified by this Law. Any commission report or protocol shall be signed by all members of the election commission present at the meeting and affixed with the seal of the commission. MP candidates present at the meeting, candidates' proxies, representatives of parties in the Central Election Commission, or the authorized

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persons of parties, as well as official observers shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the report or protocol.

*{Part 8 Article 35 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

9. Documents of election commissions related to organization of the election shall be posted immediately on the official information stands of respective commissions and on the official website of the Central Election Commission immediately after they were received by the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 9 was added to Article 35 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

### **Article 36. Status of Member of an Election Commission**

1. The status of a member of the Central Election Commission shall be determined by the *Law on the Central Election Commission*.

2. The status of a member of a district or precinct election commission, as well as the procedure for acquiring such a status, shall be determined by this Law.

3. At the first meeting of an election commission attended by a member of a district or precinct election commission, he or she shall familiarize himself or herself with the provisions of Parts 7 – 12 of this Article and shall take an oath which shall read as follows:

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

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

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

6. Upon a decision of the election commission approved by the higher level election commission, the head, deputy head, secretary, or other members of a district or precinct election commission (no more than three persons in total), during the entire term of office of an election commission or any part of such term, may exercise their powers in the election commission in accordance with Article 47 of this Law on a paid basis, under a civil contract with the election commission. For such period, the aforementioned persons shall be released from performing any working or official duties at their main place of employment while their general and special length of service shall be retained.

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

- 1) participate in the preparation of the issues submitted for consideration to the election commission;
- 2) be given a floor at the meetings of an election commission, ask questions of other participants of the meeting regarding the agenda, submit proposals regarding issues falling within the competence of a commission;

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3) upon instruction of the respective election commission, check the activities of any lower level election commissions;

4) have unimpeded access to the documents of the election commission of which he or she is a member, and of any lower level election commissions within the respective territory;

5) be compensated for any damage to his or her health, life or property in connection with the performance of duties of a member of the election commission, including coverage of trip costs related to the performance of the duties of the member of the commission, in accordance with the procedure and in the amount set forth by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

8. A member of an election commission shall be neither dismissed nor transferred to a lower position for reasons connected with the performance of his or her duties in the election commission.

9. Every member of an election commission shall:

1) adhere to the Constitution of Ukraine, this Law and other Laws of Ukraine, as well as to legislative acts governing the preparation and conduct of elections;

2) participate in the meetings of the election commission;

3) implement the decisions of the election commission and perform the duties entrusted to him or her in accordance with their distribution within the commission.

10. Every member of an election commission shall also have other rights and duties as provided by this Law and other Laws of Ukraine.

11. While performing the duties of a member of an election commission (participation in the meetings of the commission and other activities aimed to implement this Law or election commission decisions), each member of the election commission shall have guarantees and compensations specified by applicable legislation for employees for the period of performance of state or public duties during working hours. Members of an election commission shall be released from performing official duties at their main places of employment for the time required to perform their duties as members of a commission, based on a written notice issued by the head, deputy head or the secretary of the respective election commission of the convocation of

12. For the entire term of his or her office, a member of an election commission shall not campaign for or against any party or MP candidate, or publicly assess the activities of a party that is an electoral subject or of MP candidates.

**Article 37. Early Termination of Office of an Election Commission or of a Member of an Election Commission**

1. The office of all members of a district or precinct election commission may be terminated before the expiration of their ordinary term by a decision of the higher level commission that established it, by a decision of the commission itself, or by a judgment of a court in cases of systematic violation or one-time gross violation by the commission of the Constitution of Ukraine, this Law, or other Laws of Ukraine.

2. Early termination of office of all members of an election commission shall not be considered to be termination of the commission.

3. The office of an individual member of a district or precinct election commission may be terminated before the expiration of its ordinary term by a decision of the higher level commission on the grounds of:

1) a statement of resignation of the member of the commission;

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- 2) the filing of a submission seeking replacement of a member of the election commission by the entity nominating the member to the election commission;
- 3) termination of his or her Ukrainian citizenship;
- 4) his or her departure for the period up to the day of voting inclusive abroad or from the country in the territory of which an foreignelection precinct was established, which results in impossibility to perform the duties of member of a commission;
- 5) his or her registration as an MP candidate, a deputy candidate to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a deputy candidate to a local council or a candidate for a village, town or city mayor, if the aforementioned election is conducted simultaneously with the election of MPs;

*{Clause 5 Part 3 Article 37 as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

- 6) his or her registration as a party's representative in the Central Election Commission, an official observer, a party's authorized person, a proxy of an MP candidate, or a proxy of a deputy candidate to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputy candidate to a local council or candidate for a village, town or city mayor, a representative or an authorized person of a local party organization, if the aforementioned elections are conducted simultaneously with the election of MPs;

*{Clause 6 Part 3 Article 37 as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

- 7) his or her appointment to another election commission responsible for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs or the election of the deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of local councils, or village, town or city mayors, if the aforementioned elections are conducted simultaneously with the election of MPs;

*{Clause 7 Part 3 Article 37 as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

- 8) his or her refusal to take the oath of a commission member;
- 9) violation of the oath of a commission member in the form of a systematic failure to perform his or her duties ascertained by at least two decisions thereon adopted by the election commission of which he or she is a member;
- 10) a single instance of gross violation of the Laws of Ukraine on elections ascertained by a court judgment or by a decision of the higher level election commission;
- 11) if a judgment of a court comes into legal force, whereby he or she was found guilty of committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights;
- 12) discovery of the fact of criminal record for committing a grave or especially grave crime or a crime against citizens' electoral rights, unless such a record has been cleared or canceled;
- 13) his or her being declared incompetent;
- 14) his or her death.

4. Should any of the grounds provided for by Clauses 5 – 8, 11 – 14 Part 3 of this Article appear, the office of the member of an election commission shall be terminated from the moment they appear or are detected; and as regards the grounds provided for by Clauses 1, 2, 4, 9, 10 Part 3 of this Article, from the moment the commission that established it adopts a decision on early termination of his or her office.

A person who has filed an application seeking early termination of his or her office shall continue to act as the election commission's head, deputy head, secretary, or member up to the point when the commission that established the respective commission takes a decision on early termination of his or her office.

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5. An election commission that adopts a decision on early termination of the office of all the members of an election commission or of a member of an election commission shall no later than on the following day notify the entity that nominated the person(s) to the election commission of the termination.

6. In case of early termination of office of all members of an election commission, the respective higher level election commission shall, no later than on the third day following the day of termination of office of all members of the commission, but in any case no later than on the day preceding the day of voting, approve a new composition of the election commission in accordance with the procedure set forth by this Law.

7. If the early termination of office of a member of an election commission results in a decrease in the number of members of the election commission below the minimum limits specified in Part 1 Article 27 or Parts 2 or 3 Article 28 of this Law, or in connection with the replacement of a member of an election commission, the respective higher-level election commission shall, no later than on the third day following the day of termination of his or her office, but no later than on the day preceding the day of voting, appoint to the commission, in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission, another person from among the nominees proposed by the entities specified in Clause 2 Part 2 Article 27 or Part 4 Article 28 of this Law, instead of the member whose office has been terminated, to bring the composition of such election commission in compliance with the minimum requirements for a commission's composition; and if a submission is filed seeking replacement of a member of an election commission simultaneously with early termination of his or her office, it shall appoint to the respective commission a nominee from the same entity.

8. Should a decision on early termination of office of a member of an election commission be adopted on the day preceding the day of voting, such decision shall be adopted simultaneously with the decision appointing the replacement member of the respective election commission nominated by the same entity.

9. If the head, deputy head, or the secretary of an election commission regularly fails to perform his or her duties, the respective district election commission or precinct election commission shall be entitled to make a submission to the election commission that established it with a reasoned request that he or she be replaced, provided that such submission is supported by at least two-thirds of all the members of the commission; if the head, deputy head, or the secretary of an election commission refuses to exercise his or her powers, he or she may personally submit a statement on resignation to the election commission that established it. The aforementioned submission or statement shall be a subject to mandatory consideration within the terms of Part 7 of this Article. A decision replacing the head, deputy head, or the secretary of an election commission shall not necessarily result in termination of his or her office as a member of the election commission. Such decision shall be adopted in accordance with the requirements of Part 10 Article 27 and Part 11 Article 28 of this Law.

10. A new head, deputy head, or secretary of an election commission shall be appointed in accordance with the procedure specified by this Law.

### **Article 38. Acquisition and Termination of Legal Personality by a District Election Commission**

1. An election commission shall acquire and lose legal personality pursuant to the procedure set forth by the Laws of Ukraine, having regard to the specifics established by this Law.

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2. A district election commission shall acquire the status of a legal person at the time of the entry of information on the commission into the Unified State Register of Legal Persons and Private Entrepreneurs.
3. To make an entry of information on a district election commission into the Unified State Register of Legal Entities and Private Entrepreneurs, the head of a commission or, in case of his or her absence, the deputy head shall, no later than on the fourth day following the day of the establishment of the commission, personally submit to the state registrar at the location of the district election commission a copy of the respective resolution of the Central Election Commission on the establishment of the commission and a completed standard registration form. The district election commission shall be registered as a legal person on the day of the receipt of documents submitted for its state registration as a legal person.
4. No registration fee for the state registration of a district election commission as a legal person shall be paid.
5. The status of a district election commission as a legal person shall be terminated by making an entry in the Unified State Register of Legal Persons and Private Entrepreneurs on the conduct of state registration of the liquidation of the district election commission as a legal person.
6. No later than within five days following the day of official promulgation of the results of the election of MPs, the head of a district election commission or, in case of his or her absence, the deputy head shall personally apply to the registration authority with a written notification of the date of termination of the registration of the commission.
7. Based on the notification specified in Part 6 of this Article, the information on the date of termination of a district election commission shall be published in the State Registration Bulletin, which shall constitute the basis for making claims against the commission for any debts it may owe.
8. No fee shall be paid for the publication of an announcement in the State Registration Bulletin of the termination of a district election commission.
9. To officially register the termination of a district election commission as a legal person through its liquidation, the head of a commission or, in case of his or her absence, the deputy head shall, after the completion of the procedure for termination of the commission, but not earlier than thirty days following the day of official promulgation of the results of the election, personally submit to the state registrar at the location of a commission a completed standard registration form, a certificate issued by the archival institution on the receipt of the documents subject to long-term storage under the law, as well as the report on joint auditing conducted by bodies of financial control. No additional documents shall be required for the state registration of the termination of a district election commission as a legal person through its liquidation. The bodies of financial control shall be entitled to perform audits and issue respective reports within fifteen days from the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election.
10. The head of a district election commission or, in his or her absence, the deputy head shall deliver to the Central Election Commission the excerpt from the Unified State Register of Legal Persons and Private Entrepreneurs with information on the conduct of state registration of the liquidation of the election commission as a legal person.

## Chapter V VOTER LISTS

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

1. The State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall compile preliminary voter lists for regular election precincts in accordance with the *Law on the State Voter Register*. Preliminary voter lists for regular election precincts shall be compiled in accordance with the procedures approved by the Central Election Commission.

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

3. A preliminary voter list shall contain the last name, first name (all the first names), patronymic (if any) of the voter, his or her date of birth, and election address of according to the data of the State Voter Register. Voters shall be included in a preliminary voter list so that information on the voters having the same address shall be grouped. A list shall have continuous numbering of the voters and continuous numbering of the pages.

The form of a preliminary voter list shall be approved by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the requirements of this Law.

4. If a voter whose place of voting has temporarily changed is included in a preliminary voter list, the column "Notes" shall contain, next to his or her name, the number and date of issuance of the document confirming his or her temporary change of the place of voting, as well as the name of the State Voter Register maintenance body that issued the document; if the voter's place of voting is located outside the respective single-mandate district, a note shall be entered for the voter to receive only the ballot for voting in the nationwide election district.

*{Paragraph 1 Part 4 Article 39 as amended pursuant to the Law№ 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

The column "Notes" of a preliminary voter list shall contain a note identifying voters with permanent inability to move without assistance.

5. No later than twenty days prior to the day of voting, the State Voter Register maintenance body shall, in the office where it is located, transfer one paper copy of the preliminary voter lists to the relevant precinct election commission.

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

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

6. A second copy of the preliminary voter list shall be stored at the State Voter Register maintenance body.

7. When the election of MPs is held simultaneously with local elections or a referendum, the procedure for compiling, correcting and amending the voter lists shall be determined by the Central Election Commission.

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*{Part 7 was added to Article 39 pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

**Article 40.** Procedure for Familiarizing Voters with the Preliminary Voter Lists in Regular Election Precincts and for Correction of Inaccuracies in Voter Lists

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

2. A precinct election commission of a regular election precinct shall send or deliver in another manner to each voter a personal invitation, by which it shall notify the voter of his or her inclusion in the preliminary voter list for the election precinct, the address of the election precinct, its telephone number and working schedule, as well as the time and place of voting. Voters who have been noted on the voter list as being permanently unable to move without assistance shall be simultaneously notified that they shall be provided with an opportunity to vote at their place of stay. Such notices shall be sent or delivered no later than fifteen days prior to the day of voting.

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

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

A voter may submit an application to the precinct election commission or directly to the State Voter Register maintenance body, seeking to correct the preliminary voter list, in particular concerning the inclusion or exclusion of the voter or any other persons in/from the voter list, as well as concerning the presence or absence of a note indicating that the voter is permanently unable to move without assistance.

4. A voter shall personally submit an application concerning circumstances specified in Part 3 of this Article to the precinct election commission or directly to the State Voter Register maintenance body. Should a voter not be able to submit an application personally due to health reasons, the precinct election commission shall, upon application of such voter, provide for the acceptance of application from such voter in another manner.

The application shall be supplemented with documents (copies of documents) certifying the information presented therein.

5. An application specified Part 3 of this Article may be filed no later than five days prior to the day of voting, and shall be considered by the election commission within one day of receipt. An application submitted after the expiration of the aforementioned term shall not be reviewed.

6. Based on the results of reviewing an application, the precinct election commission shall adopt a decision to deliver that application to the State Voter Register maintenance body. The decision of the election commission shall be immediately sent to the relevant State Voter Register maintenance body along with the voter's application and documents (copies of documents) appended thereto and shall also be issued to the applicant no later than on the day following the day of its adoption and sent to the person whom it concerns (if different from the applicant).

*{Part 6 Article 40 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. The State Voter Register maintenance body shall ensure consideration of voters' applications in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the *Law on the State Voter Register*.

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8. The State Voter Register maintenance body shall introduce the respective changes to the personal data in the State Voter Register in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the *Law on the State Voter Register*.

9. The State Voter Register maintenance body shall immediately notify the respective precinct election commission of the results of the review of voters' applications.

10. An administrative lawsuit seeking to correct a voter list may be filed with a court in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Code of Administrative Adjudication of Ukraine. In considering such a lawsuit, the court shall address the respective State Voter Register maintenance body with a request to verify the authenticity of information on the voter.

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

**Article 41.** Procedure for Verification of Preliminary Voter Lists in Regular Election Precincts

1. The heads of the bodies, establishments, or institutions specified by Article 22 of the *Law on the State Voter Register* shall, no later than ten days prior to the day of voting, submit to the State Voter Register maintenance body the information specified in Article 22 of the *Law on the State Voter Register* in a form approved by the Central Election Commission.

2. The information specified by Part 1 of this Article shall be submitted in the electronic and paper forms as a list with a continuous numbering of both entries and pages. The authenticity of the submitted information shall be certified on each page by the signature of the head of the respective body, establishment, or institution and by the respective seal affixed thereto.

3. No later than five days prior to the day of voting, the members of district and precinct election commissions shall submit to the State Voter Register maintenance body having jurisdiction over the location of the respective election precinct or of their own election address applications seeking a temporary change in the voting place without a change of the election address in accordance with Part 3 Article 7 of the *Law on the State Voter Register*. Members of district election commissions shall be included in the voter list for the election precinct closest to the location of the district election commission of which they are members. Members of precinct election commissions shall be included in the voter list for the election precinct in which they are members of the election commission.

4. The State Voter Register maintenance body shall compile a corrected voter list, based on the information submitted in accordance with Part 1 of this Article and decisions of the respective election commissions on the establishment of the precinct election commissions of special election precincts (as regards inclusion of the members of the precinct election commissions in the voter lists for the respective special election precinct), the results of consideration of the voters' applications, notifications of inclusion of voters in the voter list for the special election precinct issued by the precinct election commissions of special election precincts, applications of members of the district and precinct election commissions submitted in accordance with Part 3 of this Article, and court judgments received no later than five days prior to the day of voting.

5. The corrected voter lists shall be produced in accordance with the Law of Ukraine *On the State Voter Register*, in two copies, pursuant to the requirements of Parts 3 and 4 Article 39 of this Law, and shall contain a column for the signatures of voters certifying the receipt of ballot papers.

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6. One paper copy of the corrected voter list shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commission, in accordance to the procedure specified by Part 5 Article 39 of this Law, no later than two days prior to the day of voting.

A second copy of the corrected voter list shall be stored at the State Voter Register maintenance body.

**Article 42.** Making Changes and Adjustments to Corrected Voter List for a Regular Election Precinct

1. Amendments to the corrected voter list shall be made by the head or the deputy head and the secretary of the precinct election commission on the basis of a court judgment and notification from the State Voter Register maintenance body.

2. On the day of voting, any changes to the corrected voter list shall be made only on the basis of a court judgment.

3. Should a voter be included in the voter list for an election precinct under the procedure for making amendments to the corrected voter list, the information on the voter provided for by the form of the voter list shall be entered at the end of the voter list. In this case, the date and number of the court judgment or notification from the State Voter Register maintenance body shall be entered in the column "Notes"; if the voter's place of voting is located outside the respective single-mandate district, a note shall be entered for the voter to receive only the ballot for voting in the nationwide election district.

*{Part 3 Article 42 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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

5. If it is found that a voter is included in the corrected voter lists two or more times, in connection with receipt of a report from a precinct election commission on the inclusion of the voter in a voter list for another election precinct, then the State Voter Register maintenance body receiving such a report shall notify without delay the respective [original] precinct election commission, which must exclude the voter from the voter list for that precinct.

6. In case of amendments being made to the voter list for a regular election precinct, the precinct election commission of the regular precinct shall dispatch the information on the voters included in or excluded from the voter list to the relevant State Voter Register maintenance body.

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

**Article 43. Procedure for Compiling and Correcting Voter Lists for Special Election Precincts**

1. Voter lists for special election precincts (except precincts established in inpatient care establishments) shall be compiled no later than fifteen days prior to the day of voting by the respective precinct election commissions in a form approved by the Central Election Commission, based on information submitted by the heads of the respective establishments, institutions, Ukraine's polar station, and captains of the ships where such election precincts were established.

2. Voter lists for special election precincts established in the inpatient care establishments shall be compiled no later than seven days prior to the day of voting by the respective precinct election commissions in a form approved by the Central Election Commission, based on information submitted by heads of the respective establishments. Voters about to leave the care establishment prior to the day of voting shall not be included in the voter list for such a precinct.

3. For special election precincts established at penitentiary institutions or pretrial detention centers, State Voter Register maintenance bodies shall compile preliminary and corrected voter lists, which shall be delivered in accordance with the procedure and within the time frame specified by Articles 39 and 41 of this Law.

4. The information specified in Parts 1 and 2 of this Article shall be submitted in one copy, signed by the head of the respective establishment, institution, polar station, or ship's captain and affixed with the respective seal. The head of the respective establishment, institution, polar station, or the ship's captain shall ensure the submission and authenticity of the aforementioned information to the precinct election commission no later than sixteen days prior to the day of voting; and the head of an inpatient care establishment, no later than nine days prior to the day of voting.

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

- 1) last name, first name (all first names), patronymic (if any);
- 2) date of birth (date, month, year);
- 3) address of residence;
- 4) if appropriate, a mark in the "Notes" column indicating that the voter is permanently incapable of moving independently.

5. On the day following the day on which the voter list was compiled, the precinct election commission of a special election precinct shall make it available for public review at the premises of the precinct election commission.

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

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

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

8. A voter who arrives at an the inpatient care establishment located in the population center where he or she lives may apply less than three days prior to the day of voting to the election commission of the regular election precinct in which he or she is included on the voter list, seeking to vote at the place of his or her stay pursuant to procedures and within terms provided for by Article 86 of this Law. In this case, he or she shall not be included in the voter list for the special election precinct.

9. If a special election precinct is established in an exceptional case under Part 8 of Article 21 of this Law, the voter list shall be compiled by the precinct election commission no later than seven days prior to the day of voting, based on the information submitted by the head of the respective establishment, institution, or the ship's captain. The aforementioned information shall be submitted no later than eight days prior to the day of voting in one copy signed by the head of the establishment, institution, or the ship's captain and certified by the respective seal. After compiling the voter list for such election precinct, the precinct election commission shall without delay deliver the information on the voters in the voter list to the State Voter Register maintenance body having jurisdiction over its location. The election commission of a precinct established on a ship sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine or at Ukraine's polar station shall send the content of the voter list via technical means of communication to the respective district election commission, which shall immediately send them to the State Voter Register maintenance body having jurisdiction over its location.

10. A voter shall be entitled to apply to the precinct election commission of the special election precinct or directly to a court in respect of circumstances provided for by Part 3 Article 40 of this Law.

11. A voter shall personally submit an application to a precinct election commission of a special election precinct.

12. An application specified in Part 10 of this Article may be submitted to the respective precinct election commission no later than three days prior to the day of voting. Such application shall be immediately considered by the election commission. Based on the results of consideration of the application, the election commission shall adopt a decision to make amendments to the voter list or a reasoned decision to dismiss the application. A copy of the decision shall be issued to the voter on the day of its adoption. An application submitted to the election commission after expiration of the aforementioned term shall remain without consideration.

13. An administrative lawsuit seeking to correct the voter list shall be filed with a court under the procedure and within the terms prescribed by the Code of Administrative Adjudication of Ukraine.

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

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

16. The members of a precinct election commission of a special election precinct shall be included in the voter list for that election precinct on the basis of the decision of the respective

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election commission to establish the precinct election commission of that special election precinct.

**Article 44.** Procedure for Compiling and Verification of Voter Lists for Foreign election district

1. After the establishment of the foreign election district, the State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall compile the preliminary voter lists for each foreignelection precinct in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the State Voter Register. The form of the preliminary voter list shall be approved in accordance with Part 3 Article 39 of this Law.

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

3. A voter residing or staying in Ukraine who on the day of voting will be abroad may, no later than five days prior to the day of voting, submit to the State Voter Register maintenance body at his or her election address or the State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine a reasoned application seeking to temporarily change his or her voting place without a change of the election address.

4. No later than twenty-two days prior to the day of voting, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall deliver one paper copy of the preliminary voting list to the respective precinct election commissions. A second copy of the list shall be stored at the State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

5. On the day following the day of the receipt of the preliminary voter list, the precinct election commission of an foreignelection precinct shall make it available for public review at the premises of the precinct election commission.

6. The familiarization of voters with the preliminary voter list for an foreignelection precinct shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Article 40 of this Law.

7. Within the time framework prescribed by Part 5 Article 40 of this Law, a voter shall have the right to submit to the respective precinct election commission an application regarding inaccuracies in the preliminary voter list for an foreignelection precinct, to which the required documents (copies of documents) shall be attached.

8. A voter's application under Part 7 of this Article shall immediately be sent through the respective foreigndiplomatic institution of Ukraine to the State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

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

9. The State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall produce the corrected voter list, based on information submitted in accordance with the Law on the State Voter Register and the results of consideration of the voters' applications.

No later than two days prior to the date of voting, the State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall deliver one copy of the corrected voter list to the respective precinct election commission of the foreignelection precinct.

A second copy of the corrected voter list shall be stored at the State Voter Register maintenance body at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

10. On the day of voting, amendments to the corrected voter list for an foreignelection precinct shall be made only by the head or the deputy head and the secretary of the election commission, and only through correction of inaccuracies and technical errors under the procedure laid down in Part 7 Article 42 of this Law.

## **Chapter VI**

### **FINANCIAL, MATERIAL, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR THE PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

#### **Article 45.** Financing the Election of Members of Parliament

1. Expenditures relating to the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be covered solely at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct on the election of MPs, as well as at the expense of resources of electoral funds of parties whose MP candidates were registered in the nationwide election district and of MP candidates in the single-mandate election districts.

2. To finance their election campaigning, parties whose candidates are registered in the nationwide election district and MP candidates in a single-mandate election district shall each establish an electoral fund, which shall be formed in accordance with procedures provided for by this Law.

3. The financing of election campaigning activities or materials from sources other than those specified in Part 2 of this Article, with or without the approval of parties that are electoral subjects or MP candidates, shall be prohibited.

#### **Article 46.** Financial Support for the Preparation and Conduct of Election of Members of Parliament at the Expense of State Budget of Ukraine

1. Expenditures relating to the preparation and conduct of regular, pre-term, repeat election of MPs, or by-election of MPs shall be covered solely at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election of MPs, and shall be provided by the Central Election Commission which shall be the principal administrator of such funds.

2. The amount of funds for preparation and conduct of the regular, pre-term, repeat election of MPs, or by-election of MPs is shall be set as a separate item line in the *Law on the State Budget of Ukraine* based upon submission of the Central Election Commission. Expenditures relating to the preparation and conduct of the pre-term election of MPs may be covered from the reserve budget fund in accordance with the procedure approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

3. Expenditures relating to the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be covered by the Central Election Commission and district election commissions in accordance with the budgets of expenditures approved by the Central Election Commission, within the overall amount of funds allocated for preparation and conduct of the election from the State Budget of Ukraine. Financing of election commissions of foreign precincts shall be done by the Central Election Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

*{Part 3 Article 46 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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4. The resources relating to the preparation and conduct of regular and pre-term elections of MPs provided for by the State Budget of Ukraine shall be transferred by the specially authorized central executive body for implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds to the Central Election Commission within three days following the day of announcement of the start of the election process in accordance with the items of expenses of the State Budget of Ukraine.

The resources relating to the preparation and conduct of repeat elections and by-term elections of MPs provided for by the State Budget of Ukraine shall be transferred by the specially authorized central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds to the Central Election Commission within three days following the day of calling of the respective elections by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the items of expenses of the State Budget of Ukraine.

5. The Central Election Commission shall approve the average expenditure amounts of a district election commission, as well as the average expenditure amounts to address the needs of the precinct election commissions which shall cover, in particular, expenditures relating to the lease of the premises of the election commissions, payments for the use of facilities and technical resources, and remuneration for the work of the members of the election commissions.

6. Within ten days from the day of its establishment, each district election commission shall, based on the average expenditure amounts approved in accordance with Part 5 of this Article, prepare a unified budget of expenditures for the preparation and conduct of the election which shall include the expenditures of the district election commission, as well as the expenditures to cover the needs of the precinct election commissions. The unified budget of expenses of a district election commission shall be subject to approval by the Central Election Commission.

7. The election commissions shall be financed in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with specially authorized central executive body for development and implementation of the financial policy of the state.

8. Within ten days of the day of the official promulgation of the election results, each district election commission shall transfer to the account of the Central Election Commission any funds of the State Budget of Ukraine which have not been spent by the district election commission in the preparation for and conduct of the elections. Within three days from the day of the receipt of these funds, the specially authorized central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds shall inform the Central Election Commission of the return of such funds to the account of the Central Election Commission.

9. Within fifteen days of the day of the official promulgation of the election results, each district election commission shall draw up and submit to the Central Election Commission, in accordance with procedures established by the Central Election Commission, a financial report, of a form approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with the specially authorized central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of treasury management of the budget funds, on the receipt and use of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine for preparation and conduct of elections.

10. The control over appropriate and purposeful use of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission and by the specially authorized central executive body for the implementation of state policy in the area of public financial control in accordance with procedures approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with the specially authorized central executive body for development and implementation of the financial policy of the state.

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**Article 47.** Remuneration of Members of Election Commissions and Persons Engaged in Activities of Election Commissions

1. The performance of the duties of a member of an election commission on a paid basis shall be covered at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of election of the MPs within the limits and in accordance with procedures approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon submission of the Central Election Commission.

2. The remuneration to a member of the election commission who has been released from performance of the working or official duties at his or her principal place of employment shall not be lower than his or her average salary at the principal place of employment. The remuneration to a member of an election commission who is a pensioner or temporarily unemployed shall not be lower than the minimum salary as of the day of calculation of the remuneration.

3. Within the scope of the general savings of the remuneration fund allocated by the budget of expenditures of the respective election commission for the preparation and conduct of the election of MPs, members of the election commissions can be paid a one-time remuneration in accordance with procedures approved by the Central Election Commission.

4. Remuneration for the work of the members of election commissions (including pensioners and temporarily unemployed persons) on the day of voting and on the days of tabulation of the voting results shall be paid within the limits and in accordance with procedures approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon submission of the Central Election Commission.

5. Remuneration for the work of the persons specified in Part 4 Article 30 and Part 17 Article 33 of this Law shall be paid at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of election, within the limits and in accordance with procedures approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. The remuneration amount for such persons shall not be lower than the minimum salary as of the day of calculation of the remuneration.

*{Part 5 Article 47 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6. Work related to the preparation and conduct of elections performed by persons registered as unemployed under the law shall not constitute a reason for cancellation of registration of such persons at the State Employment Service as those seeking employment, or for termination of the payment of social unemployment benefits or other types of social benefits.

7. The payment of remuneration to members of an election commission, as well as to persons engaged in the activities of the commission, in particular on the day of voting and on the days of tabulation of the voting and election results, may not be a reason for cancellation, restriction, or decrease in any types of social payments, pensions, or subsidies for reimbursement of expenses related to housing and utility payment, etc.

**Article 48.** Electoral Funds of Parties and MP Candidates in Single-Mandate Election Districts

1. A party whose MP candidates were registered in the nationwide election district, as well as an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, shall open an electoral fund account no later than on the tenth day following the day of registration by the Central Election Commission. The size of an electoral fund of the party whose MP candidates were registered in the nationwide election district may not exceed ninety thousand minimum salaries.

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*{A new paragraph was added to Part 1 Article 48 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

The size of an electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district may not exceed four thousand minimum salaries.

*{A new paragraph was added to Part 1 Article 48 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

The electoral fund of a party whose MP candidates were registered in a nationwide election district (hereinafter, the electoral fund of a party) shall have one accumulation account to which the funds for financing the election campaign of such electoral subject shall be transferred, as well as current accounts from which the expenditures relating to election campaigning shall be covered. Resources shall be transferred to the current accounts of a party's electoral fund exclusively from the accumulation account of its electoral fund. An accumulation account of a party's electoral fund shall be opened on the basis of a copy of the decision of the Central Election Commission on registration of the MP candidates included in the electoral list of a party. A current account of a party's electoral fund shall be opened on the basis of a banking institution's certificate on the opening of a party's accumulation account.

The electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall have one current account to which the funds for financing the election campaign shall be transferred. An accumulation account of the electoral fund shall be opened on the basis of a copy of the decision of the Central Election Commission on registration of the MP candidate in the single-mandate election district.

2. A party shall open the accumulation account of its electoral fund at a banking institution of Ukraine located in the city of Kyiv, which shall be chosen at its sole discretion. An MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall open the current account of his or her electoral fund at a banking institution of Ukraine, which shall be chosen at his or her sole discretion, at the location of the district election commission. A party or an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall open the respective accounts of its/his/her electoral fund only in the national currency.

3. A party may open no more than one current account of its electoral fund in each single-mandate election district. One current account of a party's electoral fund may be used for several single-mandate election districts.

4. The procedure for opening and closing the accounts of electoral funds shall be approved no later than eighty-three days prior to the day of voting by the National Bank of Ukraine in coordination with the Central Election Commission.

5. The banking institutions' services relating to the opening and closing of the accounts of the electoral fund, as well as to the functioning thereof, shall be delivered free of charge. A banking institution shall neither accrue nor pay any interests on the funds maintained in the accounts of the electoral fund of a party.

6. No later than on the next business day following the day of opening of the respective accumulation or current account of the electoral fund of a party, the banking institution shall notify the Central Election Commission in writing of the opening of the respective account and its details.

No later than on the next business day following the day of opening of the respective current account of the electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, the

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banking institution shall notify the Central Election Commission and the respective district election commission in writing of the opening of the respective account and its details.

*{Part 6 Article 48 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. The information on the opening of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund and its respective details shall be published once by the Central Election Commission in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, and the information on the opening of the current account of the electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district and its respective details shall be published once by the Central Election Commission in regional or local printed mass media no later than on the fifth day following the day of the receipt of notification from the banking institution on the opening of the respective account of the electoral fund, at the expense of the funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of the elections from the State Budget of Ukraine. Subsequent information on the details of the respective account of the electoral fund of a party or MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall be published in printed mass media at the expense of the respective electoral fund.

*{Part 7 Article 48 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

8. The funds in the current accounts of the electoral fund shall be spent in a cashless form.

9. The spending of the funds from current accounts of the electoral fund after 18:00 on the last day prior to the day of voting shall take place only if the invoices for goods, works and services were issued before the specified time.

The spending of the funds from current accounts of the electoral fund shall be terminated at 18:00 on Wednesday after the day of voting.

*{A new paragraph was added to Part 9 Article 48 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

*{Part 9 Article 48 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

10. Should a repeat election be called in a single-mandate election district, the spending of the funds from the electoral funds of MP candidates included on the ballot for the repeat election shall be renewed from the day of the adoption of the decision calling the repeat election.

11. Seizure of the funds in the accounts of an electoral fund shall not be allowed.

12. Closing of the accounts or termination of transactions in the accounts of the electoral fund before the deadline specified in Paragraph 2 Part 9 of this Article shall not be allowed.

*{Part 12 Article 48 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

#### **Article 49. Managers of an Electoral Fund**

1. A party shall, from among the candidates included in its electoral list or from among its authorized persons in a nationwide election district specified in Part 5 Article 75 of this Law, appoint no more than two managers of the accumulation account of the party's electoral fund. An MP candidate in a single-mandate election district may be the manager of the current account of his or her own electoral fund, or may appoint no more than one manager from among his or her proxies. The managers of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund shall have the exclusive right to use the funds in the accumulation account of the electoral fund of a party, while the manager of the current account of the electoral fund of an MP candidate in

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a single-mandate election district shall have the exclusive right to use the funds in the current account of the electoral fund of the respective MP candidate.

2. A party shall, from among the candidates included in its electoral list or from among its authorized persons in the respective single-mandate district, appoint one manager for each current account of the party's electoral fund, who shall have the exclusive right to use the funds in the respective current account of the party's electoral fund.

3. The managers of the accumulation account of the electoral fund of a party shall keep the records of the receipt and distribution of the resources of the electoral fund between the current accounts. The manager of the current accounts of an electoral fund shall ensure observance of financial discipline, as well as purposeful use of the resources of the electoral fund.

4. A banking institution at which the accumulation or current account of an electoral fund has been opened shall, on a weekly basis or upon request of the manager of the resources of the respective electoral fund, provide the latter with information on the amounts and sources of donations transferred to the accounts of the electoral fund, as well as with information on the flow of resources and on the remaining resources.

5. The manager of the current account of an electoral fund shall keep records of the use of the funds in the respective current account of the electoral fund.

The manager of the current account of an electoral fund of a party not later than thirty days before the voting day shall submit to the manager of the accumulation account of an electoral fund of the party an interim financial report on the use of resources in the respective current account of the electoral fund for the period starting the day of opening of the accumulation account of the electoral fund and ending thirty two days before the day of voting.

*{A new paragraph was added to Part 5 Article 49 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

Not later than on the seventh day following the day of voting, the manager of the current account of a party's electoral fund shall submit to the manager of the accumulation account of the party's electoral fund a final financial report on the use of resources in the respective current account of the electoral fund.

*{Paragraph 3 Part 5 Article 49 as amended pursuant to the Law №709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6. The manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund shall, not later than twenty days before the day of voting, submit to the Central Election Commission an interim financial report on the receipt and use of the resources of the electoral fund for the period starting the day of opening of the accumulation account of the electoral fund and ending thirty two days before the day of voting (on paper and in an electronic form) that shall be made public immediately on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

The manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund shall, not later than on the fifteenth day following the day of voting, submit to the Central Election Commission a final financial report on the receipt and use of the resources of the electoral fund (on paper and in an electronic form), which shall be made public immediately on the official website of the Central Election Commission

The manager of the current account of the electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate district shall, not later than twenty days before the day of voting, submit to the district election commission an interim financial report on the receipt and use of the resources of the electoral fund for the period starting the day of opening of the current account of the electoral fund and ending twenty two days before the day of voting (on paper and in an electronic form).

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The district election commission, not later than on the day following the day of receipt of the interim financial report on the receipt and use of the resources of the electoral fund of the MP candidate in a single-mandate district, shall forward a copy thereof (on paper and in an electronic form) to the Central Election Commission which shall make it public immediately on its official web-site.

The manager of the current account of the electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate district shall, not later than on the tenth day following the day of voting, submit to a district election commission a final financial report on the receipt and use of the resources of the electoral fund (on paper and in an electronic form).

The district election commission, not later than on the day following the day of receipt of the financial report on the receipt and use of the resources of the electoral fund of the MP candidate in a single-mandate district, shall forward a copy thereof (on paper and in an electronic form) to the Central Election Commission which shall make it public immediately on its official web-site.

*{Part 6 Article 49 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. The financial reports provided for in Part 6 of this Article shall be analyzed by the election commission, to which they were submitted.

The Central Election Commission, not later than five days before the day of voting, shall publish the analysis of financial reports provided for in Paragraph 1 Part 6 of this Article, on its official web-site, and not later than on the thirtieth day after the day of voting – the analysis of financial reports provided for in Paragraph 2 Part 6 of this Article.

District election commissions, not later than five days before the day of voting, shall post on the official information stands of respective commissions for general access and forward to the Central Election Commission for immediate publication on its official web-site the analysis of financial reports submitted to the respective commission as provided for in Paragraph 3 Part 6 of this Article, and not later than on the twentieth day after the day of voting – the analysis of financial reports provided for in Paragraph 5 Part 6 of this Article.

Should any signs of violations of the requirements of this Law be discovered in the course of the analysis of the financial reports, the Central Election Commission or the respective district election commission shall report this fact to the relevant law-enforcement bodies, which shall hold an inquiry and react in accordance with the law.

*{Part 7 Article 49 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

8. The forms of the financial reports specified in Parts 5 and 6 of this Article and the procedure for their analysis shall be approved by the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 8 Article 49 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

#### **Article 50.** Formation of an Electoral Fund and Use of Its Resources

1. The electoral fund of a party shall be formed from the party's own resources, as well as voluntary donations from natural persons.

The electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall be formed from his or her own resources, as well as voluntary donations from natural persons (hereinafter, "voluntary donations").

2. Voluntary donations and own resources of a party or an MP candidate in a single-mandate district transferred to the respective account shall not be restricted in terms of the amount (within limits set for the amount of the electoral fund of a party or an MP candidate provided for in Part 1 Article 48 of this Law) and the number of transfers.

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*{Part 2 Article 50 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

3. Voluntary donations to the electoral fund shall not be made by:

- 1) foreign citizens and individuals without citizenship;
- 2) persons using pseudonyms and anonymous donors (without indicating in the payment document the information specified by Part 4 of this Article).

*{Clause 2 Part 3 Article 50 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4. A voluntary donation to an electoral fund in an amount not exceeding the limit established in Part 2 of this Article shall be accepted by a banking institution or a post office on condition of submission by the citizen of one of the documents specified in Clauses 1 or 2 Part 3 Article 2 of this Law. The payment document shall necessarily contain the last name, first name, patronymic, date of birth, place and address of residence of the individual.

5. A voluntary donation shall be transferred by a banking institution or a post office to the accumulation account of the electoral fund of a party or to the current account of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district not later than on the next business day following the day of the receipt of the respective payment document. The overall term for cashless transfer of the contribution to the respective account of the electoral fund shall not exceed two banking days.

6. The manager of the respective account of the electoral fund may refuse to accept a voluntary donation made by an individual, submitting an application to that effect to the banking institution in which the respective account of the electoral fund has been opened. Such voluntary donation shall be returned to the individual at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

7. The manager of the respective electoral fund account shall reject a donation from a natural person who under this Law has no right to make such voluntary donation, or when the amount of donation exceeds the amount provided for in Part 2 of this Article, within three days following the day when the manager becomes aware thereof. Based on the manager's application rejecting the donation for such a reason, the banking institution in which the respective account of the electoral fund was opened shall transfer such voluntary donation to the State Budget of Ukraine.

*{Part 7 Article 50 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

8. A banking institution in which the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund has been opened shall transfer the funds from the accumulation account to the current accounts of the same electoral fund on the basis of an application by the manager of the accumulation account of the electoral fund.

9. Control of the receipt, accounting, and use of resources of the electoral funds of parties shall be exercised by the Central Election Commission. District election commissions shall exercise control of formation and use of resources of the electoral funds of MP candidates in the respective single-mandate districts.

Control of the receipt, accounting and use of resources of the electoral funds shall also be exercised by the banking institutions, in which the electoral fund accounts were opened. A banking institution in which the electoral fund account was opened shall provide information to the respective election commission about the receipt and use of resources of the electoral fund.

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Control of the receipt, accounting, and use of resources of the electoral funds of parties shall be exercised in accordance with the procedure approved by the Central Election Commission jointly with the National Bank of Ukraine and a central executive body responsible for the state policy development in the area of postal services provision.

*{Part 9 Article 50 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

10. No later than on the fifth day following the day of voting, the banking institution in which a current account of an electoral fund has been opened shall transfer the funds not used by the party to the accumulation account of the respective electoral fund.

11. Based on a decision of the governing body of a party, which shall be adopted within ten days after the day of the official promulgation of the election results, the resources of the party's electoral fund that have not been used by the party shall be transferred from the accumulation account of the party's electoral fund to the party's current banking account within five days from the receipt of the party's respective decision by the banking institution. Should a party fail to adopt such a decision within that period, the unused funds of the party's electoral fund shall be transferred by the banking institution to the State Budget of Ukraine on the fifteenth day following the day of the official promulgation of the election results by the Central Election Commission.

12. Donations transferred to the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund later than one day prior to the day of voting shall be returned by the banking institution to the respective natural person at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

13. Within three days after the official promulgation of the election results in a single-mandate election district, the resources of an electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district that have not been used by him or her shall be transferred by the banking institution to the respective candidate:

1) the total amount – in the event when the amount of resources not used by the MP candidate in a single-mandate district does not exceed the amount he or she donated to the electoral fund;  
2) the amount he or she donated to the electoral fund – in the event when the amount of resources not use by the MP candidate in a single-mandate district exceeds the amount he or she donated to the electoral fund. The funds remaining after the transfer to the MP candidate in a single-mandate district shall be transferred within the same period by the banking institution to the State Budget of Ukraine.

*{Part 13 Article 50 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

14. In case of cancellation of the decision on the registration of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, any resources remaining in his or her electoral fund shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine on the eighth day following the day of the publication of the respective decision.

15. Donations transferred to an electoral fund after the day of voting (or, if the MP candidate was included in the ballot paper for a repeat voting, after the day of the repeat voting) shall be returned by the banking institution to the respective natural person at the expense of his or her voluntary donation or, if such return is impossible, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine.

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**Article 51.** Material and Technical Support for the Preparation and Conduct of Elections of Members of Parliament

1. Executive bodies and bodies of local self-government, as well as their officials, shall facilitate the exercise of the election commissions' powers, providing them with necessary premises in accordance with the norms specified by this Law or approved by the respective decisions of the Central Election Commission adopted in accordance with the requirements of this and other Laws of Ukraine; assisting them in equipping such premises with the necessary facilities; ensuring the security of the election commissions as well as the security of the ballot papers and other electoral documentation; providing them, in accordance with the norms and list of equipment approved by the Central Election Commission, with transport vehicles and means of communication (and paying for the services related to their installation and connection), fittings, implements, and office appliances, which shall be returned after termination of the activities of the election commissions. The procedure for payment or reimbursement of the aforementioned services shall be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

2. The procurement of the goods and the payment for works and services necessary for the preparation and conduct of the election shall be carried out by the Central Election Commission and by the district election commissions at the expense of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine without using any tender (competition) procedures, in the manner established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

**Chapter VII**  
**NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF MP CANDIDATES**

**Article 52.** General Procedure for Nominating MP Candidates

1. The nomination of MP candidates by parties shall begin ninety days prior to the day of voting and shall end seventy-nine days prior to the day of voting.

2. The right to nominate MP candidates in a nationwide election district shall be exercised by the voters through the parties in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Law.

3. The right to nominate MP candidates in the single-mandate election districts shall be exercised by the voters through the parties or through self-nomination in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Law.

4. A person may be included in the electoral list of MP candidates of only one party or nominated only in one single-mandate district by a party or through self-nomination.

*{Part 4 Article 52 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

*{Part 5 Article 52 was invalidated as unconstitutional on the basis of the Decision of the Constitutional Court № 8-rp/2012 dd. 05.04.2012}*

5. A person may be included in the electoral list of MP candidates of only one party or nominated only in one single-mandate district by a party or through self-nomination.

**Article 53.** The Procedure for Nomination of MP Candidates by a Party

1. The nomination of MP candidates, the formation and approval of a party's electoral list of MP candidates in the nationwide election district, as well as the nomination of a party's MP

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candidates in single-mandate election districts, shall be conducted by the party at its congress (meeting, conference) pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the party's charter.

2. A party may nominate as an MP candidate a person who is either a member of that party or not a member of any party, provided that the person shall have the right to be elected an MP under Article 9 of this Law.

3. A party shall be entitled to nominate:

- 1) an electoral list of the MP candidates, consisting of no more than 225 persons, for the nationwide election district;
- 2) one MP candidate in each single-mandate election district.

4. The form for a party's electoral list of MP candidates shall be approved by the Central Election Commission at least one hundred twenty days prior to the day of voting.

**Article 54.** Conditions for Registration of MP Candidates in the Nationwide Election District

1. The Central Election Commission shall register the MP candidates included in a party's electoral list upon receipt of the following documents:

- 1) an application for registration of the MP candidates, signed by the head of the party and affixed with the party's seal;
- 2) copies of the party's registration certificate and charter, which shall be certified without charge by the central executive body responsible for implementation of the state policy in the sphere of registration (legalization) of citizens' associations after the announcement of the start of the election process;

*{Clause 2 Part 1 Article 54 as amended pursuant to the Law № 5463-VI dd. 16.10.2012}*

3) a decision of the party's highest governing body, adopted in accordance with the party's charter, on the nomination of MP candidates, which shall include information on the persons nominated as MP candidates, with indication of their last name, first name, patronymic, and be certified by the signature of the party's head and affixed with the party's seal;

4) paper and electronic copies of the party's list of MP candidates, in the form approved by the Central Election Commission, which shall include information on the persons nominated as MP candidates (last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic (if any), date, month, and year of birth, citizenship with indication of the time of residence in the territory of Ukraine, information on educational attainment, position (occupation), place of employment, place of residence, party membership, existence or absence of criminal record) and be certified by the signature of the party's head and affixed with the party's seal;

5) statements of the persons included in the party's electoral list expressing consent to be nominated as that party's MP candidate (signed by the MP candidate in question), with acknowledgement of the obligation to terminate any activities or lay down any representative mandate which are incompatible with the mandate of an MP of Ukraine under the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine; consent to the publication of his or her biographical information in connection with participation in the election; and acknowledgement of the obligation, in the event of being elected as an MP, to transfer, within one month from the day of the official promulgation of the election results, to another person, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the law, the management of enterprises and corporate rights owned by the MP candidate (or indicating absence thereof);

6) paper and electronic copies of the autobiographies of the persons included in the party's electoral list, which shall necessarily contain: last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic (if any), date, month, year, and place of birth, citizenship with indication of the time

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of residence in the territory of Ukraine, information on educational attainment, work activities, position (occupation), place of employment, civic activities (including in elected positions), party membership, family members, address of residence, contact telephone number, and information on existence or absence of criminal record;

7) a statement of property, income, expenditures, and financial liabilities of each MP candidate, prepared in accordance with Article 57 of this Law;

8) a document certifying that a financial deposit has been made in accordance with Article 56 of this Law;

9) 4 photographs on paper, sized 4x6 cm, and in an electronic format, of each of the MP candidates included in the party's electoral list;

10) photocopies of the first and second pages of each of the candidates' passport of citizen of Ukraine.

2. In addition to the documents provided for in Part 1 of this Article, a party shall submit to the Central Election Commission a paper copy of the party's election program, certified by the signature of the party's head and affixed with the party's seal, prepared in the state language, and an electronic copy thereof, which shall be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

Should the Central Election Commission discover any discrepancies between the paper and electronic copies of the electoral list of MP candidates from the party, the paper document shall prevail.

3. The Central Election Commission shall provide the person who submitted the documents provided for by Part 1 of this Article with a certificate confirming the receipt of such documents. The certificate of receipt shall contain a list of the documents received, the day, month and year, as well as time of their receipt, and the position and last name of the person who received the documents.

4. The Central Election Commission shall not accept documents specified in Part 1 of this Article if they are submitted after expiry of the deadline specified in Part 2 Article 58 of this Law.

#### **Article 55. Conditions for Registration of MP Candidates in Single-Mandate Election Districts**

1. The Central Election Commission shall register an MP candidate nominated by a party in the respective single-mandate election district upon receipt of the following documents:

1) an application for registration of the MP candidate, signed by the head of the party and affixed with the party's seal;

2) a decision of the party's higher governing body adopted in accordance with its charter on the nomination of the person as the party's MP candidate, which must contain information on the nominee, with indication of his or her family name, first name, and patronymic;

3) the person's statement expressing consent to be nominated as that party's MP candidate (signed by the MP candidate in question), with acknowledgement of the obligation to terminate any activities or lay down any representative mandate which are incompatible with the mandate of an MP of Ukraine under the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine; consent to the publication of his or her biographical information in connection with participation in the election; and acknowledgement of the obligation, in the event of being elected as an MP, to transfer, within one month from the day of the official promulgation of the election results, to another person, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the law, the management of enterprises and corporate rights owned by the MP candidate (or indicating absence thereof);

4) paper and electronic copies of the autobiography of the MP candidate, which shall necessarily contain: last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic (if any), date, month, year, and place of birth, citizenship with indication of the time of residence in the territory of

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Ukraine, information on educational attainment, work activities, position (occupation), place of employment, civic activities (including in elected positions), party membership, family members, address of residence, contact telephone number, and information on existence or absence of criminal record;

5) a statement of property, income, expenditures and financial liabilities of the MP candidate, prepared in accordance with Article 57 of this Law;

6) a document certifying that a financial deposit has been made in accordance with Article 56 of this Law;

7) 4 photographs on paper, sized 4x6 cm, and in an electronic format, of the MP candidate;

8) photocopies of the first and second pages of the candidate's passport of citizen of Ukraine.

2. The Central Election Commission shall register a self-nominated MP candidate in a single-mandate district, provided that he or she personally presents one of the documents specified in Clauses 1 or 2 of Part 3 Article 2 of this Law and that it receives the following documents:

1) a statement of self-nomination, dated from the day of submission of documents for his or her registration as an MP candidate to the Central Election Commission, with acknowledgement of the obligation to terminate any activities or lay down any representative mandate which are incompatible with the mandate of an MP of Ukraine under the Constitution and the Laws of Ukraine; consent to the publication of his or her biographical information in connection with participation in the election; and acknowledgement of the obligation, in case of being elected as an MP, to transfer, within one month from the day of the official promulgation of the election results, to another person, pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the law, the management of enterprises and corporate rights owned by the MP candidate (or indicating absence thereof);

2) paper and electronic copies of the autobiography of the MP candidate, which shall necessarily contain: last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic (if any), date, month, year, and place of birth, citizenship with indication of the time of residence in the territory of Ukraine, information on educational attainment, work activities, position (occupation), place of employment, civic activities (including in elected positions), party membership, family members, address of residence, contact telephone number, and information on existence or absence of criminal record;

3) a statement of property, income, expenditures and financial liabilities of the MP candidate prepared in accordance with Article 57 of this Law;

4) a document certifying that a financial deposit has been made in accordance with Article 56 of this Law;

5) 4 photographs on paper, sized 4x6 cm, and in an electronic format, of the MP candidate;

6) photocopies of the first and second pages of the candidate's passport of citizen of Ukraine.

3. In addition to the documents provided for by Part 1 or Part 2 of this Article, an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall submit to the Central Election Commission in an electronic format his or her election program, prepared in the state language, which shall be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

4. The Central Election Commission shall provide a person who has submitted the documents provided for by Part 1 or Part 2 of this Article with a certificate confirming the receipt of such documents. The certificate shall contain a list of the documents received, the day, month and year, as well as time of their receipt, and the position and last name of the person who received the documents.

5. The Central Election Commission shall not accept documents specified in Parts 1 and 2 of this Article if they are submitted after expiry of the deadline specified in Part 2 Article 59 of this Law.

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**Article 56.** Financial Deposit

1. Each party nominating an electoral list of MP candidates in the nationwide election district shall, before submitting documents to the Central Election Commission for the registration of the MP candidates, transfer in a cashless form to the special account of the Central Election Commission a financial deposit in the amount of one thousand minimum salaries.

*{Part 1 Article 56 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

2. Each party nominating an MP candidate in a single-mandate district and each self-nominated MP candidate running in a single-mandate district shall, after the beginning of the election process and before submitting registration documents to the Central Election Commission, transfer to the special account of the Central Election Commission a financial deposit in the amount of ten minimum salaries.

*{Part 2 Article 56 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

3. If the Central Election Commission adopts a decision refusing to register MP candidates included in the electoral list of a party, or refusing to register an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, the financial deposit shall be transferred back to the account of the submitting party within five days of the adoption of such decision.

If the Central Election Commission adopts a decision refusing to register a self-nominated MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, then the financial deposit shall be transferred back to the account chosen by the MP candidate within five days of the adoption of such decision.

4. The financial deposit transferred by a party that has nominated an electoral list of MP candidates in the nationwide election district shall be returned to the party's account within eight days of the day of the official promulgation of the election results if, according to the election results, the party obtains the right to participate in the distribution of MP mandates.

5. The financial deposit paid by a party that has nominated an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall be returned to the party's account within eight days of the day of the official promulgation of the election results if, according to the election results, the MP candidate is elected in the single-mandate election district.

6. The financial deposit paid by a self-nominated MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall be returned within eight days of the day of the official promulgation of the election results to the account indicated in the MP candidate's application to the Central Election Commission, if, according to the election results, the MP candidate has been elected in the single-mandate election district.

7. In all other cases, financial deposit shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine within eight days of the official promulgation of the election results.

**Article 57.** Declarations of Property, Income, Expenses and Financial Liabilities by MP Candidates

1. A statement of property, income, expenditures and financial liabilities for the year preceding the year in which the election process begins shall be submitted by each MP candidate in the form specified by the Law of Ukraine *On the Principles of Preventing and Combating Corruption in Ukraine*.

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2. After the registration of an MP candidate, information included in his or her statement shall be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission, except for information of a confidential nature.

3. Errors and inaccuracies detected in the submitted statement shall be subject to correction and shall not be a reason for refusing to register the MP candidate.

**Article 58.** Procedure for Registration of MP Candidates in the Nationwide Election District

1. MP candidates included in the electoral list of a party shall be registered by the Central Election Commission on condition of submission of the documents specified in Article 54 of this Law.

2. The documents for registration of the MP candidates shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission no later than seventy-five days prior to the day of voting.

3. Should a person included in the electoral list of a party fail to submit a statement of consent to be nominated as an MP candidate for that party, he or she shall be deemed excluded from the electoral list of the party as of the day of submission of a party's application in accordance with clause 1 of Part one of Article 54 of this Law. A statement of consent submitted after submission of the aforementioned party's application for registration of the MP candidates shall not be accepted.

4. A person included in a party's electoral list shall have the right to withdraw his or her consent to be nominated as an MP candidate prior to the day of registration. Such a person shall be deemed excluded from the electoral list of a party from the moment of the receipt by the Central Election Commission of a statement of withdrawal. The Central Election Commission shall notify the party in writing of the receipt of such a statement no later than on the day following the day on which it received the statement of withdrawal. A statement of consent submitted by a person who has previously withdrawn consent to be nominated as an MP candidate by the same party shall not be accepted.

5. A person who has submitted statements of consent to be included in the electoral lists of more than one party shall be excluded by a decision of the Central Election Commission from all the electoral lists in which he or she was included.

6. No later than on the fifth day following the day of the receipt of an application for registration of MP candidates included in the electoral list of a party and the other required documents attached thereto, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision either registering the MP candidates or refusing their registration.

7. The list and priority of MP candidates in the electoral list determined by a party shall not be changed after the submission of the documents for registration to the Central Election Commission.

8. In the event of registration of MP candidates, the party's representative in the Central Election Commission shall be presented, within three days after the day of adoption of the decision on registration of the MP candidates, with the MP candidate registration documents, issued in a form approved by the Central Election Commission, together with a copy of the aforementioned decision. The party's electoral list of MP candidates shall be published, together with the decision on their registration, within the same time framework, in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier* as well as on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

**Article 59.** Procedure for Registration of MP Candidates in Single-Mandate Election Districts

1. MP candidates in a single-mandate election district shall be registered by the Central Election Commission on condition of submission of the documents listed in Article 55 of this Law.

2. Documents for registration of MP candidates shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission no later than seventy-five days prior to the day of voting.

3. A person who, on the day of submission to the Central Election Commission of the party's application for his or her registration as an MP candidate, fails to submit a statement of consent to be nominated as an MP candidate from the party, shall be deemed to have refused to be nominated from the day of submission of the party's application in accordance with Clause 1 Part 1 Article 55 of this Law. A statement of consent submitted after the receipt by the Central Election Commission of the party's application for registration of the MP candidate and supporting documents shall not be accepted.

A person who, on the day of submission to the Central Election Commission of the documents for his or her registration as a self-nominated MP candidate in a single-mandate district, fails to submit a statement of self-nomination, shall be deemed to have renounced the nomination from the day of submission of the documents for his or her registration as an MP candidate in accordance with Article 55 of this Law. Such a person's statement of self-nomination submitted after the receipt by the Central Election Commission of supporting documents shall not be accepted.

4. A person nominated by a party as an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district may withdraw his or her statement of consent prior to the day of registration. Such person shall be deemed to have refused to be nominated as of the moment of receipt by the Central Election Commission of the statement of withdrawal of his or her consent. The Central Election Commission shall notify the party that nominated the MP candidate in writing of the receipt of a statement of withdrawal no later than on the day following the day of the receipt of the statement of withdrawal. A statement of consent submitted by a person who has previously withdrawn consent to be nominated as an MP candidate shall not be accepted.

A self-nominated MP candidate in a single-mandate election district may withdraw his or her statement of self-nomination prior to the day of registration. Such person shall be deemed to have renounced the nomination starting from the moment of receipt by the Central Election Commission of the statement of withdrawal. A person who has withdrawn his or her self-nomination may not submit a second self-nomination application.

5. If the Central Election Commission discovers that a person nominated as an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district based on his or her written statement of consent to be a party's nominee or a self-nominated one has been simultaneously nominated in another single-mandate district based on his or her written statement of consent to be a party's nominee or self-nominated one, the Central Election Commission shall refuse to register that MP candidate or shall cancel that person's registration as an MP candidate in the nationwide election district and in the respective single-mandate district.

*{Part 5 Article 59 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than on the fifth day following the day of the receipt of the documents specified in Parts 1 or 2 Article 55 of this Law, adopt a decision either registering the candidate in the single-mandate election district or refusing to register him or her.

7. In the event of registration of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, the Central Election Commission shall issue an MP identification document, in a form approved by

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the Central Election Commission, together with a copy of the decision on his or her registration, within three days after adopting that decision. Notification of the registration of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, together with the decision on his or her registration, shall be published by the Central Election Commission within the same time framework in the regional or local printed mass media.

8. The Central Election commission shall publish the list of MP candidates registered in a single-mandate election district, with indication of the last name, first name (all first names), patronymic (if any), date, month, year and place of birth, citizenship with indication of the time of residence in the territory of Ukraine, information on educational attainment, position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, information on the existence or absence of criminal record, and the nominating entity, within seven days after the end of registration of MP candidates in the single-mandate election district, in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, as well as on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 8 Article 59 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 60.** Refusal to Register MP Candidate(s)

1. The Central Election Commission shall refuse to register MP candidate(s) in the event of:

- 1) violation of the requirements of Parts 4 and 5 Article 52 of this Law;
- 2) absence of documents specified in Part 1 Article 54 or Parts 1 or 2 Article 55 of this Law;
- 3) termination of the MP candidate's citizenship of Ukraine;
- 4) departure of the MP candidate abroad for residence or for the purpose of political asylum;
- 5) the MP candidate's being found to be incompetent;
- 6) entry into force of a court judgment convicting the nominee of a deliberate crime;
- 7) discovery of circumstances depriving the nominee of the right to be elected pursuant to Article 9 of this Law.

2. A decision on refusal of registration of MP candidate(s) shall contain a complete list of the grounds for refusal. No later than on the day following the day of refusal, a copy of such decision shall be delivered (sent) to the party's representative or to the MP candidate running in a single-mandate district.

3. Errors and inaccuracies detected in documents submitted by candidates for registration shall be subject to correction and shall not be a reason for refusing to register the MP candidate.

*{Part 3 Article 60 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 61.** Warnings and Cancellation of Registration of MP Candidate(s)

1. The Central Election Commission may adopt a decision to issue a warning to a party whose MP candidates are included in the party's electoral list or to an individual MP candidate.

2. A warning shall be issued if:

- 1) a court has established, in the course of consideration of an election-related dispute pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the law, that an MP candidate, a party that has nominated MP candidates, a party's representative, authorized person, or official, an MP candidate's proxy, or any other person acting on behalf of an MP candidate or a party that is an electoral subject has bribed voters or members of election commissions;
- 2) a court has established, in the course of consideration of an election related dispute pursuant to the procedure prescribed by the law, the fact of money handouts or distribution for free or on preferential terms of commodities (except items bearing the visual images of the name, symbol,

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or flag of a party, provided that the value of such items does not exceed three percent of the minimum salary), works, services, securities, loans, lottery tickets, or other material benefits to the voters, establishments, institutions, organizations, or members of election commissions (indirect bribery) by an organization whose founder, owner, or administrative body member is an MP candidate, a party that has nominated MP candidates, or an official of that party;

*{Clause 2 Part 2 Article 61 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

3) a court has established, in the course of consideration of an election related dispute pursuant to the procedure prescribed by law , that an MP candidate or a party has used resources other than their electoral fund to finance their election campaign;

4) a court has established, in the course the consideration of an election related dispute pursuant to the procedure prescribed by law , that an MP candidate holding a position (or more than one position) in a state executive body, a state body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or a local self-government body, state or municipal enterprise, institution, establishment or organization, in military formations established according to the Laws of Ukraine, has used for the purpose of his or her election campaigning his or her subordinates, office transport, communication, equipment, premises, or other objects or resources at his or her place of employment (abuse of office);

5) a party or an MP candidate has violated restrictions related to election campaigning, including campaigning after midnight of the last Friday prior to the day of voting.

6) a party whose MP candidates are registered in the nationwide election district or an MP candidate in a single-mandate district has violated the time frames provided for in Part 1 Article 48 of this Law for opening the electoral fund account;

*{Clause 6 was added to Part 2 Article 61 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7) the manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund, the manager of the current account of an electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate district has violated the time frame provided for in Part 6 Article 49 of this Law for submission of financial reports on the receipt and use of the resources of the electoral fund (including interim reports);

*{Clause 7 was added to Part 2 Article 61 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

8) the manager of the accumulation account of a party's electoral fund, the manager of the current account of an electoral fund of an MP candidate in a single-mandate district has included false information in a financial report on the receipt and use of the resources of the electoral fund (including an interim report).

*{Clause 8 was added to Part 2 Article 61 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

3. The Central Election Commission may decide to issue a warning to a party whose MP candidates are included in the party's electoral list or to an individual MP candidate based on the results of the complaint granting.

*{A new part was added to Article 61 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4. A warning specified in Part 1 of this Article shall be published by the Central Election Commission in nationwide printed mass media and on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

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5. The Central Election Commission shall take a decision canceling an MP candidate's registration if:

- 1) no later than twelve days prior to the day of voting, the MP candidate has submitted a written statement withdrawing from the election;
- 2) no later than twelve days prior to the day of voting, the relevant party has requested that the MP candidate's registration be cancelled based on a decision adopted in accordance with the party's charter;
- 3) the MP candidate has ceased to be a citizen of Ukraine;
- 4) the MP candidate has gone abroad to take up permanent residence or to seek political asylum;
- 5) the MP candidate has been found incompetent;
- 6) a judgment of a court finding the MP candidate guilty of committing a deliberate crime has come into force;
- 7) the requirements of Parts 4 or 5 Article 52 of this Law have been violated;
- 8) the election commission has discovered any circumstances depriving the MP candidate of the right to be elected as an MP in accordance with Article 9 of this Law.

In the event of receipt of applications provided for in Clauses 1, 2 of this Part, the respective election commission shall adopt a decision canceling the registration of the MP candidate no later than ten days prior to day of voting.

In the event of receipt of applications provided for in Clauses 1, 2 of this Part less than twelve days prior to the day of voting, the election commission shall not consider such applications and no decisions shall be taken thereon.

6. If an election commission discovers a violation provided for by Part 2 of this Article or any other violation for which a criminal or administrative liability has been established by the law, the election commission shall notify law enforcement bodies of the violation for the purpose of investigation and reaction in accordance with the law.

7. The Central Election Commission shall notify the party or the MP candidate of a decision canceling the registration of the MP candidate(s), or of the issuance of a warning, no later than on the day following the day of the adoption of such decision, and shall issue a copy of the decision to the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or to the respective MP candidate within the same time framework.

8. In the event of death of an MP candidate, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision removing that MP candidate from the ballot and from the party's electoral list.

**Article 62.** Recognizing Election in Single-Mandate Election District as Invalid

1. If no candidates have been nominated in a single-mandate election district within the applicable time limit, or if only one candidate has been nominated and less than half of the votes cast were cast for that MP candidate, the election in that district shall be deemed not to have taken place.

**Chapter VIII**  
**INFORMATION SUPPORT FOR ELECTIONS**

**Article 63.** Main Principles of Information Support for Elections

1. Voters shall be provided with the opportunity for access to diverse, objective and unbiased information necessary for making deliberate, informed and free choices.

2. The information contained in the documents submitted to the Central Election Commission for the registration of the MP candidates shall be open. On the official website of the Central Election Commission, information shall be made public on each MP candidate's last name, first name (all first names), and patronymic (if any), date, month, year and place of birth, citizenship with indication of the time of residence in the territory of Ukraine, information on position (occupation), place of employment, party membership, place of residence, existence or absence of criminal record, and the nominating entity

3. The election commissions, mass media and information agencies, state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-government, their officials, civic associations, as well as other persons shall, when disseminating information on the election in a manner that is not deemed to be election campaigning pursuant to Article 68 of this Law, abide by the principles of unbiased, unprejudiced, balanced, reliable, complete and accurate information.

4. The Central Election Commission at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the MP election, not later than thirty five days before the day of voting shall ensure production of information posters of the parties whose MP candidates are registered in the nationwide election district. The posters have to contain the parties' election programs (not more than seven thousand eight hundred printed characters) they submitted for registration of MP candidates, an electoral list of the party stating the family name, first name, patronymic, the year of birth, position (occupation), place of work and residence, party affiliation of the MP candidates included in the list as well as photographs of the first five MP candidates. The form, size, and printing layout of the information posters shall be determined by the Central Election Commission.

The Central Election Commission shall receive an approval of the party's representative in the Central Election Commission for the text and printing layout of the information poster.

*{Part 4 was added to Article 63 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5. The Central Election Commission at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the MP election, not later than thirty five days before the day of voting shall ensure production of information posters of the MP candidates registered in single-mandate districts. The posters shall contain the candidate's curriculum vitae, his or her election program (not more than three thousand nine hundred printed characters) and a photo that were submitted for registration.

The Central Election Commission shall receive approval of the MP candidate registered in a single-mandate district for the text and printing layout of the candidate's information poster.

*{Part 5 was added to Article 63 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6. The Central Election Commission shall ensure production of an equal amount of information posters for parties and candidates totaling not less than two copies of each poster for every election precinct. Information posters produced for the parties shall be forwarded to the respective election commissions pursuant to the procedure identified by the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 6 was added to Article 63 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. Information posters shall be delivered to the respective election commissions not later than twenty days before the election day.

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*{Part 7 was added to Article 63 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 64.** General Information Support of Elections

1. General information support for an election shall comprise informing the voters on:
  - 1) the electoral rights of the citizens and the ways of exercising and protecting them;
  - 2) the opportunity for voters to check whether they or other voters have been included in the State Voter Register and in the voter lists at the election precincts and the procedures for doing so;
  - 3) the opportunity for voters to change their place of voting (election precinct) without changing their voting address and the procedures for doing so;
  - 4) the addresses of the location of the district and precinct election commissions of the election precinct to which the voting address of a voter is assigned;
  - 5) the address of the premises for voting, the date and time of voting;
  - 6) the grounds and procedures for being provided with the opportunity to vote at a place of temporary stay;
  - 7) voting procedures and method for filling out a ballot paper;
  - 8) the voters' right to appeal against violations of their electoral rights and the procedures for doing so;
  - 9) the liability for violating the electoral legislation.
2. The Central Election Commission shall, no later than one hundred twenty days prior to the day of voting, make public on its official website information pertaining to the general information support for the respective election.
3. Legislation on social advertising shall be applicable to the distribution of information materials related to the general information support for the election.

**Article 65.** Special Information Support of Election

1. Special information support of the election shall comprise informing the voters on:
  - 1) registered MP candidates and the parties that nominated them;
  - 2) the election programs of parties and MP candidates in single-mandate election districts;
  - 3) the accounts of the electoral funds of the parties and MP candidates in single-mandate election districts, the allowable value of a voluntary donation, and the method for making such donation;
  - 4) the cancellation of registration (withdrawal) of an MP candidate;
  - 5) facts and events relating to the election process.
2. Mass media organizations and information agencies shall be entitled to participate in the special information support for the election based on a request from the Central Election Commission or district election commission ; and as regards data specified in Clause 5 Part 1 of this Article, on their own initiative in accordance with the requirements of this Law.

**Article 66.** Principles of Participation of Mass Media and Information Agencies in Information Support for Elections

1. In the course of the election process, the mass media shall distribute information materials in response to requests from the Central Election Commission and district election commissions, on the basis of relevant agreements concluded with the aforementioned commissions.

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

Information agencies and mass media that disseminate information about election related events may not allow silencing the information that is necessary for the society and that is related to these events if they were aware of such information at the moment of dissemination. Information agencies and mass media shall disseminate information about the election in accordance with the facts avoiding distortion of the information. Mass media and information agencies shall try to receive information about the election related events from two and more sources prioritizing the primary sources.

*{Paragraph 2 was added to Part 2 Article 66 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

3. Mass media and information agencies shall provide a balanced coverage for comments made by all parties and MP candidates on election-related events.

*{Part 2 Article 66 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4. TV and radio organizations shall independently determine the amount of air time dedicated to the coverage of facts and events related to the election process. In the said materials, TV and radio organizations may not express special attitude to certain subjects of the election process or give them any privileges.

*{Part 4 was added to Article 66 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5. TV and radio organizations shall have a right to create and to broadcast live the programs inviting MP candidates, their proxies, parties participating in the election process, their authorized representatives in the form of election debates or discussions. Such programs shall be arranged in a series of programs with a similar format aimed at ensuring observation of the principle of equal conditions and equal access.

A TV and radio organization that intends to broadcast such programs shall publish the respective proposal stating the program format, the period during which consent for participation in the program should be submitted, and the cost of participation in the respective program.

The format of the program (series of programs) includes: the procedure for selection of participants of the program involving two or more candidates or parties – upon the participant's consent, by drawing lots, etc.; the duration of the program and the amount of air time given to each participant for speaking; the presence of other invitees in the studio during the program (experts, journalists, audience in the studio etc.), their role and the process for selection or identification; the rules of procedure and the rules of conduct for program participants; the topic for discussion or the procedure for its identification; the terms of presentation of other information during the program (results of public opinion surveys, interactive voting, statistic data, educational and reference information, concert performances, etc); other terms and conditions of the program production.

The cost of participation in the program shall be the same for all subjects of the election process and determined taking into consideration the amount of air time given to each program participant as well as the price of the air time unit determined as provided for in Part 6 Article 71 of this Law.

The amount of air time given to the program participants for participation in the discussion or for answers to the questions shall be determined using the same rules.

*{Part 5 was added to Article 66 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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6. Control of adherence to the provisions of this Law with regard to participation of mass media and information agencies in provision of information support for the election and election campaigns shall be exercised by the National Council of Ukraine on TV and Radio Broadcasting (for electronic (audiovisual) mass media) and the central executive body responsible for implementation of the state policy in the information and publishing spheres (for printed mass media and information agencies).

For the purposes of such control, the monitoring data may be used that were submitted by civil society organizations whose statutes provide for the issues related to the election process and election observation and that are duly registered.

In the event when, on the basis of such control, violations are discovered, the National Council of Ukraine on TV and Radio Broadcasting and the central executive body responsible for implementation of the state policy in the information and publishing spheres shall notify the Central Election Commission or the respective district election commission thereon.

*{Part 6 was added to Article 66 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 67. Peculiarities of Disseminating Information on the Results of Election-Related Opinion Polls**

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

2. When reporting the results of an election-related opinion poll, information agencies and mass media shall indicate the full name of the organization that conducted the poll, the persons who commissioned the poll, as well as other data specified in Part 1 of this Article.

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

*{Part 3 Article 67 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4. Methods for conducting voter surveys relating to voting intentions shall ensure the protection of the secrecy of voting of the voters being polled. On the day of voting, making public the results of such a poll shall be prohibited until the close of the voting.

5. If a broadcasting company makes public the results of an interactive poll of its audience conducted during an election-related program or a program with the participation of MP candidates, the participants of the program shall be prohibited from commenting on the results of such poll or referring to it otherwise.

During the whole period of making public the results of an interactive poll of the audience, the text message "This poll reflects the opinion of this audience only" shall be displayed on the screen (for television programs) in a form perceptible to the viewer or be voiced (for radio programs) in a well-articulated manner by the announcer or studio host immediately prior to and after making public the aforementioned results.

**Chapter IX  
ELECTION CAMPAIGNING**

**Article 68. Forms and Means of Election Campaigning**

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

2. Election campaigning may be conducted in the following forms:

- 1) holding meetings with citizens, other meetings with voters;
- 2) holding rallies, marches, demonstrations, picketing;
- 3) holding public debates, discussions, round tables, press conferences pertaining to provisions of the election programs and the political activities of the parties that are electoral subjects or the political activities of the MP candidates
- 4) making public political advertisements, speeches, interviews, essays, video films, audio and video clips, other publications and notices in printed and audiovisual (electronic) mass media;
- 5) distributing election leaflets, posters and other printed campaigning materials or printed publications containing election campaigning materials;
- 6) placing printed campaigning materials or political advertisements on outdoor advertising media;
- 7) holding concerts, performances, sport competitions, showing films and television programs, or [staging] other public events with the support of a party that is a subject of election process or of an MP candidate, as well as making public the information on such support;
- 8) public appeals to vote or not to vote for a party that is a subject of election process or for an MP candidate, as well as public assessments of the activities of such parties or MP candidates;
- 9) installation of campaign tents;

*{A new clause was added to Article 68 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013; as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

10) other forms that do not contradict the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine.

3. Political advertising shall mean the placement or dissemination of election campaigning materials through advertising means. Political advertising shall also include the use of symbols or logos of parties that are electoral subjects, as well as announcements that a party which is an electoral subject or an MP candidate supports entertainment or other public events, or attracting public attention to participation of a party that is an electoral subject or a particular MP candidate in such events. Advertising for printed publications (newspapers, magazines, books) or other commodities or services involving the use of the last names or images (portraits) of MP candidates, names or symbols of parties that are electoral subjects shall also be deemed to be political advertising.

4. Official reports during the election campaign on actions taken by MP candidates holding positions in state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or local self-government bodies, in connection with performance of their official (service) duties provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine or the Laws of Ukraine, shall not be deemed to be election campaigning if these reports are produced in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Law on the Procedure for Media Coverage of the Activities of State Executive Bodies and Bodies of Local Self-Government in Ukraine. Such official reports must not contain any comments of a campaigning nature, video or audio recordings, or photographic illustrations of the activities of the aforementioned persons as MP candidates.

5. Activities specified in Clauses 1 – 7 and 9 Part 2 of this Article that are carried out by a party that is not an electoral subject with the intention of promoting its own activity or explaining its

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position shall not be deemed to be election campaigning if, in the course of such activities, no mention is made of parties that are electoral subjects, of MP candidates, or of any provisions of election programs.

6. Election campaigning shall be paid at the expense of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for support for election campaigning in accordance with this Law and at the expense of the electoral funds of parties and MP candidates in single mandate election districts. MP candidates registered in the nationwide election district may carry out election campaigning at the expense of the resources of the electoral fund of the party. The use of the party own funds, those MP candidates' own funds, or funds derived from other sources to carry out election campaigning, including on the voters' initiative, shall be prohibited.

*{Part 6 Article 68 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. Parties that have registered MP candidate(s) in the nationwide election district shall be provided with space in printed mass media with due observance of the principle of equal opportunities.

A party that has registered MP candidate(s) in the nationwide election district shall finance the events and materials of its election campaign, and any political advertising in its support, out of the funds of its own electoral fund.

Support by a party that has registered MP candidate(s) in the nationwide election district, on its own behalf, for concerts, performances, sport competitions, demonstration of films and television programs, or other public events, and also the staging of the aforementioned public events in support of a party that has registered candidates in the nationwide district, shall be allowed only if such events are paid for out of the party's electoral fund.

8. MP candidates in single-mandate election districts shall be provided with space in printed mass media with due observance of the principle of equal opportunities.

An MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall finance the events and materials of his or her election campaign, as well as any political advertising in his or her support, out of the MP candidate's own electoral fund.

Support by an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district for concerts, performances, sport competitions, demonstration of films and television programs, or other public events, and also the staging of the aforementioned events in support of an MP candidate, shall be allowed only if such events are paid for out of the MP candidate's own electoral fund.

9. Parties that have registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district and MP candidates in single-mandate election districts shall have the right to rent buildings and premises of all forms of ownership for the holding of meetings, rallies, debates, discussions, or other public events of election campaigning, on a contract basis, at the expense of their respective electoral funds.

10. If a building (premises) of any form of its ownership is provided on a contract basis to a party that has registered candidates in the nationwide election district, or to MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, for the holding of a pre-election public event or election campaign event, the owner (proprietor, user) of this building (premises) shall not refuse to allow any other party that has registered candidates in the nationwide district or an MP candidate in a single-mandate district to use the same building (premises) on the same terms. The aforementioned requirement shall not apply to premises owned or permanently used by a party that has registered candidates in the nationwide election district or to an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district.

State- or municipally-owned buildings (premises) shall be provided for holding a pre-election public event or for election campaigning on a noncompetitive basis.

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11. No later than eighty days prior to the day of voting, local executive bodies and bodies of local self-government shall set up stands and public bulletin boards in places allocated for the placement of election campaign materials of parties that have registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district and MP candidates in the single-mandate election district, with due observance of the principle of equal opportunities.

12. Legal entities and individuals providing outdoor advertising shall ensure equal access and equal conditions for the parties that are subjects of the election process, MP candidates for placement of campaign materials (political advertising) using outdoor advertising media.

*{Part 12 was added to Article 68 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 69. Election Campaign Materials**

*{Article 69 title in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

*{Part 1 Article 69 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

*{Part 2 Article 69 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

*{Part 3 Article 69 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

*{Part 4 Article 69 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5. A party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district, or an MP candidate registered in a single-member district, may at its/his/her own discretion produce election campaign materials at the expense and within the limits of the resources of the electoral fund. A party may produce printed matter for its election campaigning using equipment that it owns. Information included in these materials must comply with the requirements of the law. The election campaign materials shall be produced with due regard to the requirements of the Law of Ukraine *On Fundamental Principles of the State Language Policy*.

*{Part 5 Article 69 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6. A party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district, or an MP candidate registered in a single-member district, shall submit to the Central Election Commission one copy of each printed election campaign material produced at the expense of the party's electoral fund and using equipment that it owns, or, accordingly, produced at the expense of the MP candidate's electoral fund, no later than five days from the day of its production. If the printed election campaign materials were produced in a regional language or a minority language, translation into the official state language shall be attached to each copy of such materials.

*{Part 6 Article 69 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. Printed election campaign matter shall contain information on the person or party ordering the publication of these materials, the printing entity, or an indication that the printing was done using equipment owned by the party, the number of copies, and information on the persons responsible for the publication.

8. Local executive bodies and local self-government bodies shall, no later than one hundred days prior to the election day, allocate areas in populous places for the placement of election campaign materials with due regard to the principle of equal conditions.

*{Part 8 Article 69 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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**Article 70.** Time Frames for Election Campaigning

1. A party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district, as well as MP candidates, may start their election campaigning on the day following the day when the election commission adopts a decision on the registration of the MP candidates.
2. Election campaigning shall cease at 24:00 on the last Friday before the day of voting.
3. Election campaigning on the eve of the day of voting and on the day of voting shall be prohibited. During the same period of time, it shall be prohibited to hold mass events (meetings, rallies, marches, demonstrations, picketing) on behalf of a party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district, or on behalf of the MP candidates; to distribute campaign materials; or to make public announcements about support by a party or an MP candidate for concerts, performances, sport competitions, demonstration of films or television programs, or other public events.

**Article 71.** General Procedure for Using Mass Media

1. Election campaigning through mass media of all forms of ownership shall be conducted with due observance of the principle of equal opportunities and under the procedure prescribed by this Law.
2. Election campaigning through mass media, including political advertisements, shall be conducted in forms and with observance of requirements and restrictions prescribed by this Article and Articles 68, 70, and 72 – 74 of this Law.
3. A party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district, as well as an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, shall have the right to use state-owned and municipal mass media on conditions provided for by this Law.
4. The Central Election Commission shall approve the procedures for providing air time and printed space at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for support for election campaigning in accordance with this Law to parties that have registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district and to MP candidates.

*{Part 4 Article 71 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5. Election campaigning through mass media of all forms of ownership paid for out of the electoral funds of parties and MP candidates in single-mandate election districts shall be conducted on conditions of equal pay for a unit of air time or printed space.
6. Each mass media organization shall set the price per a unit of printed space or air time to be used for election campaigning at the expense of electoral funds no later than one hundred days prior to the day of voting; the price shall not exceed the average price charged for commercial advertising (advertising which is disseminated with the purpose of generating profit) for the last three quarters of the year preceding the year of the MP election. At the same time, mass media shall be entitled to calculate separate rates per unit of printed space or air time for business days and days off and holidays as well as for periods of air time or printed space types with different potential audience size.

*{Part 6 Article 71 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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7. Mass media organizations registered after 1 June of the year preceding the year of a regular election of people's deputies of Ukraine shall set the prices per unit of printed space or air time on the basis of data collected over the entire period of their functioning, in accordance with the procedure provided for by Part 6 of this Article. The price rates established by such mass media shall not exceed the price rates applied, respectively, by newspaper *Holos Ukrainy* (for printed mass media).

*{Part 7 Article 71 as amended pursuant to the Laws № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013, № 1227-VII dd. 17.04.2014}*

8. Prices per unit of printed space and air time for conducting election campaigning shall not be changed during the election process. A mass media outlet shall not be allowed to grant discounts or introduce extra charges to parties that have registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district or to MP candidates in single-mandate districts.

Election campaigning in mass media of all forms of ownership carried out at the expense of resources of electoral funds of parties, MP candidates in single-mandate districts shall be allowed only after the printed space or air time was paid from the respective electoral fund accounts.

*{Paragraph 2 was added to Part 8 Article 71 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

9. A mass media organization that has provided air time or printed space for election campaigning for a party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide district or to an MP candidate at the expense of the respective electoral fund resources, shall not refuse to provide air time or printed space on the same terms to another party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide district, or another MP candidate. A mass media outlet may refuse to provide air time or printed space to a party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district or an MP candidate if the materials provided for distribution fail to comply with the requirements of Parts 6 or 10 Article 74 of this Law.

*{Part 9 Article 71 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

10. When making public the results of public opinion poll related to the election of MPs, mass media shall indicate the person or entity that commissioned the poll, the full name of the organization that conducted the poll, the time when the poll was conducted, the territory covered by the poll, the size and method of sampling, the polling method, the exact wording of the questions, and the possible statistical error.

11. The requirements prescribed by Parts 5 – 9 of this Article shall not apply to printed mass media organizations founded (owned) by the parties that have registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district or by MP candidates in single-mandate election districts, as regards their own election campaigning.

## **Article 72. Procedure for Using Electronic (Audiovisual) Mass Media**

1. No later than ninety days prior to the day of voting, television and radio broadcasting entities of all forms of ownership shall publish in the printed mass media their rates per one minute (second) of air time. Television and radio broadcasting entities broadcasting on the nationwide channels shall publish such rates in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, while regional and local television and radio broadcasting entities shall publish their rates in the respective regional and local state-owned or municipal printed mass media.

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2. Air time for conducting election campaigning shall be provided at the expense and within the limits of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election, by the state-owned and municipal television and radio broadcasting entities between 19:00 and 22:00.

3. The broadcasting time (broadcasting schedule) of television and radio broadcasting entities that have licenses issued by the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine for the right to use the nationwide broadcasting channels shall be adjusted (without changing the broadcasting volume) having regard to the time of broadcasting of the election campaigning programs at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for preparation and conduct of the election, during the election process, so as to provide the regional state-owned and municipal television and radio broadcasting organizations with opportunities to broadcast such programs in respective regions.

4. Television and radio broadcasting entities shall provide each party that is an electoral subject with air time for election campaigning at the expense and within the limits of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and holding of the election, totaling no less than 60 minutes on a nationwide television channel and 60 minutes on a nationwide radio channel, and also 20 minutes for each one on the regional television channels and 20 minutes for each one on the regional radio channels in each of the regions. MP candidates registered in a single-member district shall each be provided with 20 minutes on the respective regional television channels and 20 minutes on the regional radio channels. The above time shall be provided to a party on each of the aforementioned channels in two equal parts of the total allocated time.

5. The preliminary air time schedule for broadcasting election campaign television/radio programs, with indication of the date and time of their broadcasting (without indicating specific participants in the programs), shall be compiled by state-owned or municipal nationwide and regional television and radio entities with which agreements have been concluded for the distribution, during the election process, of campaign materials of parties and MP candidates registered in single-mandate districts at the expense and within the limits of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election. Such schedule shall be forwarded to the Central Election Commission and respective district election commissions not later than fifty-seven days prior to the election day.

*{Part 5 Article 72 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6. The sequence in which the parties that are subjects of election process will be provided with air time on the nationwide radio and television within the framework of the schedule mentioned in Part 5 of this Article shall be determined not later than fifty-three days before the election day by means of lot drawing conducted by the Central Election Commission, with the participation of the parties' representatives in the Central Election Commission or authorized representatives of the parties.

The sequence in which the parties that are subjects of election process and the MP candidates registered in a single-mandate district will be provided with air time on state-owned or municipal regional radio and television within the framework of the schedule mentioned in Part 5 of this Article shall be determined not later than fifty-three days before the election day by means of lot drawing conducted by the respective district election commissions identified by a decision of the Central Election Commission in each Ukrainian region, with the participation of respective representatives of the parties, MP candidates or proxies of MP candidates registered in single-mandate districts.

*{Part 6 Article 72 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. The results of the drawing of lots conducted in accordance with Part 6 of this Article and the air time schedule compiled on its basis, with indication of the election campaign television/radio programs and the specific date and time of their broadcasting at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election, shall be published, accordingly, in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, local state-owned or municipal printed mass media, within three days from the day of their approval by the Central Election Commission or the district election commission respectively.

*{Part 7 Article 72 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

8. Payment for the air time provided to a party or an MP candidate registered in a single-mandate district shall be made by the Central Election Commission or respective district election commission in accordance with the cost sheets approved by them, within the limits of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election, and on the basis of agreements concluded, respectively, between the Central Election Commission, the district election commission, and the National Public TV and Radio Company of Ukraine or a regional state-owned or municipal television or radio organization.

*{Part 8 Article 72 as amended pursuant to the Laws № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013, № 1227-VII dd. 17.04.2014}*

9. During 10 minutes before and after a television/radio broadcast of a party's, MP candidate's election campaign television/radio program, it shall be prohibited to comment on or evaluate in any form on the same broadcasting channel the content of the election campaign program or the actions of the party or of the MP candidates.

*{Part 9 Article 72 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

10. Election campaign programming shall be broadcast on the basis of an agreement concluded on behalf of a party, or an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, between the manager of the current account of the respective electoral fund and the editorial board (publisher) of a printed media organization. Unless such an agreement is concluded and the fee for the air time is paid to the account of the television and radio broadcasting organization, the provision of such air time shall be prohibited.

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

12. Upon receipt of inquiries in writing from the Central Election Commission, the respective district election commission, or the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine, television and radio broadcasting entities of all forms of ownership shall submit all information on the allocation of air time to a party or an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district for election campaigning and, if required, provide copies of the respective agreements, payment documents and programs recorded on tape or other information carriers.

*{Part 12 Article 72 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

13. During the election process, only the parties that have registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district and MP candidates in single-mandate election districts shall be entitled to be customers of political advertising to be aired by television and radio broadcasting entities. During the broadcast of a political advertisement, the broadcaster shall indicate the full

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name (or last name, first name and patronymic) of the customer in the form of a text message covering no less than fifteen percent of the screen area that shall be made in a color contrasting the background and shall be easily perceptible to the viewer.

**Article 73.** Procedure for Using Printed Mass Media

1. A party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide district shall have the right to publish, at the expense and within the limits of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and holding of the election, in a printed format common to all of the parties, in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, as well as in one of the regional (local) state-owned or municipal printed mass media of each of the regions, its election program containing no more than seven thousand eight hundred printed characters. An MP candidate registered in a single-member district shall have the right to publish, at the expense and within the limits of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and holding of the election, in a printed format common to all of the MP candidates, in one of the regional (local) state-owned or municipal printed mass media, his or her election program containing no more than three thousand nine hundred printed characters.

Agreements with the editorial staffs of the above mass media organizations on the publication of the aforementioned materials shall be concluded, accordingly, by the Central Election Commission or the district election commission in the respective region identified as provided for in Part 6 Article 72 of this Law.

*{Paragraph 2 Part 1 Article 73 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

2. The editorial staffs of the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, as well as the editorial staffs of the regional state-owned printed mass media with which agreements have been concluded on the publication of the election programs of the parties that are electoral subjects and of the MP candidates registered in a single-mandate district, shall print the election programs of the electoral subjects in the separate special issues of the respective outlets not later than forty five days before the election day. The sequence of publication by the outlet of election programs of the parties that are electoral subjects and of the MP candidates registered in a single-mandate district shall be determined in accordance with the sequence of their registration by the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 2 Article 73 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

*{Part 3 Article 73 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

*{Part 4 Article 73 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5. Printed mass media of all forms of ownership shall publish, not later than ninety days prior to the day of voting, their prices per unit of printed space. Nationwide printed mass media shall publish that information in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, regional and local ones, in the respective regional and local state-owned or municipal printed mass media.

6. A party that have registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district, an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district may publish, at the expense of resources of their electoral funds, election campaigning materials in printed mass media of any forms of ownership published in Ukraine, except for mass media specified in Part 19 Article 74 of this Law.

*{Part 6 Article 73 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. Election campaign materials specified in Part 6 of this Article shall be published on the basis of an agreement concluded on behalf of a party that has registered MP candidates in the

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nationwide district, or an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, between the manager of the current account of the respective electoral fund of the party or the MP candidate and the editorial board (publisher) of a printed media organization. Unless such an agreement is concluded and the fee for the publishing is paid to the account of the editorial board (publisher) of the printed media organization, publication of such materials shall be prohibited. This requirement shall not apply to media organizations the founder (owner) of which is a party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district or an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, as regards their own election campaigning.

8. Upon receipt of an inquiry in writing from the Central Election Commission or district election commissions, the editorial boards (publishers) of printed media organizations of all forms of ownership shall submit all information on the use of printed space for placing campaign materials and, if necessary, send them copies of respective agreements, payment documents, as well as the respective publications.

#### **Article 74. Restrictions on Conducting Election Campaigning**

1. Participation in election campaigning shall be prohibited for:

- 1) foreigners and persons without citizenship, in particular through journalistic activities or in the form of participation in concerts, performances, sport competitions, and other public events conducted in support of a party that is an electoral subject or an MP candidate;
- 2) executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-government, law enforcement agencies and courts;
- 3) public servants and officials of the bodies specified in clause 2 of this Part, during their working hours, unless the public servant or official is an MP candidate;
- 4) members of election commissions during their term of office in the respective election commissions.

2. Election campaigning in military units (commands), penitentiary institutions, and pretrial detention centers shall be restricted. Visiting the military units (commands), penitentiary institutions, and pretrial detention centers by MP candidates, their proxies, or the parties' authorized persons shall be prohibited. Meetings of these persons with the voters shall be organized by the respective district election commission jointly with the military unit (command) commander or with the head of the penitentiary institution or pretrial detention center, with mandatory notification of all the authorized persons of the parties and MP candidates in the single-mandate district or their proxies in the respective single-mandate district no later than three days prior to the meeting.

3. The use of premises of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and bodies of local self-government for conducting election campaigning at the expense of the funds of the electoral funds of parties or MP candidates in a single-mandate election district shall be prohibited.

4. Campaign events, dissemination of campaign materials, demonstration of campaign films or clips, dissemination of campaign leaflets, posters, other printed campaign materials or publications with election campaign materials, public calls to vote or not to vote for the parties that are subjects of the election process, MP candidates in a single-mandate district, or public assessment of activities of such parties or MP candidates during the events organized by state authorities, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, state-owned or municipal enterprises, establishments, institutions, organizations shall be prohibited.

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*{A new part was added to Article 74 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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

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

7. During the election process, media outlets, functionaries and officials and creative employees thereof shall be prohibited from appealing, in their materials and programs other than those based on agreements concluded in compliance with the requirements of Parts 5 and 10 Article 72 or Parts 2 and 7 Article 73 of this Law, to vote or not to vote for parties or MP candidates; disseminating information that bears signs of political advertising free of charge or which has been paid for from sources not specified by the law; and disseminating information with the purpose of encouraging voters to vote for or not to vote for a particular electoral subject. In the course of the election process, authors and hosts of television and radio programs registered as MP candidates shall be also prohibited from conducting their election campaigning in television or radio programs.

8. It shall be prohibited to place political advertisements in the same bloc with commercial or social advertisements.

During the election process, it shall be prohibited to use in the commercial or social advertisements:

- 1) surnames or pictures of MP candidates;
- 2) names or symbols of the parties that are subjects of election process.

*{Part 8 Article 74 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

9. It shall be prohibited to place political advertising carriers on the external surface and inside public transportation vehicles, including taxis; to place political advertisements in the premises and on the buildings of subway stations, bus and railway stations, ports and airports; and also to distribute election campaigning materials, including political advertisements, through television and radio broadcasting networks or other passenger information networks or information panels in the premises of subway stations and inside subway cars, bus and railway stations, ports and airports, as well as inside public transportation vehicles.

10. It shall be prohibited to spread deliberately false or libelous information about a party that is an electoral subject or about an MP candidate if its false or libelous nature has been established by a court.

11. If a court establishes, while hearing an election dispute, that a mass media organization has violated the requirements of this Law more than once or has violated them once, but grossly, the court shall pass a decision temporarily (till the end of the election process) suspending the license or imposing a temporary ban on the publication of the periodical.

12. The National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine shall, by its decision, stop the broadcasting in the territory of Ukraine, in particular by telecommunication operators, of foreign television channels whose activities violate the legal provision prohibiting citizens of

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foreign countries and persons without citizenship from conducting election campaigning through journalistic activities, or whose programs contain appeals to terminate the independence of Ukraine, change its constitutional order by violence, infringe upon the sovereignty or territorial integrity of the state, undermine its security, illegally seize state power; advocate war and violence; incite inter-ethnic, racial, national, or religious hostility; or encroach on human rights and freedoms or on the health of the population.

13. Parties that are electoral subjects and MP candidates shall have the right to address a media organization that has made public information which the party or the candidate considers to be false, demanding that their response be published. The media organization that made public the respective material shall, no later than three days after receiving the demand for response, but no later than on the last day prior to the day of voting, provide the party or the MP candidate affected by the disseminated false information with an opportunity to make public a response, by providing the same amount of air time, respectively, on television or radio, or by publishing in the printed mass medium the material provided by the party or MP candidate, which must be printed in the same font and be placed in the column "Response" in the same place of the periodical and be at least as large as the report being refuted. The response shall contain reference to the publication in the printed mass medium or to the program on television or radio and to the information being refuted. The response shall not contain any direct appeals to vote or not vote for particular parties or MP candidates. The response shall be made public without any appendices, commentaries, or abridgments, at the expense of mass media. No response to a response shall be provided.

14. While conducting election campaigning, it shall be prohibited to hand out money or distribute for free or on a preferential basis commodities (except for items bearing the visual images of the name, symbol, or flag of a party, provided that the value of such items does not exceed three percent of the minimum salary), services, works, securities, loans, lottery tickets, other tangible assets to voters, establishments, institutions, or organizations. Such election campaigning or handing out money or distribution for free or on a preferential basis of commodities, services, works, securities, loans, lottery tickets, other tangible assets to voters, establishments, institutions, or organizations along with appeals or proposals to vote or not to vote for a particular party or MP candidate or along with mentioning the name of a party or an MP candidate shall be deemed to be indirect bribing of voters.

*{Part 14 Article 74 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

15. The Central Election Commission shall provide for placing in the nationwide mass media the information specified by this Part, clarifications regarding the ban on distributing commodities (except items bearing the visual images of the name, symbol, or flag of a party, provided that the value of such items does not exceed three percent of the minimum salary), services, works, securities, loans, lottery tickets, other tangible assets to voters, establishments, institutions, or organizations, as well as election commissions and their members (indirect bribery). The text of the clarification shall be approved by the Central Election Commission and published once a week on the first page of the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier* and broadcast on the social-political nationwide channels of the Public Television and Public Radio of the National Public TV and Radio Company of Ukraine, commencing sixty days prior to the day of voting, at the expense of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election.

*{Part 15 Article 74 as amended pursuant to the Laws № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013, № 1227-VII dd. 17.04.2014}*

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16. State-owned and municipal regional (local) television and radio broadcasting organizations shall not substitute their own programs for parties' election campaigning programs being broadcast on the nationwide broadcasting channels.

17. It shall be prohibited to include election campaigning materials of parties, including political advertisements, in informational television and radio programs (news reports). Election campaign materials shall be separated from other broadcasts and identified as such.

18. It shall be prohibited to interrupt programs covering parties' election programs with commercials advertising commodities, works, services, or with other reports.

19. It shall be prohibited to conduct election campaigning in foreign mass media operating in the territory of Ukraine as well as in mass media registered in Ukraine with a foreign ownership share exceeding fifty percent.

20. Mass media shall not be liable for the contents of election campaigning materials that were placed in accordance with agreements with customers, except in cases specified by:

- 1) Part 5 of this Article;
- 2) Part 9 of this Article if the media organization was positively aware of the existence of a relevant court judgment.

21. It shall be prohibited to place election campaigning materials, political advertisements, including reports on the course of the election process, on cultural heritage objects.

22. MP candidates shall not use corporate vehicles, means of communication, equipment, premises, other objects or resources at the place of his or her work, staff or production meetings, or corporate meetings for election campaigning, or to engage the following persons in his or her election campaign activity or use them for any kind of activity associated with election campaigning:

- 1) as regards MP candidates holding offices in state executive bodies or in other governmental bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies – functionaries and officials of state executive bodies or other governmental bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies (except individuals holding positions of an assistant advisor to an MP of Ukraine);
- 2) as regards MP candidates holding offices, including part-time work, at enterprises regardless of the form of ownership, type of activity or industry affiliation, at institutions, establishments, organizations, military units (commands) established under the Laws of Ukraine – his or her subordinates at the place of his or her work (during the business hours).

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

24. From the time of termination of the election campaigning, pursuant to Part 2 Article 70 of this Law, no one shall hold election campaign events, spread election campaigning materials in the mass media, show election campaign films or videos, distribute election leaflets, posters, other printed campaigning materials or printed periodicals containing election campaigning materials, public appeals to vote or not to vote for parties that are electoral subjects or for MP candidates in a single-mandate district, or public assessment of the activities of those parties or MP candidates. Circulation of election campaigning materials shall be stopped as of 24:00 on the

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last Friday prior to the day of voting by the respective units of the local executive bodies and local self-government bodies.

25. Interference with the exercise of the right to conduct election campaigning, as well as violation of the legally established procedure for conducting such campaigning, shall entail liability as provided by the Laws of Ukraine.

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

*{Part 26 Article 74 as amended pursuant to the Law № 245-VII dd. 16.05.2013}*

## **Chapter X GUARANTEES OF ACTIVITIES OF POLITICAL PARTIES, MP CANDIDATES AND OFFICIAL OBSERVERS**

**Article 75.** Guarantees of Election Process Activities for Political Parties and MP Candidates Registered in the Nationwide Election District

1. A party that has registered candidates in the nationwide election district shall be entitled to delegate one representative in the Central Election Commission (hereinafter, "party representative in the Central Election Commission") who shall have the right of advisory vote and who shall be authorized to represent the party's interests on the Central Election Commission in the course of the election process. The candidacy of the representative must be endorsed by the party's governing body.

2. A party's representative in the Central Election Commission must be a voter. The following persons may not be representatives of parties:

- 1) a member of any election commission;
- 2) an official of an executive power body or an officer of a court, law enforcement bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or local self-government bodies;
- 3) a member of the armed forces;
- 4) a person performing alternative (non-military) service.

3. An application to register a representative of a party in the Central Election Commission, signed by the party's head and affixed with the party's seal, and a copy of a decision of the party's central governing body endorsing the candidacy of the party's representative, shall be filed with the Central Election Commission along with the party's application to register its candidates in the nationwide election district. An application to register a party's representative in the Central Election Commission shall contain the following information: last name, first name, patronymic of the party's representative, his or her citizenship, day, month and year of birth, place of employment, current position (occupation), place and address of residence, and telephone number. Written consent of the person to represent the interests of the party in the Central Election Commission shall be attached to the application.

4. No later than on the third day following the receipt of the documents specified in Part 3 of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall register the party's representative in the Central Election Commission with the right of advisory vote and shall issue an identification document to such representative. The identification document shall be of a form established by the Central Election Commission.

5. A party that has registered candidates in the nationwide election district shall be allowed to have no more than five authorized persons in the nationwide election district and no more than two authorized persons in each single-mandate election district (hereinafter, "authorized person of a party"). An authorized person of a party shall represent the respective party and shall not be deemed to be an independent subject of the election process. An authorized person of a party shall meet the requirements set forth in Part 2 of this Article. A list of the authorized persons of a party, indicating their respective electoral districts, shall be approved by the central governing body of the party.

6. An application, in an electronic format and on paper, for the registration of a party's authorized persons, to be signed by the party's head and affixed with the party's seal, and a copy of the decision of the party's central governing body endorsing the list of the party's authorized persons may be submitted to the Central Election Commission at any time following the registration of candidates included in the party's list of MP candidates. An application for registering a party's authorized persons shall contain the following information: last name, first name, patronymic of each authorized person, respective election district, citizenship of an authorized person of the party, day, month and year of birth, place of employment, current position (occupation), place and address of residence, and telephone number. The application shall be appended with the written consent of these persons to represent the interests of the party in the nationwide election district and in a particular single-mandate election district and with photocopies of the first and second pages of his or her passport of citizen of Ukraine or a photocopy of his or her temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship).

7. No later than on the third day following the receipt of the documents specified in Part 6 of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall register the authorized persons of a party and shall issue their identification documents produced in the form established by the Central Election Commission to the party's representative in the Central Election Commission.

8. A party's representative in the Central Election Commission, as well as a party's authorized person shall have the right from the day of his or her registration by the Central Election Commission and shall be released, until the termination of his or her powers or the completion of the election process, from his or her employment-related or official duties, with suspension of salary for that period, upon agreeing with the owner of the enterprise, establishment, organization or a body authorized by the owner.

9. A party's representative in the Central Election Commission, as well as a party's authorized person, shall have the right to file a statement of resignation with the Central Election Commission at any time prior to the day of voting.

10. A party's governing body that has adopted a decision endorsing the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or the party's authorized person may at any time prior to the day of voting take a decision to recall the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or authorized person, and to endorse another person to replace the one that has been recalled. Such application shall be filed with the Central Election Commission concurrently with a copy of the decision and other documents under the procedure prescribed by Parts 3 and 6 of this Article.

11. On the basis of the application filed in accordance with Parts 9 or 10 of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision to cancel the registration of a party's representative in the Central Election Commission or a party's authorized person and register another person as the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or as the

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party's authorized person, no later than on the third day following its receipt, but no later than on the day of voting; and on the day of voting, immediately. A copy of the decision shall immediately be issued to the party's representative in the Central Election Commission or sent to the address of the party's governing body.

12. The identification document of a party's representative in the Central Election Commission or a party's authorized person whose powers were terminated prior to the completion of the election process shall be immediately returned to the Central Election Commission.

13. A party's representative in the Central Election Commission shall have the right to:

- 1) be present at all meetings of the Central Election Commission during the discussion of issues pertaining to the election of Members of Parliament and take part in the discussion of such issues with the right of advisory vote: to receive prior to a meeting its agenda and related materials, to participate in the discussions, to present proposals concerning a decision of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) have access to the minutes of the meetings of the Central Election Commission and its decisions and receive copies thereof; in case of failure to attend a meeting, have access to the documents that provided the basis for decisions taken at such meeting;
- 3) have access to protocols, telephone, fax, or other official messages received by the Central Election Commission from the district election commissions, in particular those concerning the results of voting in the nationwide and single-mandate election districts, and to obtain copies thereof;
- 4) exercise other rights specified by this Law for a party's representative in the Central Election Commission.

14. A party's authorized person shall:

- 1) facilitate the party's participation in the election process, in particular as regards election campaigning;
- 2) represent the interests of the party in its relations with the election commissions (except the Central Election Commission), state executive bodies, courts, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government bodies, voters, other subjects of the election process in the territory of the respective election district;
- 3) be allowed to participate in the meetings of election commissions (except the Central Election Commission) with the right of advisory vote in the territory of the respective election district;
- 4) have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting and at the meeting of the precinct election commission during the vote counting, having regard to the restrictions specified by Part 3 Article 34 of this Law;
- 5) have the rights of the party's official observer, as specified by Part 9 Article 78 of this Law;
- 6) have other rights provided this Law for an authorized person of a party.

15. An authorized person of a party shall be subject of restrictions imposed by Part 10 Article 78 of this Law.

#### **Article 76. Guarantees Relating to the Activities of MP Candidates in the Election Process**

1. Unless an MP candidate is the President of Ukraine or a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, he or she may not be denied the opportunity to take a leave of absence without pay from his or her place of employment and to not perform employment-related or official duties during the election campaign.

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2. An MP candidate shall not be dismissed from his or her position during the election process on the initiative of the owner of the enterprise, establishment, organization, or a body authorized by the owner or the commander of the military unit (command). An MP candidate shall not be without his or her prior consent transferred to any other place of employment, sent on a business trip, or called up for military or alternative (non-military) service, training (test) or special assemblies of persons liable to call-up.
3. An MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall be entitled to appoint his or her authorized persons from among the voters (not more than three persons).
4. The authorized persons of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall be registered by the Central Election Commission upon an application filed by the candidate. Such an application shall contain the following data: last name, first name, patronymic of the authorized person, his or her citizenship, day, month and year of birth, place of employment, position (occupation), address of residence, and telephone number. The application shall be appended with a written consent of the person to represent the interests of the MP candidate and with photocopies of the first and second pages of his or her passport of citizen of Ukraine or a photocopy of his or her temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship). Within three days after the receipt of such application the district election commission shall register the candidate's authorized persons and issue to them identification documents of a form specified by the Central Election Commission.
5. It shall not be allowed to register any of the persons specified in the second sentence of Part 2 Article 75 of this Law as MP candidates' authorized persons.
6. The authorized persons of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district shall facilitate the candidate in conducting the election process; represent the candidate's interests in his or her relations with election commissions, state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government bodies, mass media, civic associations, and voters; and exercise other powers specified by this Law.
7. The authorized persons of an MP candidate in a single-mandate district shall acquire their powers from the day of their registration by the Central Election Commission. The powers of these persons shall be terminated on the day when the decision to register the MP candidate in the single-mandate district is canceled or when the results of the election are established and officially made public.
8. The authorized persons of an MP candidate in a single-mandate district shall, from the date of his or her registration for the entire period of the election process, have the right to take a leave of absence without pay and not to perform his or her employment-related or official duties upon agreement with the owner of the enterprise, establishment, organization, or a body authorized by the owner.
9. An MP candidate in a single-mandate district shall have the right at any time prior to the day of voting to file an application with the Central Election Commission seeking the termination of the powers of his or her authorized person and to present the documents required for the registration of another person under the procedure established by this Law.
10. An authorized person of an MP candidate in a single-mandate district shall have the right at any time to submit to the Central Election Commission an application for resignation.

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11. On the basis of an application submitted in compliance with Parts 9 or 10 of this Article, no later than on the third day following its receipt, or immediately in case the application is submitted on the day preceding the day of voting or on the day of voting, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision canceling the registration of the authorized person of a candidate in a single-mandate election district; a copy of that decision shall be immediately issued or sent to the MP candidate.

12. The identification document of an authorized person of an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district whose powers were terminated prior to the end of the election process shall be immediately returned to the Central Election Commission.

13. An MP candidate and his or her authorized person shall have the rights of an authorized person of a party provided for by clauses 1, 4, 5 Part 14 Article 75 of this Law.

**Article 77. Official Observers**

1. Official observers from parties, MP candidates, and non-governmental organizations may take part in the election process.

*{Part 1 Article 77 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

2. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations may monitor the election process.

3. The powers of official observers shall commence on the day of their registration by the respective election commission under the procedure established by this Law and shall expire upon the establishment by the Central Election Commission of the results of the election of Members of Parliament.

4. The election commission that registered an official observer may terminate his or her powers early if he or she has violated this Law. The official observer's powers shall be terminated early by a motivated decision.

**Article 78. Official Observers from Political Parties, MP Candidates, and Non-Governmental Organizations**

1. A person having the right to vote may be an official observer representing a party, a candidate, or a non-governmental organization. None of the following persons may be an official observer: an election commission member; an official of the state executive bodies, a court, law enforcement bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or local self-government bodies; a person in alternative (non-military) service.

2. A legally registered non-governmental organization whose involvement in election process and its monitoring is stipulated in its charter may, no later than sixty days prior to the day of voting, file a petition with the Central Election Commission for permission to have official observers during the election of Members of Parliament. The petition, to be signed by the head of the nongovernmental organization and affixed with its seal, shall be appended with a notarized copy of the charter of the non-governmental organization and with a notarized copy of the certificate on state registration of the non-governmental organization.

3. No later than on the tenth day following the receipt of such petition, the Central Election Commission shall take a decision granting permission to a non-governmental organization to have official observers or refusing to grant such permission, and shall notify the non-

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governmental organization of that decision on the day after its adoption. Only violation by the non-governmental organization of the requirements established in Part 1 and 2 of this Article can be a ground for refusal. A copy of the decision shall be issued to a representative of the nongovernmental organization no later than on the day after the adoption of such decision. A non-governmental organization shall have the right to appeal in court a decision refusing to grant it permission to have official observers.

4. No later than forty-five days prior to the day of voting, the Central Election Commission shall officially publish, in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, the list of non-governmental organizations that have been granted permission to have official observers.

5. An official observer from a party, MP candidate, or non-governmental organization shall be registered by the district election commission on the basis of an application from the party's authorized person in the respective single-mandate district or nationwide election district, an MP candidate in this single-mandate election district, or the head of the respective non-governmental organization.

6. An application for registration of official observers shall contain their last names, first names, patronymic, citizenship, date of birth, place and address of residence, place of employment, position (occupation), and contact telephone numbers. The application shall be appended with statements of consent of these persons to be official observers for the party, candidate, or a non-governmental organization, and with photocopies of the first and second pages of his or her passport of citizen of Ukraine or a photocopy of his or her temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for persons who have recently been granted Ukrainian citizenship). An application from a non-governmental organization shall also be appended with a copy of the decision of the Central Election Commission granting permission to have official observers during the election of Members of Parliament.

7. An application for registration of an official observer, signed by a party's authorized person, an MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, or the head of the respective non-governmental organization, shall be submitted to the respective district election commission no later than five days prior to the day of voting.

The only ground upon which an application for registration may be refused is violation of the provisions of Parts 1 - 3, 5, and 6 of this Article.

8. The district election commission shall register official observers in the respective single-mandate election district and issue to them their identification documents in a form established by the Central Election Commission no later than on the day after the submission of the application.

9. An official observer from a party, candidate, or non-governmental organization shall be entitled to:

- 1) be present at the election precincts during the voting, observe actions of the election commission members from any distance, in particular during the issuance of ballot papers to voters and vote counting without physically getting in the way of the election commission members;
- 2) make photographic, film, audio or video recordings, without violating the secrecy of voting;
- 3) be present during the issuance of ballot papers to the election commission members, in particular for the purpose of organizing voting at voter's place of stay and during such voting;
- 4) be present, with due observance of the requirements of this Law, at the meetings of precinct election commissions and district election commissions, having regard to the provisions

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established by Part 3 Article 34 of this Law, in particular during the vote counting at the election precinct and the tabulation of the results of the voting;

5) submit a claim or complaint to the relevant election commission, other state bodies or a court seeking elimination of violations of this Law if any have been discovered;

*{Clause 5 Part 9 Article 78 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6) draw a statement of discovery of violation of the requirements of this Law that shall be signed by him or her and by no less than two voters certifying the fact of such violation, with indication of their last names, first names, patronymic, place and address of residence, and file it with the respective election commission or a court;

7) take necessary measures within the limits of legislation to stop illegal actions during the voting and vote counting at the election precinct;

8) receive copies of the protocols on the transfer of ballot papers, vote counting, and tabulation of voting results, as well as other documents specified by this Law;

9) exercise other rights provided by this Law for official observers.

10. An official observer from a party, MP candidate, or non-governmental organization may not:

1) groundlessly interfere with the work of the election commission, perform actions violating the lawful course of the election process, or unlawfully prevent the election commission members from exercising their powers;

2) fill out a ballot paper for a voter (in particular upon his or her request);

3) be present during the filling out of a ballot paper by a voter in a polling booth (room) for secret voting or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way.

11. If an official observer violates the requirements of Part 10 of this Article, the election commission shall give him or her a warning. In the event of a repeat violation, or of a single instance of gross violation of the requirements of Part 10 of this Article, the election commission may deprive him or her of the right to be present at its meeting under the procedure established by Part 5 Article 34 of this Law. An official observer may appeal such decision in a court.

12. An authorized person of a party or MP candidate in a single-mandate election district, or the head of a non-governmental organization, may recall an official observer by filing a written statement of termination of his or her authority with the respective district election commission, and present the documents required for registration of another person as an official observer in the manner prescribed by this Article.

13. An official observer from a party, candidate, or non-governmental organization shall be entitled to file with the district election commission a statement of resignation. Based on such application, the district election commission shall adopt a decision cancelling the registration of the official observer and issue or send a copy thereof, accordingly, to the party's authorized person, to the MP candidate, or to the head of the respective non-governmental organization.

#### **Article 79. Official Observers from Foreign States and International Organizations**

1. Official observers from foreign states or international organizations shall be registered by the Central Election Commission. Proposals regarding registration of official observers shall be submitted by foreign states or international organizations to the Central Election Commission directly or through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs no later than seven days prior to the day of voting. The Central Election Commission shall establish the procedure for registration of official observers from foreign states and international organizations.

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

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

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

5. Persons registered as official observers from foreign states or international organizations shall exercise their powers in the territory of Ukraine as well as in foreign election district.

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

- 1) be present at the meetings of MP candidates or parties' authorized persons with voters, at election campaign meetings, rallies, and meetings of election commissions;
- 2) familiarize himself or herself with the election campaigning materials;
- 3) be present, adhering to the requirements of this Law, at the meetings and stay in the premises of precinct and district election commissions, observe from any distance the actions of election commission members, including the issuance of ballot papers to voters in the premises for voting and at the voter's place of stay, as well as vote counting and establishing the voting results, without physically obstructing the election commission members;

*{Clause 3 Part 6 Article 79 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 4) make photographic, film, audio and video recordings, without violating the secrecy of voting;
- 5) receive copies of protocols on acceptance of ballot papers by the district election commission, delivery of ballot papers to precinct election commissions, on counting the voters' votes and establishing the voting results, and other documents in the cases provided for by this Law;

*{A new clause was added to Part 6 Article 79 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6) publicly express proposals, after the end of the election, relating to the organization of the parliamentary elections and improving the legislation of Ukraine, taking into consideration the international experience; hold press-conferences in accordance with the requirements of the laws of Ukraine;

7) together with other observers from foreign states or international organizations, create temporary groups of official observers for coordination of their activities within the scope of their powers specified by this Law, notifying the Central Election Commission thereof within one day.

7. Official observers from foreign states or international organizations shall perform observations autonomously and independently.

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

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

10. Official observers from foreign states and international organizations may not: interfere with the work of the election commission, perform actions that impede the lawful course of the election process, or unlawfully prevent the election commission members from exercising their powers; fill out a ballot paper for a voter (in particular upon his or her request) or violate the secrecy of voting in any other way and use their status in an activity not pertaining to the election process observation. These restrictions shall also apply to persons who, in compliance with Part 3 of this Article, accompany official observers, at the time when they directly work with the official observer from a foreign state or an international organization.

## **Chapter XI**

### **VOTING AND ESTABLISHING THE RESULTS OF AN ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

#### **Article 80. Ballot Papers**

1. Voting in the election of MPs of Ukraine shall be performed using ballot papers for the election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine (hereinafter, "ballot papers").

2. The form, color, and text of the ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district and in the single-mandate election districts shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than fifty-three days prior to the day of voting.

The color of the ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district must be different from that of the ballot papers for voting in the single-mandate election districts. The security features of a ballot paper shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

3. A ballot paper must contain the name and the date of the MP election, an indication of the election district (nationwide or a single-mandate), the number of the single-mandate election district or an indication of the foreign election district, the number of the election precinct, as well as places designated for the seal of the precinct election commission.

*{Paragraph 1 Part 3 Article 80 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

The text of a ballot paper shall be printed in the official language and shall be placed on one sheet and on one side only.

4. The names of parties shall be listed on the nationwide election district ballot paper in the sequence determined by drawing lots, which shall be conducted by the Central Election Commission with participation of party representatives in the Central Election Commission, MP candidates, authorized representatives of the parties in the nationwide election district after the end of registration of MP candidates nominated by the parties but before approval of the form and text of the ballot paper. The ballot paper shall contain the number of each party determined by drawing lots, the full name of the respective party, family names, first names (all names) and patronymics (if any) of the first five registered MP candidates included in the electoral list of the party. An empty box shall be placed between the number of each party and the name of that party.

*{Paragraph 1 Part 4 Article 80 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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A single-mandate election district ballot paper shall list in alphabetic order the last names, first names (all first names) and patronymics (if any) of candidates registered in the district, with indication of the following information: year of birth, educational attainment, position (occupation), place of employment, place of residence, party membership, as well as the nominating entity of each of the candidates. An empty box shall be placed to the left of the last name of each candidate.

5. A ballot paper shall contain an explanation of the procedure for filling out the ballot paper by a voter during the voting.

6. A ballot paper shall have a counterfoil, separated by a tear-off line. The counterfoil shall contain the name and the date of the election, an indication of the election district (nationwide or single-mandate), the number of the single-mandate election district or an indication of the foreign election district, and the number of the election precinct, as well as places designated for the number under which a voter was entered in the voter list for the election precinct, the signature of the voter receiving the ballot paper, and the last name, initials, and signature for the precinct election commission member issuing the ballot paper.

*{Part 6 Article 80 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. The ballot paper shall be a document of strict accountability. The Central Election Commission and the district and precinct election commissions shall keep a precise record of ballot papers received and delivered in accordance with this Law. Documents to be used in keeping record of ballot papers shall be delivered by the enterprises which printed the ballot papers and by the district and precinct election commissions to the Central Election Commission. After the official promulgation of the election results, the Central Election Commission shall ensure delivery of the accounting information for storage to the respective archival institutions.

8. The nationwide election district ballot papers and the single-mandate election district ballot papers shall be printed for each election precinct in an amount exceeding by 0.5 percent the number of voters included in the voter lists for the election precincts of each single-member district, with possible deviation from the aforementioned number resulting from the multiplicity of ballot papers being printed on a typing sheet. The nationwide election district ballot papers for each foreign election precinct shall be printed in an amount exceeding by 0.5 percent the number of voters included in the voter lists for the respective foreign election precinct with possible deviation from the aforementioned number resulting from the multiplicity of ballot papers being printed on a typing sheet.

*{Part 8 Article 80 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

#### **Article 81.** Procedure for Printing Ballot Papers

1. The Central Election Commission shall provide for the centralized production of ballot papers no later than seven days prior to the day of voting, pursuant to an agreement that shall be concluded between the Central Election Commission and state-run printing enterprises.

2. The enterprises printing the ballot papers shall ensure strict correspondence between the number of ordered ballot papers and the number of printed ones, and the accounting and transfer thereof to the customer according to procedures established by the Central Election Commission.

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3. Any technical waste material, defective printed ballot papers, as well as the typographic plates used, shall be destroyed according to the procedures and within the time limits defined by the agreement concluded for the production of ballot papers.

4. Control over the production of ballot papers by the printing enterprises and over the observance of the requirements regarding destruction of the printing forms, technical wastes, and defective printed matter shall be exercised by a supervisory commission created by the Central Election Commission based on submissions from the parties whose parliamentary factions are registered with the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the current convocation, as of the start of the election process, but no later than on the day of approval of the ballot paper form.

5. The ballot papers shall be received by the Central Election Commission in the printing enterprise's packaging on the basis of a receipt and delivery report in a form approved by the Central Election Commission. Based on the receipt and delivery reports, summary information on the number of nationwide election district and single-mandate election district ballot papers that were printed for each election district shall be published no later than one day prior to the day of voting on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

6. Subject to the consent of the Central Election Commission, ballot papers can be produced directly by the precinct election commission of a special election precinct created on a ship sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or on Ukraine's polar station, their number exceeding by 0.5 percent the number of voters at the election precinct. Such consent shall be granted no later than three days prior to the day of voting on the basis of an application filed by the respective district election commission, which shall contain the number of the election precinct created on the respective ship or Ukraine's polar station, as well as the time when the respective ship left the last port in the territory of Ukraine.

Information on the number of produced ballot papers shall be entered in the precinct election commission's protocol on vote counting at the election precinct and be taken into account by the relevant district election commission when compiling protocols on the results of vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district as well as by the Central Election Commission when compiling the protocol on the results of voting in the nationwide district within the foreign election district.

*{Paragraph 2 Part 6 Article 81 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. If the Central Election Commission cancels the registration of all MP candidates of a party in the nationwide election district during or after the period of production of the ballot papers and the remaining time is insufficient to allow re-printing the ballot papers, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision on making amendments to the nationwide election district ballot papers. Such decision of the Central Election Commission shall be immediately communicated to the relevant district election commissions, so that the precinct election commissions will make the appropriate amendments.

If the Central Election Commission adopts a decision canceling the registration of a candidate (or candidates) in a single-mandate election district or a decision removing a candidate from the ballot during or after the period of production of the ballot papers and the remaining time is insufficient to allow re-printing of the ballot papers, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision on making amendments to the ballot papers of the respective single-mandate election district. Such decision of the Central Election Commission shall be immediately communicated to the respective district election commission. The district election commission shall immediately report this decision to the precinct election commissions, so that they will make the appropriate amendments.

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Such amendments to the ballot papers shall be made by the precinct election commission members using the "Withdrawn" stamp at a meeting of the precinct election commission.

It shall be prohibited to make amendments to the nationwide election district ballot paper without a decision of the Central Election Commission.

It shall be prohibited to make amendments to the single-mandate election district ballot paper without a decision of the Central Election Commission.

Each voter shall be informed of amendments made to a ballot paper at the time when the ballot paper is being issued to him or her.

8. The form of the stamp specified in Part 7 of this Article shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty six days prior to the day of voting. District election commissions shall ensure the production of the aforementioned stamps no later than seven days prior to the day of voting. The stamps shall be kept in custody of the district election commission.

A district election commission shall deliver the "Withdrawn" stamp to all precinct election commissions together with the respective decision of the Central Election Commission. The "Withdrawn" stamp shall be delivered to the precinct election commissions of foreign election district together with the ballot papers.

9. If ballot papers are amended in the absence of a decision of the Central Election Commission, or if such amendments fail to comply with the decision of the Central Election Commission, the precinct election commission shall, at its meeting, write a report in two copies, in the form and under the procedure specified by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law. The report shall state the number of ballot papers received, the number of spoiled nationwide election district ballot papers and/or single-mandate election district ballot papers, and the last names of the persons responsible for the spoiling. One copy of the report shall be immediately transferred to the district election commission, whereas the second copy shall be stored at the precinct election commission. The data contained in the aforementioned report shall be taken into consideration by the precinct election commission when drawing the vote counting protocols of the election precinct. The spoiled ballot papers shall be invalidated and packed separately, in [two] different packages, under the procedure specified by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The packages shall be marked as "Spoiled nationwide election district ballot papers" or "Spoiled single-mandate election district ballot papers." The packed spoiled ballot papers shall be kept in custody of the precinct election commission until the day of voting and then forwarded to the district election commission together with other election documents under the procedure stipulated by Article 93 of this Law. During the calculation of votes, the spoiled ballot papers shall be counted as unused.

10. Persons responsible for the unlawful spoiling of ballot papers shall reimburse the cost of the damage under the procedure established by the law.

#### **Article 82.** Procedure for Delivery of Ballot Papers to Election Commissions

1. No sooner than seven days prior to the day of voting, a district election commission shall, at its meeting, accept the ballot papers, packaged by the printing enterprise, from a representative of the Central Election Commission authorized by a decision of the Central Election Commission to hand over the ballot papers.

The district election commission shall draw a protocol in three copies recording the acceptance of the ballot papers. The aforementioned protocol shall be drawn according to the procedure specified by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law and shall be signed by the authorized representative of the Central Election Commission handing over the ballot papers. The first copy of the protocol shall be delivered to the Central Election Commission; the second copy shall be kept in custody

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of the district election commission; and the third copy shall be immediately posted in the premises of the district election commission for public review.

2. A district election commission shall ensure storage and safekeeping of ballot papers received from the Central Election Commission. Ballot papers shall be kept in the office of the district election commission in a safe (a metal case or a separate room), which shall be sealed with tape bearing the signatures of all members of the commission present at the meeting and having the commission seal affixed thereto. The safe (a metal case or a separate room) shall be continuously (until the transfer of the ballot papers to the precinct election commissions) guarded by a representative of the police.

3. A district election commission shall not earlier than 3 days prior to the voting day and not later than 24 hours prior to the voting day at its session transfer the voting ballots to precinct election commissions of a respective district. The voting ballots shall be received by not less than three members of each precinct election commission.

4. A district election commission shall draw a protocol on the transfer of ballot papers to the precinct election commissions of the district under the procedure and in the form established by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law, separately for the nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers. The protocol shall contain:

- 1) indication of the election district (nationwide or single-mandate) and the number of the single-mandate election district;
- 2) the number of the nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers received by the district election commission;
- 3) the number of each election precinct in which its commission members receive the ballot papers;
- 4) the number of voters on the voter list for each election precinct as of the day of drawing the protocol;
- 5) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers transferred to each precinct election precinct;
- 6) last names and signatures of the precinct election commission members who received the ballot papers;
- 7) the number of ballot papers remaining in the district election commission.

5. The protocol on the handover of the ballot papers to the precinct election commissions shall be completed in three copies. The copies of the protocol shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force. The first copy of the protocol shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission, the second copy shall be stored at the district election commission, and the third copy shall be immediately placed in the premises of the district election commission for public review. Copies of the protocol, certified on each page by the head and secretary of the district election commission and affixed with the commission's seal, shall be distributed to the members of the district election commission, each of them receiving no more than one copy.

6. An excerpt from the protocol prepared in accordance with the form approved by the Central Election Commission, signed by the head and secretary of the district election commission and three members of the respective precinct election commission and affixed with the seal of the district election commission, specifying the data related to the respective election precinct, shall be handed together with the ballot papers over to the representatives of each precinct election commission who received the ballot papers.

7. Ballot papers shall be delivered to the precinct election commissions of the foreign election district by the Central Election Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the

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manner specified by the Central Election Commission, no earlier than three days prior to the day of voting; if necessary, as an exception, the ballot papers can be delivered as early as six days prior to the day of voting. The Central Election Commission shall draw up a protocol, as specified in Part 5 of this Article, on delivery of the ballot papers to the election commissions of the foreign election district. The protocol shall be completed in two copies, one of which shall be stored at the Central Election Commission, while the other copy, together with excerpts from the protocols for each foreign election precinct, shall be submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; information included in the aforementioned protocol shall, no later than on the following day, be made public on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

8. Any MP candidate, proxy of a candidate, authorized person of a party, or official observer who was present during the delivery of the ballot papers shall be entitled, upon their request, to receive without delay copies of the protocols specified in Parts 1 and 5 of this Article, signed on each page by the head and the secretary of the district election commission and affixed with seal of the commission, in a number which shall not exceed one copy of the protocol per each party or MP candidate in the single-mandate election district, and not more than one copy of the protocol for the official observer (group of observers) from each non-governmental organization, foreign state or international organization. Copies of the protocol specified in Part 7 of this Article shall be distributed to the representatives of the parties in the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 8 Article 82 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

9. The members of the precinct election commissions of regular and special election precincts (except the election precincts established on the ships sailing at that time under the National Flag of Ukraine and at Ukraine's polar station) shall transport the ballot papers received by them to the premises of the precinct election commission, accompanied by a representative of the police who shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the ballot papers.

10. Immediately after the arrival of the members of the election commission who received the ballot papers, the ballot papers shall be accepted by the precinct election commission at a meeting. The secretary of the commission shall affix the seal of the precinct election commission on the designated places of each ballot paper. Another member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall separately count the ballot papers received for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district, and check the accuracy of the indication of the election district and of the numbers of the single-mandate election district and of the election precinct on the ballot papers.

11. During the counting of the ballot papers, a member of the precinct election commission, appointed by a decision of the commission, shall count aloud the number of nationwide election district ballot papers and of single-mandate election district ballot papers. Other members of the commission shall observe the counting of the ballot papers. During the counting of the ballot papers, it shall be prohibited to divide the commission into groups to count separate parts of all ballot papers shall be prohibited.

12. If a discrepancy is found between the number of ballot papers for the nationwide election district and (or) the single-mandate election district and the respective numbers indicated in the excerpt from the protocol of the district election commission on the handover of the ballot papers, the precinct election commission shall produce a report (reports), in three copies, on such discrepancies, which shall indicate the reason for the discrepancy as established by a decision of the precinct election commission. This report (reports) shall be completed in the form and in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law. One copy of the report(s) shall be submitted to the district election commission, the second copy shall be

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stored at the precinct election commission, while the third shall be immediately posted in the premises of the precinct election commission for general information. If such discrepancies are detected, the number of the ballot papers received by the precinct election commission shall be deemed to be the number of the ballot papers established at the meeting of the precinct election commission and entered in the report on discrepancies and in the minutes of the meeting of the commission.

*{Part 12 Article 82 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

13. The ballot papers shall be stored in the premises of the precinct election commission in a safe (metal case) which shall be sealed at the same meeting of the commission with a tape signed by all persons present at the meeting of the election commission and affixed with the seal of the election commission, and shall be continuously (until the start of the preparatory meeting of the commission specified by Part 3 Article 84 of this Law) guarded by a representative of the police.

14. If damage to the tape sealing the safe (metal case) or a discrepancy between the signatures or the seal on the tape and the authentic signatures or the seal is detected, the head of the precinct election commission shall immediately notify the bodies of internal affairs of Ukraine and the district election commission. The head of the commission shall then immediately open the safe (metal case) and remove all the ballot papers. The members of the precinct election commission shall check the ballot papers to determine whether the number of the district and the number of the election precinct recorded on them is correct, and whether the seal of the precinct election commission is affixed thereto; and, after that they shall re-count the ballot papers separately for the nationwide and single-mandate election districts. The precinct election commission shall produce report(s) on the detected signs of opening of the safe (metal case) and on any discrepancy between the numbers of the ballot papers (if detected). The aforementioned report(s) shall be completed in the form and in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law. The number of the ballot papers in the safe (metal case) shall be also entered in the minutes of the meeting of the election commission. In such case, the established number of ballot papers shall be deemed the number of ballot papers received by the precinct election commission.

### **Article 83. Premises for Voting**

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

2. The executive bodies of the village, town, city (in cities with no district councils), and city district councils, or bodies (officials) exercising their powers in accordance with the law, shall provide regular election precincts with the necessary premises for voting which can be equipped in accordance with the requirements of this Law and the standards approved by the Central Election Commission, as well as technical assistance in equipping them.

The heads of the institutions, establishments, Ukraine's polar station, and the captains of ships at which special election precincts were established shall provide the special election precincts with the necessary premises for voting which can be appropriately equipped, having regard to the standards approved by the Central Election Commission.

The heads of Ukraine's foreign diplomatic institutions and military units (commands) deployed outside Ukraine at which foreign election district have been established shall provide the foreign election district with the necessary premises for voting which can be appropriately equipped in accordance with the standards approved by the Central Election Commission.

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

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

4. The equipment in the premises for voting shall be arranged in such a way that the places for handover of the ballot papers, entrance to and exit from the booths for secret voting, and ballot boxes are placed within plain view of the members of the precinct election commission and other persons who are entitled under this Law to be present in the premises for voting.

5. The premises for voting at a special election precinct shall be freely accessible to members of the election commission, MP candidates and their proxies, parties' authorized persons, official observers, and mass media representatives. The heads of the institutions and establishments shall ensure unrestricted access to the premises for voting for the members of the election commission, the voters included in the voter list for the election precinct, the MP candidates and their proxies, the parties' authorized persons, the official observers, and mass media representatives.

6. Each election precinct shall be equipped with the sufficient number of ballot boxes – both stationary (large) and mobile (small). Ballot boxes for voting shall be made of transparent material and shall be of sizes approved by the Central Election Commission. Each ballot box shall have its own number, which shall be indicated on the box. A small election precinct shall have no less than two stationary ballot boxes; a medium election precinct shall have no less than four stationary ballot boxes; and a large election precinct shall have no less than six stationary ballot boxes. Each election precinct shall have no less than two mobile ballot boxes. Stationary ballot boxes shall be placed in the premises for voting in a way that will ensure that voters approaching them have the possibility to walk through the voting booths (rooms) for secret voting. The procedure for producing, accounting, using, and storing the ballot boxes shall be subject to approval by the Central Election Commission.

7. In the premises for voting or directly in front of them, the precinct election commission shall necessarily place posters printed by the district election commission in accordance with the form approved by the Central Election Commission, at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine, which shall provide explanation of the procedure of voting and liability for violation of the legislation on the election of the MPs, as well as the electoral lists of each party that has registered MP candidates in the nationwide election district, and lists of the MP candidates registered in the respective single-mandate election district, as well as the information posters specified by Parts 4 and 5 Article 63 of this Law, which shall be placed according to the sequence of appearance of the parties and the MP candidates on the ballot papers for voting, respectively, in the nationwide district and in the single-mandate district.

*{Part 7 Article 83 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

#### **Article 84.** Preparation for Voting

1. The precinct election commission of a regular election precinct shall notify voters included in the voter list for the election precinct of the time and place of voting by sending personal invitations in accordance with Part 2 Article 40 of this Law.

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2. On the last day prior to the day of voting, each precinct election commission shall, at its meeting, assign duties to the members of the commission for the day of voting (except the head and the secretary of the commission) relating to:

- 1) identification of the voter and of his or her inclusion in the voter list;
- 2) handing the ballot papers for the nationwide election district and the single-mandate election district over to the voter;
- 3) supervising the voters' entry into the booths for secret voting;
- 4) supervising the ballot boxes;
- 5) organizing voting at the places of voters' stay of the voters;
- 6) supervising the process of entering and exiting the premises for voting.

3. On the day of voting, the precinct election commission shall hold a preparatory meeting no sooner than 45 minutes prior to the start of voting. At the beginning of the meeting, all persons present shall examine the tape sealing the safe (metal case) where the ballot papers are stored.

4. The head of the precinct election commission shall make each ballot box at the election precinct, one by one, available for individual examination by members of the precinct election commission, MP candidates present, their proxies, authorized persons of parties, official observers, and mass media representatives, announcing the number of each box. As soon as a ballot box has been examined, it shall be sealed or, if that is impossible, affixed with the seal of the precinct election commission; after that, a control sheet shall be dropped into the ballot box, with the indication of the number of the single-mandate district or an indication of foreign district, the number of the election precinct, the number of the ballot box, the time when the control sheet was dropped into the ballot box, and with the signatures of all precinct election commission members present, as well as of any MP candidates, their proxies, parties' authorized persons, and official observers wishing to sign it. The signatures shall be affixed with the seal of the election commission. As soon as the control sheet has been dropped into the ballot box, the head of the election commission shall provide the next ballot box for examination, repeating the same procedure. After sealing or affixing the commission seal to the last ballot box, dropping a control sheet into it and placing the stationary (large) ballot boxes at the places assigned for them, the premises for voting shall be deemed to be ready for conducting the voting. Mobile (small) ballot boxes shall be placed in the premises for voting with their slots for putting in the ballot papers downwards, within plain view of the members of the election commission and other persons present in the premises for voting during the voting in accordance with the requirements of this Law.

*{Part 4 Article 84 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5. If, during the examination of the tape sealing the safe (metal case) with the ballot papers, damage to the tape or a discrepancy between the signatures or a seal affixed to it and the [authentic] signatures and the seal specified in Part 13 Article 82 of this Law is detected, the precinct election commission shall perform the actions provided for by Part 14 Article 82 of this Law.

6. The head of the precinct election commission shall open the safe (metal case) with the ballot papers and, based on the excerpt from the protocol of the district election commission on handover of the ballot papers to the precinct election commission, or on the report(s) specified in Part 12 Article 82 of this Law, shall announce the number of the ballot papers received by the precinct election commission, separately for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district. This number shall be entered by the secretary of the election commission in the respective vote counting protocol of the precinct election commission, as well as in the minutes of the meeting of the commission.

7. The head of the precinct election commission shall hand over the necessary number of ballot papers for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district to the members of the precinct election commission who will be responsible for delivering the ballot papers to voters in the premises for voting or who will organize voting at voters' place of stay. The number of ballot papers received by the members of the election commission for organizing voting at voters' place of stay, separately for the nationwide district and for the single-mandate district, must be equal to the number of voters included in the excerpt from the voter list. The handover of the ballot papers shall be registered in a special register of a form approved by the Central Election Commission. The aforementioned members of the commission shall certify the receipt of the ballot papers by their signatures in the register and shall ensure their storage as well as adherence to the procedure for handing them over to the voters, as prescribed by this Law. No ballot paper shall be left in the safe.

8. The head of the precinct election commission shall hand the sheets of the voter list over to the members of the precinct election commission who will be responsible for working with the voter list on the day of voting. The respective members of the commission shall ensure that they are stored and used in accordance with the procedures prescribed by this Law.

9. Before the start of the voting, the precinct election commission (other than a precinct election commission of an foreign election precinct) shall inform the district election commission of:

- 1) the number of voters included in the voter list for the election precinct at the start of the voting;
- 2) the number of voters in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at their places of stay.

10. No later than at 10:00 a.m. on the day of voting, the district election commission shall send the aforementioned data related to the respective single-mandate election district to the Central Election Commission via an automated information analysis system. Immediately after the receipt of the aforementioned data, the Central Election Commission shall publish them on its official website.

#### **Article 85. Organization and Procedure of Voting**

1. Voting shall be held on the day of voting from 8:00 until 20:00 without any breaks. At foreign election district, voting shall be held according to the local time of the country where such precincts are established.

2. The precinct election commission shall be responsible for organizing the conduct of voting and ensuring appropriate order in the premises for voting, and for ensuring the secrecy of expressing the voters' will during the voting. If an offence is committed for which the legislation of Ukraine provides liability, the head or deputy head of the precinct election commission shall be entitled to invite into the premises for voting a representative of the police, who shall take such measures as are prescribed with respect to the perpetrator and then leave the premises for voting. In other cases, the presence of the police in the premises for voting shall be prohibited.

3. During the conduct of voting at an election precinct, two members of the precinct election commission shall provide a voter with the opportunity to vote: one member of the precinct election commission, upon presentation by the voter of the documents specified, respectively, in Parts 4, 5, or 6 Article 2 of this Law, and if the voter is included in the voter list for the respective election precinct, shall hand the voter list to the voter for his or her signature; the other member shall enter his or her last name and initials and put his or her signature in the designated places

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on the counterfoils of the ballot papers for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district, as well as writing the number under which the voter is included in the voter list for the election precinct. The voter shall certify the receipt of the ballot papers by putting his or her signature on the voter list and on the designated places on the counterfoils of the ballot papers. After that, the member of the election commission shall detach the counterfoils from the ballot papers and hand one ballot paper for the nationwide election district and one ballot paper for the single-mandate election district over to the voter. The counterfoils of the ballot papers shall be stored by the member of the commission who handed over the ballot papers. Making any other marks on the ballot papers shall be prohibited.

A ballot paper shall be issued to a voter who, pursuant to Part 10 Article 2 of this Law, has a right to vote only in the nationwide election district, in accordance with the procedure provided for in this Article for voting only in the nationwide election district.

*{Paragraph 2 was added to Part 3 Article 85 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4. A voter shall be allowed to stay in the premises for voting only for the time necessary for him or her to vote.

5. A voter shall fill out the ballot papers personally, in a booth for secret voting. The presence of other persons in the booth for secret voting during the filling out the ballot papers by the voter shall be prohibited. A voter who, due to his or her corporal defects, is unable to fill out the ballot paper without assistance, may, with consent of the head or other member of the precinct election commission, ask another voter for assistance, with the exception of a member of the election commission, an MP candidate, his or her proxy, a party's authorized person, or an official observer.

6. To ensure the possibility of voting for blind voters, the Central Election Commission shall produce two ballot paper stencils for each regular election precinct with raised dots (according to the Braille method). For the special election precincts, such stencils shall be allowed to be produced upon a submission from the district election commission.

7. A voter shall have no right to hand his or her ballot papers over to other persons. It shall be prohibited to receive the ballot papers from a person other than the member of the election commission in charge of handing over the ballot papers, as well as to encourage or force voters, by means of bribery, threats, or in any other manner, to hand their ballot papers over to other persons.

8. On the ballot paper for the nationwide election district, the voter shall enter a "plus" symbol ("+") or any other mark that makes clear the result of the expression of his or her will in the box next to the name of the party whose MP candidates he or she is voting for. A voter may vote for MP candidates of one party only.

On the ballot paper for a single-mandate election district, the voter shall place a "plus" symbol ("+") or any other mark that makes clear the result of the expression of his or her will in the box next to the name of the MP candidate for whom he or she is voting. A voter may vote for one MP candidate only.

9. Voters shall personally drop their completed ballot papers into the ballot box. A voter who, due to his or her corporal defects, is unable to drop the ballot paper into the ballot box without assistance may, with the consent of the head or other member of the precinct election commission, ask another person to do that in his or her presence, except that he or she may not ask for assistance from a member of the election commission, an MP candidate, a proxy of an MP candidate, a party's authorized person, or an official observer.

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10. If in the course of voting a ballot box has been damaged, the head and no less than three members of the election commission representing different parties or MP candidates shall seal the box in a way that shall exclude the possibility of further dropping in or taking out of ballot papers. Such ballot box shall be kept in the premises for voting within plain sight of the members of the election commission and other persons who have the right to be present at the election precinct during the voting in accordance with the requirements of this Law, and shall not be used until the end of voting.

11. If a voter makes a mistake when filling out the ballot paper, he or she shall have the right to immediately address the election commission member who handed over the ballot paper to him or her with a written request to hand over to him or her another ballot paper for the nationwide election district or for the single-mandate election district. The member of the election commission shall hand another ballot paper over to the voter in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 3 of this Article only in exchange for a spoiled ballot paper, which fact shall be noted in the voter list opposite to a voter's name and certified by the signature of the authorized member of the precinct election commission. A spoiled ballot paper shall be immediately invalidated as unused by the member of the commission who handed it over, and a report certifying this fact shall be drawn up. This report shall be signed by the two members of the precinct election commission who handed over the ballot paper and by the voter who spoiled the ballot paper, and shall be appended to the voter list. The invalidated ballot paper shall be kept by the member of election commission who handed over the ballot paper until the start of vote counting. During vote counting, such ballot paper shall be considered as unused and shall be packed together with the counterfoil into the package with unused ballot papers. Repeated handover of a ballot paper instead of a spoiled one shall not be allowed.

12. At 5 minutes to 20:00, the head of the precinct election commission shall announce that the voting will end and the election precinct will be closed at 20:00. Voters who have come to the election precinct before 20:00 for voting shall have the right to vote. To ensure the exercise of those voters' right, one of the commission's members shall, on instructions from the head of the precinct election commission, approach the entrance to the premises for voting and invite all voters who have not voted yet to come into the premises for voting, and shall close the door. As soon as the last voter leaves the premises for voting, the premises shall be locked, and only the members of the election commission and persons entitled by this Law to be present at the meeting of the election commission shall be allowed to stay inside.

13. Immediately after the end of voting, the precinct election commission shall send to the respective district election commission preliminary data on the number of voters included in the voter list of the election precinct by the end of voting and on the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct by the end of voting.

14. At an election precinct established on a ship which on the day of voting will be sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, the precinct election commission shall be allowed to announce the end of voting prior to the term specified in Part 1 of this Article if all voters included in the voter for the election precinct have taken part in the voting. The notification specified by Part 13 of this Article shall be sent to the respective district election commission via technical means of communication. The votes at such precinct shall be counted in accordance with the procedure established by this Law immediately after announcement of the end of voting and transmission of the message provided for by Part 13 of this Article.

15. A precinct election commission of an foreign election precinct shall, immediately after the end of voting, send to the Central Election Commission via technical means of communication the preliminary data specified by Part 13 of this Article.

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16. Upon receiving the data specified by Part 13 of this Article from the relevant election precincts, the district election commission shall send that preliminary data to the Central Election Commission.

17. Upon receiving preliminary data concerning all election precincts, the Central Election Commission shall publish the aforementioned data on its official website.

**Article 86. Procedure for Organizing Voting at Voters' Place of Stay**

1. Each precinct election commissions shall ensure that voters who are included in the voter list of the precinct and are incapable of moving independently because of age, physical disability, or state of health are able to vote at the place their stay.

2. On the last day before the day of voting, each precinct election commission shall create, at its meeting, an excerpt from the voter list, in a form established by the Central Election Commission, for the purpose of organizing voting by those who are incapable of moving independently at the place of their stay.

As soon as this excerpt has been created, it shall be immediately posted in the premises of the precinct election commission for public review.

3. The following voters may be included in the excerpt from the voter list:

1) without a decision of the commission, a voter specially marked in the voter list as permanently incapable of moving independently, unless such voter notifies the precinct election commission, in writing or in person, by 12:00 noon on the last Saturday prior to the day of voting of his or her wish to vote in the premises for voting;

2) upon a decision of the commission, a voter being temporarily incapable of moving independently, which decision must be based on his or her application and certificate of his or her health issued by a medical institution.

4. When entering a voter in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at places of voters' stay, the secretary of the precinct election commission shall make an entry "votes at place of residence" in the column "Voter's signature" of the voter list of the election precinct.

5. A voter being temporarily incapable of moving independently shall file, by mail or through a third person, an application in his or her own handwriting requesting that he or she be provided with an opportunity to vote at the place of his or her stay, with indication of the voter's place of stay. Such application shall be submitted, along with a certificate of the voter's health issued by a medical institution, to the precinct election commission no later 20:00 of the last Friday prior to the day of voting.

6. It shall be the responsibility of a voter wishing to vote at home to file the application provided for by Part 5 of this Article.

7. At special election precincts established in inpatient care establishments, voting at the place of voters' stay shall be conducted on the basis of a voter's application, in his or her own handwriting, with a request to be provided with the opportunity to vote at his or her place of stay, in view of his or her need to be confined to bed.

8. An application by a voter to vote at the place of his or her stay shall be registered by the precinct election commission in a separate register, indicating the day and time of the receipt of the application, and also the last name, first name, patronymic, and address of the voter's place of residence (place of stay).

9. Voting at voters' place of stay shall be organized by no less than three members of the precinct election commission appointed by a decision of the election commission as stipulated by Part 2 Article 84 of this Law. These election commission members shall be representatives of different parties or MP candidates.

10. Voting at voters' place of stay shall be organized in such a way that the precinct election commission members involved in organizing such voting will be able to return to the premises for voting no later than one hour prior to the end of voting.

11. The head of a precinct election commission shall announce the departure of the precinct election commission members who are conducting voting at voters' place of stay in the precinct. The head of the precinct election commission shall provide the appointed election commission members with the excerpt from the voter list created in compliance with Part 2 of this Article, and with a sealed (or affixed with a seal) mobile ballot box into which they shall drop a control sheet. The control sheet shall contain the following information: the ballot box number; the time at which the appointed election commission members departed, in hours and minutes; the numbers of ballot papers for the nationwide and single-mandate election district received by them; and the last names of the appointed election commission members. The control sheet shall be signed by all the election commission members present (whose signatures shall be certified by the seal of the commission) and, upon request, by MP candidates, their authorized persons, authorized persons of parties, or official observers.

12. MP candidates, their authorized persons, the authorized persons of parties, and official observers have the right to be present during the conduct of voting at voters' place of stay.

13. A voter or his or her family members may not refuse entry to any of the commission members appointed to conduct voting at voters' place of stay, or to any official observers, MP candidates, their authorized persons, authorized persons of parties, or official observers that have the right to be present during the voting. In the event that the aforementioned persons are denied entry into the voter's place of stay, the voter in question shall not be provided with the opportunity to vote at his or her place of stay.

14. In the event of organizing voting at a voter's place of stay, a member of the precinct election commission shall, based on the excerpt from the voter list, issue to the voter, provided that the latter presents one of the documents specified in Part 4 Article 2 of this Law, ballot papers for the nationwide district and for the respective single-mandate district. When issuing the ballot papers, the precinct election commission member shall enter his or her last name and initials and put his or her signature in the designated places on the counterfoils of the ballot papers, as well as indicating the number of the voter in the voter list. The voter shall put his or her signature on the counterfoils of the ballot papers and in the excerpt from the voter list, fill out the ballot papers in accordance with the procedure specified by Part 8 Article 85 of this Law, and drop the completed ballot papers into the ballot box.

15. The members of a precinct election commission shall have the right to verify, in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission, the fact of a voter's temporary incapability of moving independently.

16. If a voter included in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at voters' place of stay arrives at the premises for voting after the precinct election commission members have departed to conduct voting at voters' place of stay, that voter may not be issued ballot papers for voting until the return of the commission members in charge of organizing voting at voters' place of stay

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and until it has been determined that the voter has not already voted at the place of his or her residence.

17. After a voter has voted at his or her place of stay, the precinct election commission member who issued the ballot papers to the voter shall put the mark "voted at place of residence" next to the voter's name, enter his or her own last name, and put his or her signature.

18. The excerpt from the voter list used for voting at voters' place of stay shall be appended to the voter list and be deemed to be an integral part thereof. The voter list shall be appended with voters' written applications, certificates from medical institutions, and copies of the relevant decisions by the precinct election commission.

19. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to foreign election district.

#### **Article 87. Final Meeting of a Precinct Election Commission**

1. The final meeting of a precinct election commission shall take place after the end of voting at the election precinct and after the transmission of the report indicated in Part 13 Article 85 of this Law, and shall be held in the same premises in which the voting took place. The final meeting shall continue without interruption until the vote counting protocols of the election precincts have been drawn up and signed.

2. When an election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine occurs simultaneously with election of the President of Ukraine, the counting of votes is done after completion of the protocols on the counting of votes of voters cast for the election of the President of Ukraine and their signing pursuant to the established procedure during the same meeting of the precinct election commission.

When an election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine occurs simultaneously with local elections or a referendum, vote counting for the local elections or the referendum shall take place after the vote counting protocols for the election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district at the election precinct have been completed and signed pursuant to the established procedure at the same meeting of the precinct election commission.

Until the end of the meeting of a precinct election commission, the packages with the protocols and other election documents relating to the election of Members of Parliament of Ukraine shall remain in the premises where the meeting is being held, within plain view of the precinct election commission members and other persons present at the commission meeting. Packages with the election documents shall be transported to the district election commission, pursuant to the procedure established by Article 93 of this Law, immediately after the respective protocols on all other elections or the referendum have been signed.

*{Part 2 Article 87 in the wording of the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

3. At its final meeting, a precinct election commission shall assign the keeping of the minutes, accordingly, to the deputy head of the precinct election commission or to some other member of the precinct election commission. At that meeting, the secretary of the precinct election commission shall enter data in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct.

4. If the precinct election commission received any applications or complaints during the voting regarding alleged violations that took place during the voting at the election precinct, the precinct election commission shall consider those complaints at the beginning of the meeting, prior to the counting of votes at the election precinct.

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5. Vote counting at the election precinct shall be performed openly and transparently, exclusively by the members of the precinct election commission. Vote counting shall be conducted in the sequence set forth in Articles 88 – 90 of this Law.

6. The precinct election commission shall pack the processed election documents in paper packages. A package containing the processed election documents shall be glued up and an inscription shall be made on the package indicating the type of the packed documents, as well as identifying the election district (nationwide or single-mandate) and the number of the single-mandate election district, the election precinct number, and the date and time of packing; the package shall be signed by all precinct election commission members and affixed with the seal of the precinct election commission.

#### **Article 88. Processing Voter Lists**

1. Each precinct election commission member responsible for working with the voter list shall count and record the following data for each sheet of the voter list that he or she received, 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 that received ballot papers for voting in the nationwide district at the premises for voting (based on the voters' signatures in the voter list);

*{Clause 2 Part 1 Article 88 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 3) the number of voters that received ballot papers in the single-mandate district at the premises for voting (based on the voters' signatures in the voter list);

*{Clause Part 1 Article 88 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 4) the number of voters that received ballot papers at their places of stay (with the mark "voted at place of stay").

2. After the entry of the data mentioned in Part 1 of this Article, the precinct election commission member shall sign each sheet of the voter list, sum up the respective figures from all sheets of the voter list that he or she received, and pass the sheets and the summarized figures over to the head of the election commission. The aforementioned summarized figures shall be recorded in the register specified in Part 7 Article 84 of this Law. The head and the secretary of the precinct election commission shall sum up the aforementioned data, announce the totals, and enter them on the last page of the voter list.

3. After the end of voting, the voter list of the election precinct shall be closed by striking out empty lines in the voter list (designated for entering voters' last names) in a way that makes it impossible to add any more voters to the list; signed by the head (the chair of the meeting) and the secretary (secretary of the meeting) of the precinct election commission; and affixed with the seal of the precinct election commission.

4. The precinct election commission shall establish the number of voters at the election precinct based on the voter list. That number shall be announced by the secretary (secretary of the meeting) of the election commission and entered in the vote counting protocols of the election precinct for the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and for the single-mandate election district.

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5. By comparing the voter list and the excerpt from the voter list, the precinct election commission shall establish the number of voters at the election precinct who were included in the excerpt from the voter list for voting at voters' place of stay. That number shall be announced by the secretary (secretary of the meeting) of the election commission and entered in the vote counting protocols of the election precinct for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and for a single-mandate election district.

6. The precinct election commission shall count the number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers and the number of voters who received single-mandate election district ballot papers for voting at the premises for voting, based on the voters' signatures in the voter list. That number shall be announced by the secretary of the election commission and entered in the vote counting protocols of the election precinct for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district, and for a single-mandate election district as the number of voters who received ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district, and the number of voters who received ballot papers for voting in the single-mandate election district at the premises for voting.

*{Part 6 Article 88 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. The precinct election commission shall count the number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers at their places of stay, based on the voters' signatures in the excerpt from the voter list and marks "voted at the place of residence" in the voter list. That number shall be announced by the secretary of the election commission and entered in the vote counting protocols of the election precinct for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and for a single-mandate election district.

8. The voter list, along with the excerpt from the voter list created pursuant to Part 2 Article 86 of this Law; the applications of voters wishing to vote at their places of stay, together with references from medical institutions; and copies of the precinct election commission's decisions upon which the excerpt from the voter list was compiled shall be packed in one package pursuant to the procedure established by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscription "Voter List" shall be made on the package.

9. The information that must be included in a corrected voter list form – about voters included in the voter list or excluded therefrom, as well as on voters whose data was revised in the corrected voter list – shall be delivered by the precinct election commission to the relevant State Voter Register maintenance body no later than on the third day after the day of promulgation of the election results.

#### **Article 89.** Handling of Unused Ballot Papers and Counterfoils

1. Precinct election commission members (other than the head of the commission, the deputy head, or other member of the precinct commission keeping minutes of the commission's meeting, and the secretary of the precinct commission entering the data in the vote counting protocols of the election precinct for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and for a single-mandate election district) may not use pens or any other means of writing from the moment of beginning of their work with the ballot papers during the vote counting.

2. Pursuant to Part 7 Article 84 of this Law, the precinct election commission members who received the nationwide election district ballot papers and the single-mandate election district

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ballot papers shall, in turn, publicly count the remaining unused nationwide election district ballot papers, and separately, the remaining unused single-mandate election district ballot papers.

3. The sum of the number of nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers issued by the aforementioned commission member to voters (based on the number of voter's signatures on the respective sheets of the voter list indicated in Clause 2 and 3 Part 1 Article 88 of this Law) and of the number of remaining unused ballot papers should be equal to the number of ballot papers received by this commission member in accordance with the register of issuance of nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers specified in Part 7 Article 84 of this Law. If these numbers are equal, then a member of the precinct election commission shall hand over the counted unused ballot papers to the head of the precinct election commission (or the chair of the meeting). The head of the election commission (or the chair of the meeting) shall enter in the ballot papers issuance register the number of unused nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers that were returned by the election commission member.

*{Part 3 Article 89 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

4. In the event of a discrepancy between the numbers specified in Part 3 of this Article, the precinct election commission shall write a report indicating the likely reason for such discrepancy, pursuant to the procedure specified by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law.

5. The head of the precinct election commission (or the chair of the meeting) shall sum up the numbers of unused nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers and announce them separately. The announced amount of unused nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers shall be entered by the secretary of the precinct election commission (secretary of the meeting) in the respective vote counting protocols of the election precinct for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and for a single-mandate election district.

6. If necessary, or upon request of a commission member, unused ballot papers may be re-counted, but not after data on the number of such ballot papers has been entered in the respective protocols. The counting of the ballot papers shall be performed under the procedure established by Part 11 Article 82 of this Law.

7. The unused nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers shall be invalidated by cutting off the bottom right corner of the ballot papers. The invalidated unused ballot papers, together with the ballot papers indicated in Part 11 Article 85 of this Law, shall be packed in separate packages under the procedure established by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscription "Unused nationwide election district ballot papers" or "Unused single-mandate election district ballot papers" shall be made on the packages.

8. The precinct election commission members who issued ballot papers to voters shall, in turn, publicly count the counterfoils of the issued nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers. A precinct election commission member shall hand over the counted counterfoils of the issued ballot papers to the head of the precinct election commission. The head of the precinct election commission (or the chair of the meeting) shall enter the number (counted by each member of the election commission) of counterfoils of the issued nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers in the ballot papers issuance register.

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9. The head of the commission (or the chair of the meeting) shall sum up the number of the counterfoils of the issued nationwide election district ballot papers and, separately, the number of counterfoils of the issued single-mandate election district ballot papers and announce them separately.

10. The precinct election commission shall check if the total numbers of counterfoils of issued ballot papers specified in Part 9 of this Article, separately for the nationwide district and for the single-mandate district, are equal to the sum of numbers specified in Parts 6 and 7 Article 88 of this Law.

11. If necessary, or upon request of a precinct election commission member, the counterfoils of the issued ballot papers shall be re-counted. The counting of the counterfoils of issued ballot papers shall be performed under the procedure established by Part 11 Article 82 of this Law.

12. If there is no mismatch between the numbers specified in Part 10 of this Article, the head of the precinct election commission shall announce this number as the number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers at the election precinct. The secretary of the precinct election commission shall enter this number in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and for a single-mandate election district.

13. If there is a discrepancy between the numbers indicated in Part 10 of this Article, the precinct election commission shall write a report thereon in accordance with the procedure established by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law. After that, the election commission shall take a decision establishing the number of voters who received the nationwide election district ballot papers and the number of voters who received the single-mandate election district ballot papers. This number shall be announced and entered in the vote counting protocols of the election precinct for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and for a single-mandate election district.

*{Part 13 Article 89 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

14. The counterfoils of the issued ballot papers shall be packed separately, in different packages, under the procedure established by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscriptions "Counterfoils of nationwide election district ballot papers" or "Counterfoils of single-mandate election district ballot papers" shall be made on the packages.

15. The precinct election commission shall check if the numbers of nationwide election district ballot papers and single-mandate election district ballot papers received by the precinct election commission are equal to the sum of, respectively, the number of unused ballot papers for the nationwide election district or those for the single-mandate election district and the number of voters who received ballot papers. In the event of discrepancy between those numbers, the precinct election commission shall draw up a report thereon under the procedure specified by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law, stating the reason for such discrepancy established by the commission's decision.

#### **Article 90.** Procedure for Opening Ballot Boxes and Counting Ballot Papers

1. Upon completion of actions specified by Article 89 of this Law, the precinct election commission shall check the integrity of the sealing tape or seal on each ballot box.

2. If the precinct election commission discovers damage to the tape or seal, or any other damage that indicates that the integrity of ballot box has been violated, the precinct election

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commission shall write a report thereon in the form and under the procedure specified by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law, stating the nature of the discovered damage.

3. The precinct election commission shall open the ballot boxes one by one. The first ballot boxes to be opened shall be the mobile ones that were used for voting at voters' place of stay; and the last ballot boxes to be opened shall be the ones with damaged seals or sealing tape or with other damage revealed during the voting (if there are any such boxes).

4. When an undamaged ballot box is opened, its contents shall be emptied on the table at which the members of the precinct election commission are sitting. The presence of a control sheet in the ballot box (or, in case of a mobile ballot box, of the control sheets) shall also be checked.

5. The ballot papers from a damaged ballot box shall be taken out one by one without mixing them. The precinct election commission shall count the numbers of ballot papers contained in such ballot box, separately for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district. The presence of a control sheet in the ballot box, which shall be taken out of the ballot box last, shall be also checked.

6. The ballot papers for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district shall be separated from each other. The election commission shall count the total number of the ballot papers separately for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 11 Article 82 of this Law.

7. All items found in the ballot boxes other than the ballot papers of the approved form shall be placed separately and not counted. Control sheets shall be also deemed as such items. In case of doubt as to whether an item is a ballot paper, the precinct election commission shall adopt a decision thereon by voting. Each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine such items. The counting of ballot papers shall be suspended while such items are being examined. Any items that are not deemed to be ballot papers shall be packed in one package under the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscription "Items" shall be made on the package.

8. If in an opened mobile ballot box the number of the ballot papers for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district exceeds the numbers of the ballot papers indicated in the control sheet in such ballot box, the precinct election commission shall write a report on the discrepancy in accordance with the form and procedure prescribed by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law, in which it shall indicate the number of the ballot papers in the ballot box.

9. When drawing up the report specified in Part 8 of this Article, the commission shall check whether the nationwide district and single-mandate district ballot papers found in the mobile ballot box bear the indication of the election district (nationwide or single-mandate), the number of the single-mandate election district and of the respective election precinct, and the seal of the respective precinct election commission. Ballot papers with improper attributes shall not be counted during establishing, in the course of vote counting, the total number of voters who took part in the voting, as well as in the vote counting. If after their separation from the ballot papers that are subject to counting the discrepancy specified in Part 8 of this Article is eliminated, the ballot papers with proper attributes shall be counted during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting as well as in the vote counting at the election precinct. If no ballot papers with improper attributes are found, or if their separation from the ballot papers that are subject to counting does not eliminate the discrepancy specified in Part 8 of this Article, none of the ballot papers from the mobile ballot box shall be counted during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting or in the vote counting.

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10. If there is no control sheet in the ballot box (or, in case of a mobile ballot box, no control sheets), the precinct election commission shall draw up a report on the absence of the control sheet (or control sheets) in the ballot box in accordance with the form and the procedure prescribed by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law, in which the number of ballot papers contained in the ballot box shall be indicated. The aforementioned ballot papers shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting or in the vote counting for the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district or for in the single-mandate election district.

11. If the members of the commission have doubts as to the authenticity of a control sheet, or in other doubtful situations specified in Parts 8 and 10 of this Article, the precinct election commission shall adopt, by voting, a decision recognizing the ballot papers contained in the ballot box as ones that shall not be subject to counting during the establishment of the total number of voters who took part in the voting or in the vote counting for the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district or for the single-mandate election district. The respective decision and the results of voting shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting of the commission.

12. The number of the nationwide election district ballot papers and the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers in the ballot boxes, except for the items and ballot papers which are not subject to counting, shall be announced by the head of the precinct election commission and entered by the secretary of the precinct election commission in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district as the numbers of voters who took part in the voting.

*{Part 12 Article 90 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

13. Ballot papers from the ballot boxes that contain an election district indication (nationwide or single-mandate), a single-mandate election district number, or an election precinct number not corresponding to the actual number of the respective election precinct or the respective election district, as well as ballot papers without the seal of the precinct election commission or affixed with the seal of another election commission or with any other seal, shall be deemed not to be subject to counting when establishing the total number of voters who took part in the voting and during the vote counting for in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and for the single-mandate election district.

14. The ballot papers that, in accordance with Parts 9, 10, 11, and 13 of this Article, are not to be counted when establishing the total number of voters who took part in the voting and when counting votes for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and for a single-mandate election district, shall be separately counted, entered in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct for the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and for the single-mandate election district, and packed in separate packages in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscriptions "Ballot papers not subject to counting in the nationwide election district" and "Ballot papers not subject to counting in the single-mandate election district" shall be made on the packages.

15. The nationwide election district ballot papers shall be put on the places marked with special plates bearing, on both sides, the name of the party or the inscription "Invalid ballot papers in the nationwide election district." After that, the single-mandate district ballot papers shall be put on the places marked with special plates bearing, on both sides, the last name of the MP

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candidate included in the ballot paper for voting in the respective single-mandate election district or the text "Invalid ballot papers in the single-mandate election district."

When sorting out the ballot papers, a precinct election commission member selected by the commission shall show each ballot paper to all the members of the election commission, announcing the result of the expression of the voter's will. If the members of the election commission have doubts as to the content of a ballot paper, the election commission shall resolve the doubts by voting. Each member of the election commission shall have the right to personally examine the ballot paper. For the time of examination of the ballot paper, the work with the other ballot papers shall be suspended.

16. A ballot paper shall be deemed invalid if:

- 1) it has not been amended as required by Part 7 Article 81 of this Law, or it has been amended without a decision by the Central Election Commission or amended in a way that fails to comply with the decision of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) more than one mark has been placed next to the names of the parties or to the last names of MP candidates;
- 3) no mark has been placed;
- 4) the counterfoil of the ballot paper has not been separated therefrom;
- 5) it is impossible to identify the result of the expression of the voter's will for any other reason.

17. If any members of the election commission have doubts about the validity of a ballot paper, the precinct election commission shall resolve the doubts by voting. Before the start of the voting, each member of the election commission shall be allowed to personally examine the ballot paper in question. During the examination of the ballot paper, the counting of other ballot papers shall be suspended. The respective decision and the results of voting shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting of the precinct election commission.

18. Invalid ballot papers shall be counted separately for the nationwide election district and for the single-mandate election district, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 11 Article 82 of this Law. The numbers of invalid ballot papers for the election of MPs in the nationwide and single-mandate election districts shall be announced by the head of the precinct election commission separately and shall be entered by the secretary of the election commission in the respective protocols on vote counting at the election precinct for the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and for the single-mandate election district. The invalid ballot papers shall be packed separately into [two] different packages in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscriptions "Invalid ballot papers in the nationwide election district" or "Invalid ballot papers in the single-mandate election district" shall be made on packages.

19. The precinct election commission shall, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 11 Article 82 of this Law, separately count the number of votes cast for MP candidates included in the electoral list of each party in the nationwide election district and the number of votes cast for each MP candidate in a single-mandate election district. During the vote counting each member of the commission shall be allowed to examine or re-count the respective ballot papers. The results of the vote counting at the election precinct for the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and for the single-mandate election district shall be announced and entered, respectively, in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct for the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and for the single-mandate election district.

20. When counting votes at an election precinct, the precinct election commission shall check, separately for the nationwide district and for the single-mandate district, whether the number of

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voters who took part in the voting at the precinct is equal to the sum of the numbers of invalid ballot papers and of ballot papers with votes cast for MP candidates included in each party's electoral list or, respectively, for MP candidates running in the single-mandate district. In case of data discrepancy, the election commission shall be allowed to re-count the respective ballot papers. If the aforementioned discrepancy is confirmed, the precinct election commission shall write a report, in accordance with the form and procedure prescribed by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law, indicating the reason for such discrepancy, which reason shall be established by a decision of the commission.

21. Ballot papers with the votes cast for MP candidates included in the electoral list of each party in the nationwide election district and for MP candidates in the single-mandate election district shall be packed separately in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The name of the respective party and the last name of the MP candidate shall be inscribed on the packages.

22. The Central Election Commission shall issue clarifications for the procedure of vote counting at the election precincts.

**Article 91.** Protocols of Precinct Election Commissions on Vote Counting at the Election Precinct

1. At its meeting, a precinct election commission shall draw up a protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and a protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the single-mandate election district in accordance with the forms established by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-two days prior to the day of voting.

The Central Election Commission shall provide for the printing of 200 copies of blank precinct election commission protocols on in-precinct vote counting for each election precinct, for election, respectively, in the nationwide election district and in the single-mandate district, in accordance with the procedure and within the terms specified by Article 81 of this Law for the printing of the ballot papers. The blank protocols of the precinct election commissions shall be numbered by the printing enterprise. The blank precinct election commission protocols on in-precinct vote counting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district shall be delivered to the election commissions together with the ballot papers in accordance with the procedure and within the time framework specified by Article 82 of this Law.

2. The protocol of a precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district shall contain the following data, entered in words and in numbers:

- 1) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers received by the precinct election commission or produced thereby upon consent of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of unused nationwide election district ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commission;
- 3) the number of voters included in the voter list for the election precinct (at the end of the voting);
- 4) the number of voters included in the election precinct's excerpt from the voter list for voting at their place of stay;
- 5) the number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers in the premises for voting;
- 6) the number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers at their place of stay;

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- 7) the total number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers at the election precinct;
- 8) the number of ballot papers found in each ballot box (stating the number of the ballot box);

*{A new clause was added to Part 2 Article 91 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 9) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers that are not subject to counting;
- 10) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the premises for voting;
- 11) the number of voters who took part in the voting at their place of stay in the nationwide election district;

*{Clause 11 Part 2 Article 91 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 12) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the nationwide election district at the election precinct in the nationwide election district;

*{Clause 12 Part 2 Article 91 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 13) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers declared invalid;
- 14) the number of votes cast for MP candidates included in the electoral list of each political party.

3. The protocol of a precinct election commission on the counting of votes cast for MP candidates in the single-mandate election district shall contain the following data, entered in words and in numbers:

- 1) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers received by the precinct election commission or produced thereby upon consent of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of unused single-mandate election district ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commission;
- 3) the number of voters included in the voter list for the election precinct (at the end of the voting);
- 4) the number of voters included in the election precinct's excerpt from the voter list for voting at their place of stay in the single-mandate district;

*{Clause 4 Part 3 Article 91 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 5) the number of voters who received single-mandate election district ballot papers in the premises for voting;
- 6) the number of voters who received single-mandate election district ballot papers at their place of stay;

- 7) the total number of voters who received single-mandate election district ballot papers at the election precinct;
- 8) the number of ballot papers found in each ballot box (stating the number of the ballot box);

*{A new clause was added to Part 3 Article 91 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 9) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers that are not subject to counting;
- 10) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the premises for voting in the single-mandate election district;

*{Clause 10 Part 3 Article 91 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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11) the number of voters who took part in the voting at their place of stay in the single-mandate election district;

*{Clause 11 Part 3 Article 91 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

12) the number of voters who took part in the voting at the election precinct in the single-mandate election district;

*{Clause 12 Part 3 Article 91 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII eið 21.11.2013}*

13) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers declared invalid;

14) the number of votes cast for each MP candidate in the single-mandate election district.

4. The protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct in the single-mandate district shall be drawn up by the precinct election commission in a number of copies exceeding by four the number of members of the precinct election commission. The copies of the protocols shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force.

5. The protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting shall specify the date and time (hours and minutes) of their signing by the members of the precinct election commission. Each copy of the protocols shall be signed by the head, deputy head and other members of the precinct election commission present at the meeting of the election commission. Each member of the precinct election commission present at the meeting of the precinct election commission must sign the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting. If a member of the commission disagrees with the results of the vote counting entered in a protocol, that member shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district or in the single-mandate election district. In the case of absence of the signature of the member of the precinct election commission in a protocol of vote counting at the election precinct, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. Such protocol shall be signed by the members of the precinct election commission and affixed with the seal of the precinct election commission only after having been fully completed.

6. MP candidates, their proxies, parties' authorized persons, official observers who were present at the meeting of the precinct election commission during the vote counting shall be entitled to sign the first and second copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting.

7. It shall be prohibited to fill out the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting by pencil, or to make any changes thereto without a decision of the precinct election commission.

8. If after the signing of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district or in the single-mandate district, but before sending such protocols together with the election documents to the district election commission, the precinct election commission discovers inaccuracies (a slip of the pen or an erroneous number), it shall at the same meeting consider the issue of introducing changes to the established results by completing a new protocol (protocols) on vote counting at the election

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precinct in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and/or in the single-mandate election district, with elimination of the inaccuracies; such protocol shall be marked "Corrected." The ballot papers shall not be re-counted. A protocol marked "Corrected" shall be completed in the number of copies specified in Part 4 of this Article and shall be signed in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Parts 5 and 6 of this Article. The fact that the precinct election commission completed a corrected protocol shall be noted in the minutes of the meeting of the precinct election commission.

9. The first and the second copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district and, if available, the respective copies of each protocol with the mark "Corrected" shall be packed into packages with a special security system, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscriptions "Protocol for the nationwide election district" and "Protocol for the single-mandate election district," respectively, shall be made on the packages. The third copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district (or of a protocol with the mark "Corrected") shall remain with the secretary of the precinct election commission, while the fourth copies of the aforementioned protocols shall be immediately placed in the premises of the precinct election commission for public review; the remaining copies of each protocol shall be distributed to the members of the precinct election commission, one copy for each member.

10. MP candidates, their proxies, parties' authorized persons, official observers who were present during the vote counting shall have the right to immediately receive upon their request copies of the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct, including those marked "Corrected", certified on each page by the head and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the seal of the election commission. No more than one copy of the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district shall be provided to each party that has registered candidates in the nationwide district; no more than one copy of the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the single-mandate election district for each MP candidate in the single-mandate election district; and no more than one copy of either protocol for each official observer.

*{Part 10 Article 91 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

11. The precinct election commission shall prepare a report, of a form approved by the Central Election Commission, recording the handover of copies of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting. The report shall contain a list of persons who received copies of the respective protocols, the date and time of the receipt of such copies, and the signatures of such persons. The report shall be signed by the head and the secretary of the precinct election commission and affixed with the seal of the precinct election commission. The report shall be packed in the package together with the first and second copies, respectively, of the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and the protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the single-mandate election district.

12. Immediately after the end of the meeting of the election commission, the packages with the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district, the ballot papers, counterfoils and items, voter lists, and also written dissenting opinions of the members of the election commission (if any), reports, applications, complaints, and decisions adopted by the election commission, shall be delivered to the district election commission.

**Article 92.** Declarations by a Precinct Election Commission of the Invalidity of Voting at the Election Precinct

1. A precinct election commission shall be entitled to declare the voting in an election precinct invalid if it establishes that there have been violations of the requirements of this Law that make it impossible to determine the true results of expression of the voters' will, only under the following circumstances:

1) discovery of cases of illegal voting (dropping of a ballot paper into the ballot box by other persons instead of the voter, except in the cases specified by Part 9 Article 85 of this Law; voting by persons who have no right to vote; voting by persons who are not included in the voter list for the election precinct or who have been included in the voter list without legal grounds; voting by the voters whose voting address was temporarily changed (without changing the election address) as provided for by Part 3 Article 7 of the Law of Ukraine *On the State Register of Voters* for another election precinct outside the boundaries of the single-mandate district to which they were assigned on the basis of the data of the State Register of Voters about their election address who were included in the list of voters at a respective election precinct and illegally received their ballot papers for voting in a single-mandate district; multiple voting by the same person) in a number that exceeds by five percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct;

*{Clause 1 Part 1 Article 92 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

2) destruction of or damage to a ballot box (ballot boxes) that makes it impossible to establish the content of the ballot papers, if the number of such ballot papers exceeds by twenty percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct;

3) discovery in the ballot boxes of nationwide election district ballot papers or single-mandate election district ballot papers in a number that exceeds by more than five percent the number of voters who received ballot papers at the election precinct.

*{Clause 3 Part 1 Article 92 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

2. If the circumstances provided for by Part 1 of this Article are discovered, the precinct election commission shall in each case write a report in accordance with the form and procedure prescribed by Part 8 Article 35 of this Law. Such report(s) shall be the ground for consideration by the precinct election commission of whether to declare the voting invalid: at the election precinct, in the cases specified by Clauses 1 and 2 Part 1 of this Article; for the nationwide or the single-mandate election district, in the case specified by Clause 3 Part 1 of this Article.

3. If a precinct election commission takes a decision declaring voting at the election precinct to be invalid, then all ballot papers from the ballot boxes at such election precinct shall be deemed invalid and not subject to counting. In such case, instead of the data specified in Clauses 10 – 14 Part 2 or Clauses 10 – 14 Part 3 Article 91 or in Clauses 8 – 10 Part 2 Article 96<sup>1</sup> of this Law a dash shall be inserted. The protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate election district shall be completed by the precinct election commission in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Article 91 of this Law.

*{Part 3 Article 92 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

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4. If a precinct election commission takes a decision declaring voting at the election precinct to be invalid, the ballot papers shall be packed in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscription "The ballot papers" shall be made on the package.

5. A decision of a precinct election commission declaring voting at the election precinct to be invalid, and the report(s) on the basis of which such decision was adopted, shall be attached to the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district, and packed and delivered to the district election commission or the Central Election Commission (for foreign district) in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law.

*{Part 5 Article 92 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 93.** Procedure for Transportation and Submission of Election Documents to District Election Commission or Central Election Commission (for foreign district)

*{Article 93 title as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

1. The election documents specified in Part 12 Article 91 of this Law shall be transported by members of the precinct election commission of a regular or special election precinct (except special election precincts established on the ships which on the day of voting will be sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station) representing four different parties or MP candidates, namely, the head and deputy head of the precinct election commission and two other members of the election commission representing two other parties or MP candidates that received the highest number of votes cast at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district. They shall be accompanied by a representative of the police who shall ensure the security of the documents during transportation. Other members of the precinct election commission, MP candidates, their proxies, parties' authorized persons, and official observers may, if they choose, accompany the transportation of the election documents. Other persons shall be prohibited from accompanying the transportation of the election documents.

2. Unpacking the packages with the ballot papers and other election documents during transportation shall be prohibited.

3. If simultaneously with the election of the Peoples' Deputies of Ukraine election of the President of Ukraine is held, then the election documents related to the MP election shall be transported to the respective district election commission by members of the precinct election commission who will not participate in transporting the election documents related to the election of the President of Ukraine.

If simultaneously with the election of the Peoples' Deputies of Ukraine local election or a referendum is held, the election documents related to local election or referendum shall be transported to the respective territorial election commission, district election commission or referendum commission by members of the precinct election commission who will not participate in transporting the election documents related to the election of the MPs Ukraine.

*{Part 3 Article 93 in the wording of the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

4. The secretary of the precinct election commission, as well as other members of the commission not accompanying the election documents during their transportation to the district election commission, shall stay in the premises of the precinct election commission until they are notified of the acceptance by the district election commission of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district

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and in the single-mandate district. During the transportation of the election documents, the seal of the precinct election commission shall be kept in the safe (metal case) in the premises of the precinct election commission.

5. The protocol of the precinct election commission on vote counting in regular or special election precinct in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district (except special election precincts established on the ships which on the day of voting will be sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station), as well as other election documents of the precinct election commission shall be handed over to the respective district election commission at its meeting in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Article 94 of this Law.

6. Upon the signing of the protocol on vote counting in the nationwide election district at a foreign election precinct by the members of the precinct election commission, the contents of the protocols shall be immediately sent by the precinct election commission via technical means of communication to the Central Election Commission (through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine), followed by mandatory delivery of the first and second copies of that protocol to the commission.

Upon the signing of the protocol on vote counting at a special election precinct established on a ship sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, by the members of the precinct election commission, the contents of the protocol shall be immediately sent by the precinct election commission via technical means of communication to the Central Election Commission, followed by mandatory delivery of the first and second copies of the protocols on vote counting at the precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district, in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission.

The protocols shall be appended with other election documents specified in Part 12 Article 91 of this Law.

*{Part 6 Article 93 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 94.** Procedure for Receipt and Consideration of Documents of Precinct Election Commissions by District Election Commissions

1. Immediately after the end of voting, a district election commission shall convene a meeting that shall continue without a break until the results of the voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district are established. During this period of time, the members of the district election commission shall not be engaged in any activities other than participation in the meeting of the election commission.

2. The district election commission shall process the data specified in Part 13 Article 85 of this Law and send such data to the Central Election Commission via an automated information analysis system no later than at 24:00 on the day of voting. The Central Election Commission shall immediately publish the aforementioned data, upon the receipt thereof, on the official website of the Central Election Commission.

3. The meeting of the district election commission specified in Part 1 of this Article shall be officially recorded in the minutes of continuous meeting, to be signed by the head or the chair of the meeting as well as by the secretary of the election commission or by the member of the election commission performing the duties of secretary at the meeting. The minutes shall be appended with the dissenting opinions (if any) of members of the election commission who participated in the meeting and who disagree with the decision adopted by the district election commission.

4. At the meeting of the district election commission specified in Part 1 of this Article, the head of the district election commission shall receive the sealed packages with the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting; unpack them and announce the content of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting at the respective election precincts in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate district and in the single-mandate election district; and also receive the sealed packages with the other election documents specified by Part 12 Article 91 of this Law. The time of the receipt by the district election commission of the protocols (in hours and minutes) of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate district and in the single-mandate election district, the list of the received election documents, and the data entered in the protocol on vote counting at the election precinct shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission.

5. When receiving the documents of the precinct election commission, the district election commission shall examine the completeness of the documents and the integrity of all packages containing election documents. During this checking, each member of the commission shall have the right to examine each package containing election documents. If the commission establishes the completeness of the election documents and integrity of all packages, then the packages with the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate district and in the single-mandate election district shall be opened one by one and the data contained therein shall be announced. Based on the results of consideration of the documents of the precinct election commission and of complaints concerning violations of the requirements of this Law during the conduct of voting and vote counting at the election precinct, as well as during the transportation of the election documents to the district election commission that had been received by the district election commission by the moment of the receipt of the documents of the precinct election commission, the district election commission shall adopt one of the following decisions, separately for the election in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and for the single-mandate election district:

- 1) to accept the election documents from the precinct election commission and to include the data in the protocols on vote counting at the election precinct for the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and/or for the single-mandate election district when establishing the results of voting in the election district;
- 2) to refuse to accept from the precinct election commission the election documents related to the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district and/or to the single-mandate election district, and to oblige the precinct election commission to correct the revealed defects by drawing up a protocol (protocols) marked "Corrected";
- 3) to order a re-count of the votes in the precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate district and/or in the single-mandate election district in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law.

6. The decision specified by Part 5 of this Article shall be adopted by voting of all members of the district election commission, by an absolute majority of the votes of all members of the commission, and shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission.

7. The protocols of the precinct election commission on the counting of votes at the election precinct in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district shall be considered by district election commission in turn, in the order in which the packages with the respective protocols are opened, after announcement of the data in the respective protocol.

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If any corrections, mistakes, or inaccuracies are discovered in the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and/or in the single-mandate district which can be eliminated without re-counting the votes, the district election commission shall adopt a decision requiring the precinct election commission to introduce changes to the established results of voting at the election precinct by drawing up a protocol (protocols) marked "Corrected" on vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and/or in the single-mandate district, in accordance with Clause 2 Part 5 of this Article, which decision shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission. While this issue is discussed by the precinct election commission, copies of the protocols on the counting of votes at the election precinct in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district, ballot papers and other election documents provided for in Part 12 Article 91 of this Law shall be kept in the district election commission.

If any corrections, mistakes, or inaccuracies are discovered which can be eliminated without re-counting the votes and that do not require amendments to the established results of voting at the election precinct, the district election commission makes a decision provided for in Clause 1 Part 5 of this Article describing the discovered corrections, mistakes, or inaccuracies. This decision shall be appended to the protocol of the district election commission.

*{Part 7 Article 94 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

8. The precinct election commission shall, within the time framework determined by the district election commission, consider the issue of introducing changes to the respective protocol without re-counting the ballot papers. The protocol (protocols) marked "Corrected" shall be transported to the district election commission in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Article 93 of this Law. The time of the receipt by the district election commission of the precinct election commission's protocol (protocols) marked "Corrected" and the data entered in such protocol(s) shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the district election commission.

9. From the moment of the beginning of receipt of the documents of precinct election commissions by the district election commission, the latter shall forward to the Central Election Commission through the automated information and analytical system – in turn, after approval of a decision on accepting the data in the protocols of precinct election commission on vote counting at election precincts in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and/or protocols on vote counting at election precincts in the single-mandate district, on the basis of respective protocols of precinct election commissions (including the protocols marked as "Corrected") and notifications on the contents of such protocols of precinct election commissions transmitted via the technical means of communication from special election precincts established on ships sailing under the National Flag of Ukraine, as well as at Ukraine's polar station, and, in the event of repeat vote counting, also the protocol of the district election commission on the repeat vote counting at a respective election precinct – the information about vote counting at the election precincts in the single-mandate district (stating all figures contained in respective protocols of precinct election commissions). The Central Election Commission shall immediately publish these figures on its official web-site.

*{A new part was added to Article 94 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

10. The district election commission shall be entitled to adopt a decision on re-counting of the votes at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and/or in the single-mandate election district if there are applications or complaints confirmed by reports duly drawn up by the MP candidates, their proxies, parties' authorized persons, official observers, or voters, regarding violations of the provisions of this Law during the conduct of voting and/or counting of votes at the election precinct in the

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nationwide district within the single-mandate district and/or in the single-mandate district that raise doubts about the results of the vote counting at such election precinct in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and/or in the single-mandate district, or if there is a report or a written application or complaint regarding a violation of the requirements of this Law relating to the transportation to the district election commission of the protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting and other documents, submitted by any of the persons specified in Part 1 Article 93 of this Law.

11. If it is not possible to eliminate any inaccuracies in the protocol(s) of the precinct election commission on vote counting in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and/or in the single-mandate district without re-counting the ballot papers in the nationwide district and/or in the single-mandate district, or if there are clear signs that the packages with the election documents of the precinct election commission relating to voting have been interfered with, then the district election commission shall adopt a decision ordering a re-count of the votes at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and/or in the single-mandate election district.

12. The protocols of a precinct election commission on vote counting at the precinct in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district and in the single-mandate district and the sealed packages containing other election documents of the precinct election commission shall be stored at the premises where the meeting of the district election commission is being held until the votes at the election precinct have been re-counted by the district election commission.

13. The votes of the voters at the election precinct shall be re-counted by the district election commission with mandatory participation of the members of the precinct election commission who delivered the election documents, after consideration and acceptance of the protocols on vote counting and other documents from all other precinct election commissions. All members of the precinct election commission shall have the right to be present during the re-counting of the votes at the election precinct by the district election commission; moreover, MP candidates, their proxies, parties' authorized persons, and official observers may also be present there.

14. Based on the results of the re-counting of the votes, the district election commission shall, in accordance with the form approved by the Central Election Commission, draw up a protocol on re-counting of votes at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and/or in the single-mandate election district.

15. The protocols on the re-counting of votes at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and on the re-counting of votes at the election precinct in the single-mandate election district shall be drawn up by the district election commission in a number of copies exceeding by four the number of the members of the district election commission. The copies of the protocols shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force. All copies of the protocols shall be signed by the members of the district election commission present there and by the members of the precinct election commission who took part in the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct, and shall be affixed with the seal of the district election commission. The district election commission shall announce the data entered in the respective protocol. The MP candidates, their proxies, parties' authorized persons, and official observers who were present during the re-counting of votes shall have the right to sign the first and second copies of each protocol.

16. A district election commission shall be entitled to adopt a decision declaring the voting at an election precinct to be invalid only if the circumstances specified in Part 1 Article 92 of this Law have been discovered during the re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct;

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*{Part 16 Article 94 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

17. If, as a result of the re-counting of votes, the district election commission declares the voting at an election precinct to be invalid, all the ballot papers used for voting at the respective election precinct shall be deemed invalid and not subject to tabulation. In this case, the protocols of the district election commission on re-counting of votes at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Parts 13 and 14 of this Article, and shall only contain the data specified in Clauses 1 – 9 Parts 2 and/or 3 Article 91 of this Law. On the places for other data, a dash shall be inserted.

*{Part 17 Article 94 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

18. The first copies of the protocols of the district election commission on re-counting of votes at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district, together with the relevant protocols of the precinct election commission on vote counting at the precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district, and the decision of the district election commission declaring the voting at the election precinct to be invalid, shall be attached to the protocols of the district election commission on the voting results. The second copies of the protocols of the district election commission on re-counting of votes at the election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district and in the single-mandate election district shall be kept by the secretary of the district election commission; the third copies of the protocols shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commission; the fourth copies shall be immediately placed in the premises of the district election commission for public review; and the remaining copies shall be distributed to the members of the district election commission, one copy for each member.

**Article 95.** Tabulation of Voting Results in the Nationwide Election District within a Single-Mandate Election District

1. After the receipt and consideration of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, including those marked “Corrected”, on the basis of the protocols of precinct election commissions on vote counting at election precincts in the nationwide district within the single-mandate district as well as notifications on the contents of such protocols of precinct election commissions transmitted via technical means of communication from special election precincts established on ships sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, at Ukraine’s polar station, and, in the case of vote re-counting, also the protocol of the district election commission on re-counting the votes at the respective election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, the district election commission shall determine:

*{Paragraph 1 Part 1 Article 95 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 1) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers received by the district election commission;
- 2) the number of unused nationwide election district ballot papers invalidated by the district election commission;
- 3) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers received by the precinct election commissions of the single-mandate election district;
- 4) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers printed by the precinct election commissions of the single-mandate election district;

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- 5) the number of unused nationwide election district ballot papers invalidated by precinct election commissions of the single-mandate election district;
- 6) the total number of voters included in the voter lists at the election precincts of the single-mandate election district;
- 7) the number of the voters included in the excerpts from the voter lists at the election precincts of the single-mandate election district;
- 8) the number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers in the premises for voting;
- 9) the number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers at their places of stay;
- 10) the total number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers within the single-mandate election district;
- 11) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers that were not subject to counting at the election precincts of the single-mandate election district;
- 12) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the nationwide election district in the premises for voting;
- 13) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the nationwide election district at their places of stay;
- 14) the total number of voters who took part in the voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district;
- 15) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers declared invalid;
- 16) the number of votes cast for MP candidates included in the electoral list of each political party.

2. The data on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district shall be entered in numbers and in words in the protocol of the district election commission on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Commission. The data specified in Clauses 3 – 16 Part 1 of this Article shall be entered in the protocol in numbers for each election precinct within the single-mandate election district, and the total for the single-mandate election district shall be entered in words and numbers.

3. The protocol on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district shall be compiled by the district election commission in a number of copies exceeding by three the number of members of the district election commission. The copies of the protocol shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force.

4. It shall be prohibited to fill out the protocol on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district by pencil, or to sign it and affix the seal of the district election commission thereto before completion.

5. The protocol on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district shall be signed by the head, deputy head, secretary and other members of the district election commission present at the meeting of the election commission and affixed with the seal of the district election commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hour and minutes) of its signing by the members of the district election commission. A member of the election commission present at the meeting must sign the protocol on the results of the voting. If a member disagrees with the results of voting entered in the protocol, he or she shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion." A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol on the results of the voting. If a commission member has not signed the protocol, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. MP candidates, their proxies, authorized persons of parties, and official observers from

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the parties, MP candidates, and non-governmental organizations who were present during the tabulation of the voting results shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol.

*{Part 5 Article 95 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6. If after signing the protocol on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, but before sending it to the Central Election Commission, the district election commission discovers inaccuracies therein (a slip of the pen or an erroneous number), it shall at the same meeting consider introducing changes to the results of voting within the election district by drawing up a new protocol, which shall be marked "Corrected." A protocol marked "Corrected" shall be completed and signed in accordance with the procedure and in the number of copies prescribed by this Article. The drawing up of a protocol marked "Corrected" by the district election commission at another meeting of the commission without authorization by the Central Election Commission shall not be allowed.

*{Part 6 Article 95 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

7. The first copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, and, if available, the first copy of the protocol marked "Corrected," shall be packed in a package with the special security system in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscription "Protocol on the results of the voting in the nationwide election district" shall be made on the package.

8. The district election commission shall transport to the Central Election Commission the first copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, and, if any changes were made to the protocol, the protocol in which inaccuracies were discovered (slips of the pen or erroneous numbers) and the protocol marked "Corrected"; the respective protocols and reports of the precinct election commissions related to the voting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district; decisions adopted on the basis of such reports; the protocols of the district election commission on re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district, if any; written dissenting opinions of members of the district election commission; and applications and complaints of violation by the district election commission of the procedures for establishing the results of the voting together with any decisions adopted by the district election commission as a result of consideration thereof. The second copy of the protocol shall be stored at the district election commission and the third copy shall be immediately placed in the premises of the district election commission for public review; the remaining copies shall be distributed to the members of the district election commission, one copy for each member.

9. The documents of the election commission specified in Part 8 of this Article shall be transported by the head of the district election commission and by his or her deputy as well as by two members of the election commission representing two other entities that received the highest number of votes cast in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district. If the head or the deputy head of the district election commission responsible for transporting the aforementioned documents represents one out of two nominating entities that received the highest number of votes cast in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate district, or if the representative of such a nominating entity cannot take part in the transportation of the election documents to the Central Election Commission for a valid reason, then the representative of the nominating entity that received the next highest number of votes shall take part in the transportation.

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10. An authorized person of a party or an official observer upon his or her request shall immediately receive a copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the results of the voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district (including a copy of a protocol marked "Corrected") and, if available, a copy of the protocol on re-counting of votes at the respective election precinct in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, one copy of each protocol for each political party and one copy of each protocol for an official observer (group of observers) from each non-governmental organization, foreign state or international organization. The aforementioned copies shall be signed on each page by the head and the secretary of the district election commission and affixed with the seal of the election commission.

*{Part 10 Article 95 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

11. The district election commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district regardless of the number of election precincts at which the voting was declared invalid.

12. The voting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district may not be declared invalid.

**Article 96.** Tabulation of Voting Results in a Single-Mandate Election District

1. After the receipt and consideration of the protocols of the precinct election commissions on vote counting at the election precincts within the single-mandate election district, including those marked "Corrected", based on the protocols of precinct election commissions on vote counting at the election precincts in the single-mandate district and notifications on the content of protocols of precinct election commissions transmitted via technical means of communication from special election precincts established on ships sailing, as of the day of voting, under the National Flag of Ukraine, or at Ukraine's polar station, and, in case of vote recounting, the protocol of the district election commission on re-counting the votes at the respective election precinct in the single-mandate election district, the district election commission shall determine:

*{Paragraph 1 Part 1 Article 96 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 1) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers received by the district election commission;
- 2) the number single-mandate election district ballot papers invalidated by the district election commission;
- 3) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers received by the precinct election commissions of the single-mandate election district;
- 4) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers printed by the precinct election commissions of the single-mandate election district;
- 5) the number of unused single-mandate election district ballot papers invalidated by precinct election commissions of the single-mandate election district;
- 6) the number of voters included in the voter lists for the election precincts of the single-mandate election district;
- 7) the number of voters included in the excerpts from the voter lists at the election precincts of the single-mandate election district;
- 8) the number of voters who received single-mandate election district ballot papers in the premises for voting;
- 9) the number of voters who received single-mandate election district ballot papers at their places of stay;

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- 10) the total number of voters who received ballot papers for voting in the single-mandate election district;
- 11) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers that were not subject to counting at the election precincts of the single-mandate election district;
- 12) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the single-mandate election district in the premises for voting;
- 13) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the single-mandate election district at their places of stay;
- 14) the total number of voters who took part in the voting in the single-mandate election district;
- 15) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers declared invalid;
- 16) the number of votes cast for each MP candidate in the single-mandate election district.

2. The data on the results of voting in the single-mandate election district shall be entered in numbers and in words in the protocol of the district election commission on the results of voting in the single-mandate election district, in accordance with the form established by the Central Election Commission. The data specified in Clauses 3 – 16 Part 1 of this Article shall be entered in the protocol in numbers for each election precinct within the single-mandate election district, with the totals for the single-mandate election district being entered in words and numbers.

3. The protocol on the results of voting in the single-mandate election district shall be compiled by the district election commission in a number of copies exceeding by three the number of members of the district election commission. The copies of the protocol shall be numbered and shall have equal legal force.

4. It shall be prohibited to fill out the protocol on the results of the voting in the single-mandate election district by pencil, or to sign it and affix the seal of the district election commission thereto before completion.

5. The protocol on the results of voting in the single-mandate election district shall be signed by the head, deputy head, secretary and other members of the district election commission present at the meeting of the election commission and affixed with the seal of the district election commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hour and minutes) of signing thereof by the members of the district election commission. A member of the election commission present at the meeting must sign the protocol on the results of the voting. If a member disagrees with the determined results of the voting entered in the protocol of the commission, he or she shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol on the results of the voting. If a commission member has not signed the protocol, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. MP candidates, their proxies, authorized persons of parties, and official observers from the parties, MP candidates, non-governmental organizations who were present during the tabulation of the results of the voting in the single-mandate district shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol.

*{Part 5 Article 96 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

6. If after signing the protocol on the results of the voting in the single-mandate election district, but before sending it to the Central Election Commission, the district election commission discovers inaccuracies therein (a slip of the pen or an erroneous number), it shall at the same meeting consider the issue of introducing changes to the results of the voting in the single-mandate election district by drawing up a new protocol, which shall be marked "Corrected ." The protocol marked "Corrected" shall be completed and signed in accordance with the procedure and in the number of copies prescribed by Part 3 of this Article. The drawing up of a protocol

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marked "Corrected" by the district election commission at another meeting of the commission without authorization by the Central Election Commission shall not be allowed.

7. The first copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the results of the voting in the single-mandate election district, and, if available, the first copy of the protocol marked "Corrected" shall be packed in a package with the special security system in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 87 of this Law. The inscription "Protocol on the results of the voting in the single-mandate election district" shall be made on the package.

8. The district election commission shall transport to the Central Election Commission the first copy of the protocol of the district election commission on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, and, if changes were made to the protocol, the protocol in which inaccuracies were discovered (slips of the pen or erroneous numbers) and the protocol marked "Corrected"; the respective protocols and reports of the precinct election commissions related to the voting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district; decisions adopted on the basis of such reports; the protocols of the district election commission on re-counting the votes at the respective election precinct in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate election district, if any; any written dissenting opinions of members of the district election commission; and applications and complaints of violations by the district election commission of the procedures for establishing the results of the voting together with any decisions adopted by the district election commission as a result of consideration thereof. The second copy of the protocol shall be stored at the district election commission and the third copy shall be immediately placed in the premises of the district election commission for public review; the remaining copies shall be distributed to the members of the district election commission, one copy for each member.

9. The election documents specified in Part 8 of this Article shall be transported in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 9 Article 95 of this Law.

10. An MP candidate in the single-mandate election district, a proxy of the MP candidate in the single-mandate election district, or an official observer shall, upon request, immediately receive a copy of the protocol (including copy of any protocols marked "Corrected") of the district election commission on the results of the voting in the single-mandate election district and, if available, a copy of the protocol on re-counting the votes at the respective election precinct in the single-mandate election district, one copy of each protocol for each MP candidate in the single-mandate election district and for each official observer. The aforementioned copies shall be signed on each page by the head and the secretary of the district election commission and affixed with the seal of the election commission.

*{Part 10 Article 96 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

11. The district election commission shall be obliged to establish the results of voting in the single-mandate election district, regardless of the number of election precincts at which the voting was declared invalid.

12. The voting in a single-mandate election district may not be declared invalid.

#### **Article 96<sup>1</sup>. Tabulation of Voting Results in a Foreign Election District**

1. The Central Election Commission at its meeting shall receive, consider and announce the data in the protocols of precinct election commissions on vote counting at foreign election precincts or notifications on the contents of the respective protocols on vote counting transmitted via technical means of communication as provided for in Part 6 Article 93 of this

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Law. The Central Election Commission shall immediately publish the aforementioned data on its official web-site.

2. After the receipt and consideration of the protocols on vote counting at foreign election precincts based on the said protocols and notifications about the contents of the respective protocols on vote counting transmitted via technical means of communication, the Central Election Commission at the same meeting shall determine:

- 1) the number of ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district received by the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of unused ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district invalidated by the Central Election Commission;
- 3) the number of ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district received by precinct election commissions of foreign district;
- 4) the number of unused ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district invalidated by precinct election commissions of foreign district;
- 5) the total number of voters included in the voter lists at foreign election precincts of the foreign election district;
- 6) the number of voters who received ballot papers in the premises for voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district;
- 7) the number of ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district that were not subject to counting at the foreign election precincts;
- 8) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district;
- 9) the number of ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district that were declared invalid;
- 10) the number of votes cast for each MP candidate included in the election list of each party in foreign district.

3. The data on the results of voting in the foreign election district shall be announced at the meeting of the Central Election Commission and entered in numbers and in words in the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the results of voting in the foreign election district, in accordance with the form established by it. The data specified in Clauses 3 – 10 Part 2 of this Article shall be entered in the protocol in numbers for each election precinct within foreign district, with the totals for foreign district being entered in words and in numbers.

4. It shall be prohibited to fill out the protocol on the results of the voting in the nationwide election within foreign district by pencil, or to sign it and affix the seal of the Central Election Commission thereto before completion.

5. The protocol on the results of the voting in the nationwide election within foreign district shall be prepared in two copies. The protocol shall be signed by the Chair, the Deputy Chairs, the Secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission who were present at the meeting, and affixed with the seal of the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hour and minutes) of signing thereof by the members of the Central Election Commission. A member of the Central Election Commission present at the meeting must sign the protocol on the results of the voting. If a member disagrees with the determined results of the voting entered in the protocol of the Central Election Commission, he or she shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion". A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol on the results of the voting. If a member of the Central Election Commission has not signed the protocol, the reasons for the absence of the Central Election Commission member at the meeting shall be indicated next to his or her last name. MP candidates, representatives of the parties in the Central Election Commission, authorized

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persons of parties, and official observers from non-governmental organizations, foreign states and international organizations who were present during the tabulation of the results of voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district shall be entitled to sign the first copy of the protocol. The contents of the protocol shall be immediately published on the official web-site of the Central Election Commission.

6. An MP candidate registered in the nationwide election district, a representative of the party in the Central Election Commission, official observers from non-governmental organizations, foreign states and international organizations who were present during the meeting, shall be entitled to receive, upon request, immediately a copy of the protocol (including the protocol marked "Corrected") of the Central Election Commission on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within foreign district, one copy of each protocol for each party whose MP candidates were registered in the nationwide election district, and not more than one copy of each protocol for official observers from each non-governmental organization, foreign state or international organization. These copies shall be signed on each page by the Chair and the Secretary of the Central Election Commission and affixed with the seal of the Central Election Commission.

7. The Central Election Commission shall establish the results of voting in foreign district regardless of the number of foreign election precincts where the voting was recognized invalid.

8. The voting in a foreign election district may not be declared invalid.

*{A new Article 96<sup>1</sup> was added pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 97.** Procedure for Receipt and Consideration of Protocols of District Election Commissions by the Central Election Commission

1. At its meeting, the Central Election Commission shall review and accept the protocols of the district election commissions on the voting results in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election districts and, separately, the protocols of the district election commissions on the voting results in the single-mandate election districts. The data of the aforementioned protocols shall be announced at the meeting of the Central Election Commission by the head or deputy head of the respective district election commission. The time of the acceptance of a protocol of a district election commission by the Central Election Commission and the data entered in the protocol shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the Central Election Commission.

2. If corrections, errors, or inaccuracies are discovered in the protocols of the district election commission on the voting results, the Central Election Commission shall be entitled to issue a decision requiring the district election commission to introduce changes to the established voting results within the respective single-mandate election district in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 7 Article 94 of this Law, which decision shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the Central Election Commission. During the time of consideration of such issue by the district election commission, the copies of protocols on the voting results within the single-mandate election district submitted to the Central Election Commission and the documents attached thereto shall be stored at the Central Election Commission.

If corrections, errors, or inaccuracies are discovered in the protocol that do not require amendments to the established results of voting within the respective single-mandate district, the Central Election Commission shall accept the respective protocols indicating the discovered corrections, errors, or inaccuracies in the minutes of the meeting.

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*{Paragraph 2 was added to Part 2 Article 97 pursuant to the law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

3. Within the time determined by the Central Election Commission, the district election commission shall consider introducing changes to the established voting results in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district or in the single-mandate election district, by re-counting, if necessary, the votes at certain precincts of the single-mandate election district. A protocol marked "Corrected" shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 6 Article 95 and by Part 6 Article 96 of this Law. The aforementioned protocol and other necessary election documents shall be transported to the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 9 Article 95 of this Law.

4. A protocol on voting results of a district election commission marked "Corrected" shall be received by the Central Election Commission in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Part 1 of this Article.

5. In the event of non-receipt by the Central Election Commission of a protocol of a district election commission on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate district or a protocol of a district election commission on the results of voting in a single-mandate district within the time frame specified by this Law, the Central Election Commission shall exercise the powers of the respective district election commission as regards the establishment of the results of voting in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate district or in the single-mandate district.

**Article 98.** Establishing the Results of Election of Members of Parliament in the Nationwide Election District

1. Based on the protocols of the district election commissions on voting results in the nationwide election district within the single-mandate election district, including those marked "Corrected" and the protocol of the Central Election Commission on voting results in the nationwide election district within foreign district (including those marked "Corrected"), the Central Election Commission not later than on the fifteenth day following the day of voting, shall establish the results of the election of MPs in the nationwide election district by drawing up the protocol thereon. The following data shall be entered in the protocol on the results of the election of MPs, in words and in numbers:

*{Paragraph 1 Part 1 Article 98 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 1) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers printed by request of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers received by the district election commissions;
- 3) the number of unused nationwide election district ballot papers invalidated by the district election commissions;
- 4) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers received by the precinct election commissions;
- 5) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers printed by the precinct election commissions;
- 6) the number of the unused nationwide election district ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commissions;
- 7) the total number of the unused nationwide election district ballot papers;
- 8) the number of voters in the voter lists for the election precincts;
- 9) the number of voters included in the excerpts from the voter lists at the election precincts;

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- 10) the number of voters who received ballot papers for voting in the nationwide election district in the premises for voting;
- 11) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers at the election precincts that were not subject to counting;
- 12) the number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers at their places of stay;
- 13) the total number of voters who received nationwide election district ballot papers;
- 14) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the nationwide election district in the premises for voting;

*{Clause 14 Part 1 Article 98 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 15) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the nationwide election district at their places of stay;

*{Clause 15 Part 1 Article 98 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 16) the total number of voters who took part in the voting in the nationwide election district;

*{Clause 16 Part 1 Article 98 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

- 17) the number of nationwide election district ballot papers declared invalid;

- 18) the number of votes cast for MP candidates included in the electoral list of each of the parties;

- 19) the percentage of the votes cast for MP candidates included in the electoral lists of each of the parties, in relation to the total number of votes cast for MP candidates included in the parties' electoral lists.

2. The data on the voting results shall be entered in numbers and in words in the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the results of the election of MPs. The data specified in Clauses 2 – 19 Part 1 of this Article shall be entered in numbers for each single-mandate election district, with the totals for the nationwide election district being entered in words and numbers.

3. The MP candidates included in the electoral lists of the parties that received five or more percent of the votes, in relation to the total number of votes cast for MP candidates included in the parties' electoral lists, shall have the right to participate in the distribution of MP mandates.

4. The MP candidates included in the electoral list of a party that received less than five percent of the votes, in relation to the total number of votes cast for MP candidates included in the parties' electoral lists, shall not be entitled to participate in the distribution of the MP mandates.

5. The MP mandates shall be distributed between the electoral lists of the parties in proportion to the number of the votes received by the MP candidates included in the electoral lists of the parties specified in Part 3 of this Article, in accordance with the sequence prescribed by Parts 6 – 9 of this Article.

6. Based on the data specified in Clauses 18 and 19 Part 1 of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall determine the total number of the votes cast for the MP candidates included in the electoral lists of the parties that received five or more percent of the votes.

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7. The number of votes required to obtain one MP mandate (hereinafter, the electoral quota) shall be calculated by dividing the total number of the votes determined in accordance with Part 6 of this Article by the number of the MP mandates, which shall be 225 (hereinafter, the total number of the MP mandates in the nationwide election district).

8. The number of the votes cast for the MP candidates included in the electoral list of each party shall be divided by the electoral quota. The integer part of the resulting number shall be the number of MP mandates received by the MP candidates from each party. The fractional remainders [from such division] shall be taken into account in the distribution of the rest of the MP mandates in accordance with Part 9 of this Article.

9. The parties with the largest fractional remainder resulting from the division specified in Part eight of this Article shall each receive one additional MP mandate, starting with the electoral list of the party with the largest remainder. If the electoral lists of two or more parties have equal fractional parts, the electoral list of the party that received the higher number of votes cast shall be the first to obtain the additional MP mandate. The distribution of the additional MP mandates shall end upon exhaustion of the total number of MP mandates available in the nationwide election district.

10. The persons who have been elected as MPs shall be determined based on the descending order of the parties' electoral lists, in accordance with the number of MP mandates obtained by the parties' electoral lists.

*{Paragraph 2 Part 10 Article 98 was invalidated as unconstitutional pursuant to the Constitutional Court Decision № 8-rp/2012 dd. 05.04.2012}*

If in the process of establishing the election results the Central Election Commission discovers that a person was elected as an MP due to being on an electoral list in the nationwide district as well as in a single-mandate district, the person shall be deemed elected in the single mandate district. In such a case, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision recognizing him or her as one who has not obtained an MP mandate in the nationwide district and shall recognize the MP coming next in the electoral list of the respective party to have been elected as an MP.

11. After establishing the number of MP mandates obtained by the parties that nominated MP candidates in the nationwide election district and determining, pursuant to the requirements of Part 10 of this Article, the persons elected as MPs, the Central Election Commission shall enter into the protocol on the results of the election of MPs in the nationwide election district:

- 1) the total number of votes cast for MP candidates included in the electoral lists of the parties that received five or more percent of all votes cast;
- 2) the electoral quota;
- 3) the number of MP mandates obtained by each of the parties that nominated MP candidates in the nationwide election district;
- 4) the last names, first names (all first names), and patronymics (if any), year of birth, educational attainment, position (occupation), place of employment, place of residence, party membership, as well as the nominating entity of the elected MPs.

12. The protocol of the Central Election Commission on the results of the election of MPs in the nationwide district shall be completed in two copies. The protocol shall be signed by the Head, the Deputy Heads, the secretary and other members of the Central Election Commission present at the meeting of the Central Election Commission and shall be affixed with the seal of the Central Election Commission. The protocol shall specify the date and time (hour and

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minutes) of its signing by the members of the Central Election Commission. A member of the Central Election Commission present at the meeting must sign the protocol on the results of election of the MPs. If a commission member disagrees with the determined election results recorded in the protocol of the Central Election Commission, he or she shall sign the protocol with a note "With dissenting opinion." A written dissenting opinion shall be attached to the protocol on the results of the election of the MPs. If a commission member has not signed the protocol, the reasons for the absence of the signature shall be indicated next to his or her last name. The MP candidates, party representatives in the Central Election Commission, authorized persons of parties in the nationwide election district, and official observers from non-governmental organizations, foreign states and international organizations that were present during the establishment of the results of the election of the MPs of Ukraine may sign the first copy of the protocol. The content of the protocol shall be immediately published on the official web-site of the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 12 Article 98 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

13. The Central Election Commission shall determine the results of the election of the MPs in the nationwide election district regardless of the number of the election precincts at which the voting was declared invalid.

**Article 99. Establishing the Results of Election of Members of Parliament in Single-Mandate Election Districts**

1. Based on the protocols of the district election commissions on the voting results in the single-mandate election districts, including those marked "Corrected", the Central Election Commission at its meeting, which shall be held no later than on the fifteenth day following the day of voting, shall establish the results of the election of MPs in each respective single-mandate election district, by drawing up protocols thereon. The following data shall be entered into the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the results of the election of MPs in a single-mandate election district, in words and numbers:

- 1) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers printed by request of the Central Election Commission;
- 2) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers received by the district election commission;
- 3) the number of unused single-mandate election district ballot papers district invalidated by the district election commission;
- 4) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers received by the precinct election commissions;
- 5) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers printed by the precinct election commissions;
- 6) the number of unused single-mandate election district ballot papers invalidated by the precinct election commissions;
- 7) the total number of unused single-mandate election district ballot papers;
- 8) the number of voters included in the voter lists for the election precincts;
- 9) the number of voters included in the excerpts from the voter lists at the election precincts;
- 10) the number of voters who received single-mandate election district ballot papers at the premises for voting;
- 11) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers at the election precincts that were not subject to counting;
- 12) the number of voters who received single-mandate election district ballot papers district at their places of stay;

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- 13) the total number of voters who received the ballot papers for voting in the single-mandate election district;
- 14) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the single-mandate election district at the premises for voting;
- 15) the number of voters who took part in the voting in the single-mandate election district at their places of stay;
- 16) the total number of voters who took part in the voting in the single-mandate election district;
- 17) the number of single-mandate election district ballot papers declared invalid;
- 18) the number of the votes cast for each MP candidate in the single mandate election district.

2. The MP candidate having the relative majority of the votes cast in the single-mandate district, compared to the other MP candidates running in the respective single-mandate district, shall be elected as an MP.

*{Part 3 Article 99 was invalidated as unconstitutional pursuant to the Constitutional Court Decision № 8-rp/2012 dd. 05.04.2012}*

3. If in the process of establishment of the election results the Central Election Commission discovers that a person was elected as an MP due to being on an electoral list in the nationwide district as well as in a single-mandate district, the person shall be deemed elected in the single mandate district. In such a case, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision recognizing him or her as one who has not obtained an MP mandate in the nationwide district and shall recognize the MP coming next in the electoral list of the respective party to have been elected as an MP.

4. If two or more MP candidates equally receive the highest number of votes, a repeat voting between those MP candidates shall be held in that single mandate election district.

#### **Article 100.** Official Promulgation of Election Results

1. No later than on the fifth day following the day of the establishment of the election results, the Central Election Commission shall officially promulgate the results of the election of MPs in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*. The list of the elected MPs shall be published with the indication, in alphabetical order, of their last names, first names (all first names), and patronymics (if any), year of birth, educational attainment, position (occupation), place of employment, place of residence, party membership, the nominating entity, and the election districts (nationwide or the number of the single-mandate election district) in which the MPs were elected.

2. The official promulgation of the results of the election of MPs by the Central Election Commission shall be a ground for dismissal of a person elected as an MP from a position incompatible with the MP mandate, and for adopting a decision on termination of another representative mandate held by a person elected as an MP.

#### **Article 101.** Registration of the Elected Members of Parliament

1. To be registered as a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, a person elected as a Member of Parliament shall submit to the Central Election Commission, not later than on the twentieth day after the official promulgation of the MP election results, a document certifying the person's dismissal from any employment (position) incompatible with the mandate of a Member of Parliament and/or a copy of a registered application filed with the respective council for invalidation of any other representative mandate.

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2. If a person elected as a Member of Parliament provides the Central Election Commission with a reasonable excuse for not complying with the requirements of Part 1 of this Article, then the Central Election Commission may adopt a decision either accepting the excuse as valid and establishing a different deadline for complying with the aforementioned requirements or refusing to accept the excuse.

3. Upon receipt of the documents specified in Part 1 of this Article, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision to register the elected person as a Member of Parliament of Ukraine.

4. If a person elected as a Member of Parliament fails to comply with the requirements of Part 1 of this Article before the deadlines specified in Parts 1 and 2 of this Article, or if such a person files with the Central Election Commission an application refusing to accept the mandate of Member of Parliament, or in the event of emergence (discovery) of circumstances specified in Clauses 3 – 7 Part 5 and Part 8 Article 61 of this Law, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision recognizing that person as one who has not acquired the mandate of a Member of Parliament and shall recognize the next person in the electoral list of the respective party to have been elected as a Member of Parliament.

*{Part 4 Article 101 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

5. If a person elected as a Member of Parliament in a single-mandate election district fails to comply with the requirements of Part 1 of this Article before the deadline specified in Parts 1 and 2 of this Article, or if such a person files with the Central Election Commission an application refusing to accept the mandate of Member of Parliament, or in the event of emergence (discovery) of circumstances specified in Clauses 3 – 7 Part 4 and Part 7 of Article 61 of this Law, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision recognizing that person as one who has not acquired the mandate of Member of Parliament and call a repeat election in the respective single-mandate election district.

6. The Central Election Commission shall issue a temporary certificate of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, in a standard form established by the Commission, to a person registered as a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, no later than on the seventh day from the day of that person's registration.

7. The Central Election Commission's decision to register a Member of Parliament and the temporary certificate of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine shall provide grounds for the elected person to take the Oath of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine.

**Article 102.** Certificate and Badge of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine

1. Not later than on the seventh day after the taking of the Oath by a Member of Parliament of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission shall issue to the MP a certificate of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine and a badge, both in a standard form established by the Commission.

## **Chapter XII**

### **REPEAT VOTING, REPEAT ELECTION, PROCEDURE FOR REPLACEMENT OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, AND PRE-TERM ELECTIONS**

**Article 103.** Repeat Voting

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1. If two or more MP candidates have received an equal highest number of votes in a single-mandate election district, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision to hold repeat voting for these candidates in the district.
2. The Central Election Commission shall report this decision without delay to the district election commission, which shall inform the district's voters thereof no later than on the second day after the determination of the election results in the single-mandate election district.
3. The repeat voting shall be held no later than two weeks from the day the Central Election Commission has adopted the decision to hold the repeat voting, with observance of the requirements of this Law.

**Article 104.** Repeat Election

1. A repeat election shall be held in a single-mandate election district if the election in that district was recognized as not having taken place, or if the elected person failed to acquire an MP mandate in accordance with the procedure established by this Law.
2. The decision to hold a repeat election shall be adopted by the Central Election Commission.
3. A repeat election of Members of Parliament shall be held on the last Sunday of the sixty-day period following the publication of the decision to call the election. The nomination and registration of MP candidates and other election procedures shall be performed according to the procedure established by this Law, having regard to the specifics provided for by Article 107 of this Law.

**Article 105.** Replacement of Members of Parliament Elected in the Nationwide Election District Following Early Termination of Their Powers

1. If the powers of a Member of Parliament elected in the nationwide election district are terminated early on the grounds and according to the procedure provided by the Constitution of Ukraine and Laws of Ukraine, the Central Election Commission shall, not later than on the sixth day after receiving the respective decision or a copy of the death certificate, adopt a decision to recognize the next person in the electoral list of the respective party to have been elected as a Member of Parliament. If the decision on early termination of the powers of a Member of Parliament is appealed, the Central Election Commission shall adopt a decision to recognize the next person in the electoral list of the respective party to have been elected as a Member of Parliament only after the court judgment on the appeal has taken legal effect. If an electoral list of a party for obtaining a Member of Parliament mandate has been exhausted, the deputy mandate shall remain vacant until the holding of the next regular or pre-term election.

*{Part 1 Article 105 as amended pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

2. The registration of a person as a Member of Parliament of Ukraine pursuant to Part 1 of this Article and the issuance of a temporary certificate of a Member of Parliament of Ukraine to such a person shall be performed by the Central Election Commission according to the procedure specified by Article 101 of this Law.

**Article 106.** By-Elections

1. In the event of early termination of the powers of a Member of Parliament elected in a single-mandate election district, the Central Election Commission shall call a by-election of Members of Parliament according to the procedure established by this Law.

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2. The by-election of a Member of Parliament in a single-mandate election district shall be held on the last Sunday of the sixty-day period following the publication of the decision to call the election. The establishment of election commissions, the nomination and registration of MP candidates and other election procedures shall be performed according to the procedure established by this Law, having regard to the specifics provided for by Article 107 of this Law.

**Article 107.** The Specifics of Preparing and Conduct Repeat Election, By-election and Extraordinary Election of Members of Parliament

1. The special election precincts existing on a temporary basis for the holding of repeat election, by-election or extraordinary election of MPs shall be established no later than nineteen days prior to the day of voting; and in the exceptional case of establishment of an election precinct pursuant to Part 8 Article 21 of this Law, no later than ten days prior to the day of voting, according to the procedure established by this Law.

Requests for creation of special election precincts existing on a temporary basis shall be submitted by the rayon and rayon in the cities state administrations or executive committee of city councils (cities with the oblast or republican in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea status) to a respective district election commission not later than twenty four days before the day of voting.

2. The District election commissions shall be established no later than fifty days prior to the day of voting, on the basis of submissions from the nominating entities specified by Clause 1 Part 2 Article 27 of this Law (not more than one candidate for a member of each district election commission), as well as the parties participating in the election process that nominated candidates registered in the nationwide election district for the previous MP election (not more than one candidate for a member of each district election commission), which shall be filed to the Central Election Commission no later than fifty-three days prior to the day of voting according to the procedure established by Article 27 of this Law.

Candidates nominated by the parties participating in the election process whose MP candidates were registered in the nationwide election district during the previous election, shall be included in the commissions by means of drawing lots pursuant to the procedure identified by the Central Election Commission.

3. The precinct election commissions shall be established no later than fifteen days prior to voting day; and in the exceptional case of establishment of an election precinct pursuant to Part 8 Article 21 of this Law, simultaneously with the establishment of the election precincts, on the basis of submissions by the nominating entities specified by Part 4 Article 28 of this Law, which shall be filed with the district election commission no later than seventeen days prior to the day of voting according to the procedure established by Article 28 of this Law.

Drawing lots for inclusion of candidates into a precinct election commission of a regular or a special election precinct shall be conducted by the district election commission not later than on the second day after the deadline for submission of nominations of candidates for members of precinct election commissions.

In the case when other elections are held simultaneously with the repeat election or by-election of MPs, the Central Election Commission may make a decision not to establish precinct election commissions for organization, preparation and conduct of the repeat election or by-election of MPs, and their powers shall be exercised by respective precinct election commissions established for the concurrent elections.

*{Paragraph 3 was added to Part 3 Article 107 pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

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4. The State Voter Registry maintenance bodies shall deliver a copy of the preliminary voter lists to the respective precinct election commissions no later than eleven days prior to voting day.

5. Voter lists for the special election precincts shall be compiled according to the procedure specified by the law no later than seven days before the voting day.

Heads of respective institutions, organizations, polar station of Ukraine, captains of ships shall submit the data necessary for preparation of voter lists for special election precincts to precinct election commissions not later than ten days before the voting day (except for the election precincts established in inpatient care establishments, penitentiary institutions, pretrial detention centers).

6. Voter lists for extraordinary election at foreign election district shall be compiled and produced according to the procedure established by the law. The preliminary voter lists shall be delivered to the precinct election commissions of foreign election district not later than ten days prior to voting day. At foreign election district, the voter lists shall be corrected according to the procedure established by this Law.

7. A personal invitation shall be sent or delivered by other means to each voter by the precinct election commission not later than ten days before the voting day.

8. Funds for the preparation and conduct of repeat election, by-election and extraordinary election of MPs allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine shall be transferred by the specially authorized central executive body responsible for implementation of the state policy in the sphere of treasury servicing of the budget funds of the Central Election Commission within three days from the day of publication of the Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the powers of the Parliament of Ukraine or a decision of the Central Election Commission on calling the election.

9. The nomination of MP candidates shall begin on the day following the publication of the Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the powers of the Parliament of Ukraine or a decision of the Central Election Commission on calling the election. Nomination of MP candidates by parties shall end forty days prior to voting day.

10. The filing of documents with the Central Election Commission for the registration of MP candidates starts next day after publication of the Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the powers of the Parliament of Ukraine or a decision of the Central Election Commission on calling the election and shall end thirty days prior to voting day. The registration of MP candidates shall end twenty-five days prior to voting day.

11. For the repeat election, by-election and extraordinary election of MPs, no statement of property, income, expenditures, and financial liabilities shall be submitted.

12. Local executive bodies, local self-government bodies, not later than the next day after publication of Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the powers of the Parliament of Ukraine or a decision of the Central Election Commission on calling the election, shall allocate places in populous areas for posting election campaign materials.

13. Local executive bodies, local self-government bodies shall install stands, announcement boards in the places allocated for posting the election campaign materials not later than the next day after publication of Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the powers of the Parliament of Ukraine or a decision of the Central Election Commission on calling the election.

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14. The Central Election Commission not later than the next day after the beginning of the election process shall publish the list of respective single-mandate districts stating their numbers, boundaries and centers in the nationwide and respective regional printed media, and also not later than forty days before the election day shall publish on its official web-site the information related to information support for the repeat election, by-election or extraordinary election.

15. The price per a unit of printed area and an air time unit for election campaigning at the expense of resources of the electoral funds shall be determined by respective mass media outlet not later than the next day after publication of Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the powers of the Parliament of Ukraine or a decision of the Central Election Commission on calling the election.

16. TV and radio organizations of all forms of ownership shall, not later than the next day after publication of Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the powers of the Parliament of Ukraine or a decision of the Central Election Commission on calling the election, publish in the printed media the prices per a minute (second) of broadcasting time pursuant to the procedure provided for by this Law.

17. Printed mass media of all forms of ownership shall, not later than the next day after publication of Decree of the President of Ukraine on early termination of the powers of the Parliament of Ukraine or a decision of the Central Election Commission on calling the election, publish in the printed mass media the prices per a unit of printed area pursuant to the procedure provided for by this Law.

18. The preliminary air time schedule for broadcasting election campaign television/radio programs, with indication of the date and time of their broadcasting (without indicating specific participants in the programs), shall be compiled by state-owned or municipal nationwide and regional television and radio organizations with which agreements have been concluded for the distribution, during the election process, of campaign materials of parties and MP candidates registered in single-mandate districts at the expense and within the limits of the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election. Such schedule shall be forwarded to the Central Election Commission and respective district election commissions not later than twenty days before the election day.

The sequence in which the parties whose candidates were registered in the nationwide election district, and the MP candidates registered in a single-mandate district will be provided with air time on regional TV and radio channels by the state-owned or municipal regional TV and radio organizations within the respective broadcasting schedule of election campaign TV and radio programs shall be determined not later than fifteen days before the election day pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Law.

19. The editorial staffs of the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*, as well as the editorial staffs of state-owned or municipal regional (local) printed mass media with which agreements have been concluded on the publication of the election programs of the parties whose candidates were registered in the nationwide election district, and of the MP candidates registered in a single-mandate district, shall print the election programs of the electoral subjects in the separate special issue of the respective outlets not later than eight days before the election day pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Law. e

20. During the extraordinary election of MPs, the air time shall be provided, at the expense and within the limits of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election, to the parties whose candidates were registered in the nationwide election district, and to MP candidates in single-mandate districts in the amounts identified by the Central Election

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Commission and respective district election commissions taking into consideration the capacity of the nationwide and regional TV and radio organizations, and within the limits of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for supporting election campaigns with due regard to the equal opportunities principle.

21. The Central Election Commission, and district election commissions shall ensure production of, respectively, information posters for the parties and MP candidates, not later than ten days before the election day, and their delivery to precinct election commissions pursuant to the procedure identified by the Central Election Commission.

22. A non-governmental organization, the statute of which includes issues related to the election process and election observation and which was registered as provided for by law, not later than fifty days before the day voting may submit a request to the Central Election Commission for a permission to have official observers at the repeat election, by-election, or extraordinary election of MPs pursuant to the procedure provided for in this Law.

Immediately after the end of consideration of respective requests from non-governmental organizations, the Central Election Commission shall officially publish in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier* a list of non-governmental organizations that were granted permission to have official observers at the respective MP election.

23. The form, color, and text of the ballot paper for the nationwide election district and in the single-mandate election districts shall be approved by the Central Election Commission no later than twenty-four days prior to the day of voting.

*{Paragraph 2 Part 23 Article 107 was eliminated pursuant to the Law № 1184-VII dd. 08.04.2014}*

*{Article 107 in the wording of the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

### **Chapter XIII**

#### **FILING COMPLAINTS AGAINST DECISIONS, ACTIONS, OR INACTION RELATING TO PROCESS OF MP ELECTION. LIABILITY FOR VIOLATION OF LEGISLATION ON ELECTION**

#### **Article 108.** Filing Complaints against Decisions, Actions, or Inaction Related to MP Election

1. An MP candidate registered in accordance with the procedure established by the Law, a party that is an electoral subject through its head, a party's representative in the Central Election Commission, a party's authorized person, or other person authorized by a decision of a party's central administrative body, an MP candidate's proxy, an official observer, an election commission established pursuant to this Law, or a voter whose personal electoral rights or legally protected interests regarding participation in the election process, including participation in the work of an election commission or acting as an observer, were violated through a decision, action, or inaction of a respondent, can file a complaint with the election commission concerning the election process, having regard to the specifics set forth by this Article and Articles 109 – 113 of this Law.

2. The complainants specified in Part 1 of this Article may, having regard to the requirements of this Law, file a complaint with the relevant election commission regarding a decision, action, or inaction relating to the election process on the part of the following respondents:

- 1) an election commission or a member of an election commission;
- 2) a political party that is an electoral subject;

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3) an MP candidate;  
 4) authorized persons of parties, MP candidates' proxies, official observers from parties, MP candidates, or non-governmental organizations – only in relation to complaints provided for by Part 6 Article 111 of this Law.

3. A party's head, authorized person, or representative in the Central Election Commission, or an MP candidate's proxy may act as a representative of the respective party or MP candidate without any additional authorization. The document certifying the authority of a party's authorized person or a party's representative in the Central Election Commission or an MP candidate's proxy shall be an appropriate certificate issued according to the procedure established by this Law.

4. A voter can file a complaint with an electoral commission with respect to a decision, action, or inaction of the respondents specified in Part 2 of this Article if the actions or inaction have violated his or her personal electoral rights or interests regarding participation in the election process.

5. A complaint regarding a decision, action, or inaction of a precinct election commission or a member thereof may be filed with the district election commission that established the respective precinct election commission.

6. A complaint regarding a decision, action, or inaction of a district election commission or a member thereof may be filed with a court. A complaint regarding the inaction of a district election commission may also be filed with the Central Election Commission.

7. A complaint against a decision or action of a political party that is an electoral subject, or of an official or authorized representative of a party, unless that decision is assigned by the law or statute (regulations) to the party's internal organizational activities or exclusive competence, may be filed:

- 1) with the Central Election Commission – regarding a decision or action of a political party that has nominated MP candidates in the nationwide election district;
- 2) with the respective district election commission – regarding a decision or action of a political party that has nominated MP candidates in a single -mandate district.

8. A complaint against the actions or inaction of an MP candidate may be filed with the Central Election Commission.

*{Part 8 Article 108 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

9. Decisions, actions, or inaction of election commissions, members of the election commissions, bodies of executive power, bodies of local self-government, mass media, information agencies, enterprises, institutions, organizations, their officials or employees, creative mass media and information agencies workers, candidates, their proxies, parties, their officials and authorized persons, and official observers that violate election legislation may be challenged in court according to the procedure specified by the Code of Administrative Proceedings of Ukraine.

*{Part 9 Article 108 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

10. A court with which an administrative lawsuit relating to the calling, preparation, or holding of the election of MPs has been filed shall immediately notify the Central Election Commission and

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the respective district and/or precinct election commission of the initiated proceedings and of the decision adopted by the court.

*{Part 10 Article 108 as amended pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

11. If a court institutes proceedings upon an administrative lawsuit related to the same matter and on the same grounds as a complaint filed with an election commission, the election commission shall, upon being notified of the administrative lawsuit by the court, return such complaint to the complainant without reviewing it no later than on the day following the day of receipt of the court's notification, with indication of the grounds for its return.

#### **Article 109.** Timeline for Lodging Complaints

1. A complainant must file a complaint with an election commission within five days of the adoption of the decision, action, or failure to act in question, except in the cases specified in Parts 2 and 3 of this Article.

2. A complaint against a violation that occurred prior to the day of voting must be filed within the terms prescribed by Part 1 of this Article, but not later than at 22:00 of the day preceding the day of voting.

3. A complaint against a violation that occurred during the voting shall be filed with the respective precinct election commission no later than the end of the voting. A complaint against a decision, action, or inaction of an election commission, or members of a commission, that occurred on the day of voting or during the counting of votes at the election precinct, may be filed with the relevant district election commission within two days of the adoption of the decision, the performance of the action, or the failure to act.

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

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

6. The time limit for filing a complaint shall not be extended or renewed, except that a complaint may be re-filed after it has been corrected or clarified no later than on the day following day of its return without consideration by the election commission in accordance with Part 2 Article 111 of this Law.

7. A complainant may change or clarify a complaint while it is under consideration based on new circumstances previously unknown to the complainant, and such changes or clarification shall not be deemed to be a new complaint and shall not be subject to the established time limit.

#### **Article 110.** Form and Content of Complaint

1. A complaint shall be filed with an election commission in writing. The complaint shall contain:

- 1) the name of the election commission with which it is filed;
- 2) the last name, first name, patronymic (name) of the complainant, his/her/its place of residence (postal address), and, if available, the number of the means of communication and email address;

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- 3) the last name, first name, patronymic (name) of the respondent, his/her/its place of residence (postal address), and, if available, the number of the means of communication and email address;
- 4) the nature of the issue being raised;
- 5) an account of the facts and an indication of the evidence that substantiates the complainant's claims;
- 6) clearly formulated claims, with indication of the nature of the decision sought from the election commission;
- 7) a list of attached documents and materials;
- 8) identification of any interested persons whose participation in the consideration of the complaint is sought by the complainant;;
- 9) the signature of the complainant or of the person representing him or her pursuant to Article 108 of this Law, with indication of the date of the signing.

2. A complaint on behalf of an election commission shall be filed on the basis of a decision of the election commission, which shall be attached to the complaint, signed by the chairperson of the meeting of the election commission at which the decision was adopted, and affixed with the seal of the election commission.

3. A complaint shall be appended with its copies, evidentiary materials specified therein, and copies of all the documents attached thereto, the number of copies being equal to the number of the respondents and interested persons specified in the complaint.

**Article 111.** Procedure and Timeline for Consideration of a Complaint

1. The procedure and timelines for consideration of complaints by election commissions shall be established by the Central Election Commission, taking into consideration the requirements of this Article and of Articles 108 – 110 of this Law.

2. A complaint failing to meet the requirements set forth in Article 110 of this Law shall be returned to the complainant without consideration, accordingly, by the Head of the Central Election Commission or by another member of the Central Election Commission authorized by the Head of the Central Election Commission, or by the head or deputy head of a district or precinct election commission no later than on the day following the day of its receipt ; and a complaint filed on the day preceding the day of voting, on the day of voting, or on the day following it shall be returned without delay. If a complaint is returned without consideration, it shall be accompanied with an exhaustive list of the defects that prevent it from being considered, along with notice of the right to refile the complaint in accordance with the requirements of Article 110 of this Law within the time limit prescribed by this Law.

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

4. A complaint prepared in compliance with the requirements of Article 110 of this Law shall be considered by the respective election commission at a meeting no later than on the second day after the receipt thereof, except the cases specified by Parts 5 – 7 of this Article.

5. A complaint relating to alleged violations that occurred before the day of voting shall be considered by the election commission within the time limit prescribed by Part 4 of this Article, but no later than at 24:00 of the day preceding the day of voting.

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6. A complaint relating to alleged violations that occurred during the voting which is filed with a precinct election commission by complainants specified in Clause 4 Part 2 Article 108 of this Law shall be considered by the commission immediately after the end of the voting.

7. A complaint relating to alleged violation that occurred on the day of voting or during the counting of votes at the precinct that is filed with a higher level election commission shall be considered by the respective election commission within two days of the day on which it was filed.

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

9. The complainant, the respondent, and other interested persons shall be notified in advance, by a registered telegram, fax, or email of the time and place of the consideration of a complaint. The complainant, the respondent, and the interested persons may be notified of the time and place at which a complaint will be considered by telephone, provided that such action is documented by an employee of the election commission in a separate written report, which shall be attached to the case file (protocol). Failure of the duly notified persons to attend the meeting of the election commission shall not prevent the complaint from being considered.

10. Copies of the complaint and of the documents attached thereto shall be provided to the respondent and the interested persons in advance, or, if this is impossible, no later than at the beginning of the meeting at which the complaint is to be considered. The respondent shall have the right to submit a written response on the issues raised in the complaint, which shall be considered by the election commission.

11. The election commission shall adopt a decision dismissing a complaint without consideration if it is filed by an improper complainant, against an improper respondent, or in violation of the time limit for lodging a complaint prescribed by Article 109 of this Law.

12. When deciding whether to dismiss a complaint without consideration, the Central Election Commission shall be allowed on its own initiative to undertake an investigation of the facts cited in the complaint.

#### **Article 112. Evidence**

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

- 1) written documents and materials (including electronic ones) containing information on circumstances essential for proper disposition of the complaint;
- 2) written explanations from electoral subjects, officials and employees of state executive bodies, state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, bodies of local self-government,

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establishments, enterprises, institutions, organizations, and respective law-enforcement bodies, demanded and obtained by the election commission considering the complaint, including members thereof, in the exercise of the powers of the election commission;

3) physical evidence;

4) expert opinions provided in writing upon request of the complainant, the respondent, or the election commission considering the complaint.

2. Evidence may be provided to the election commission by the complainant, the respondent or the interested persons. The election commission considering the complaint can demand the production of additional evidence on its own initiative or at the request of the complainant, the respondent, or of an interested person.

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

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

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

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

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

### **Article 113. Decision Based on the Consideration of a Complaint**

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

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

1) whether the decision being appealed was indeed adopted by the respondent;

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

3) whether the decision being appealed was adopted within the powers and in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the law;

4) which legal norms should be applied to these legal relations and whether the election commission reviewing the complaint is legally competent to review them;

5) whether each of the complainant's claims should be granted or dismissed;

6) whether the violated rights or legitimate interests of the complainant should be restored by other means;

7) what decisions the respondent should be obligated to adopt or what actions the respondent should be required to take as a result of the cancellation of the decision.

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3. When reviewing a complaint against a respondent's action or inaction, the election commission shall decide:

- 1) whether the respondent's action or inaction being appealed indeed took place;
- 2) whether the action or inaction being appealed was taken by the respondent on legal grounds;
- 3) which legal norms should be applied to these legal relations and whether the election commission considering the complaint is legally competent to review them;
- 4) whether each of the complainant's claims should be granted or dismissed;
- 5) whether the violated rights or legitimate interests of the complainant should be restored by other means;
- 6) what decisions the respondent should be obligated to adopt or what actions the respondent should be required to take as a result of the recognition of the actions or inaction as illegal.

4. When reviewing a complaint on its merits, the election commission can uphold the complaint in full or partially or dismiss it.

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

- 1) recognizing the respondent's decision (or individual provisions thereof), actions, or inaction as failing to comply with the requirements of the legislation on the election of MPs, violating citizen's electoral rights, or the rights and legitimate interests of an electoral subject;
- 2) canceling the decision;
- 3) obligating the respondent to take actions specified by the legislation regulating the organization of and the procedure for the holding of the election of MPs;
- 4) obligating the respondent to refrain from taking certain actions;
- 5) restoring by other means the citizen's violated electoral rights, or the rights and legitimate interests of an electoral subject;
- 6) obligating the respondent to take actions specified by the legislation regulating the organization of and the procedure for the holding of the election of Members of Parliament that are necessitated by the cancellation of the decision concerned or by the recognition of certain actions or inaction as illegal.

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

7. If a court finds a decision of an election commission to be illegal, including a decision declaring voting at an election precinct to be invalid, a decision on the tabulation of the voting results, or on the establishment of the results of the election of the MPs, then the election commission whose decision was found to be illegal, or the higher level election commission, shall adopt a decision in accordance with the court's judgment. In such a case, the election commission may not adopt a decision essentially repeating the one found by the court to be illegal, unless the previous decision was invalidated for formal reasons.

8. Based on a complaint, a court judgment, or on its own initiative, a higher level election commission may cancel a decision of the lower level election commission and adopt a decision on the merits of the issue, or order the lower level election commission to reconsider the issue.

9. An election commission shall dismiss a complaint if it finds that the respondent's decision, actions, or inaction were taken in compliance with the law, within the legally established scope of the respondent's powers, and do not violate the electoral rights of the complainant.

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10. A copy of the decision of the election commission shall be issued or sent to the complainant, the respondent, the interested persons, the election commission concerned, and other subjects specified in the decision no later than on the day after the adoption of the decision, or without delay if the decision is adopted on the day preceding the day of voting, on the day of voting, or on the day following it. Decisions of the Central Election Commission and of district election commissions based on consideration of complaints shall be published on the official website of the Central Election Commission no later than on the day following the adoption of the decision, or without delay if the decision is adopted on the day preceding the day of voting, on the day of voting, or on the day following it. A district election commission must send a copy of its decision to the Central Election Commission immediately after the adoption thereof.

Not later than thirty days after the end of the election process, the Central Election Commission shall publish on its official web-site the generalized information about applications and complaints that were submitted to the Central Election Commission with regard to the MP election process, the results of their consideration as well as the respective information provided by district and precinct election commissions.

*{Paragraph 2 was added to Part 10 Article 113 pursuant to the Law № 709-VII dd. 21.11.2013}*

**Article 114.** Liability for Violation of Legislation on Election of MPs

1. Persons guilty of violating the legislation on the election of MPs shall be subject to criminal, administrative, or other liability in accordance with the procedure established by the law.

**Chapter XIV**  
**STORAGE OF ELECTION DOCUMENTS**

**Article 115.** Storage of Election and Other Documents and Material Assets

1. After the official promulgation of the results of the election of MPs, the Central Election Commission shall deliver to the respective central state archival institution the election documents and other documents that are subject to submission to the National Archive Fund, including the protocols on the counting of votes at the election precincts and on the voting results within the election districts, while the district election commissions shall deliver such documentation to the State Archive in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or to the respective local state archival institutions.

2. As to the election documents that are not subject to submission to the National Archive Fund the district election commissions shall deliver them to the local archival institutions established by the state bodies of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local executive bodies, or bodies of local self-government in accordance with the Law of Ukraine on the National Archive Fund and Archival Institutions.

3. The Central Election Commission shall approve, upon consent of the central executive body in charge of implementation of state policies in the area of archiving, the list of election and other documents that shall be subject to storage at the state and other archival institutions, as well as the procedure for their delivery to such institutions.

4. The responsibility for the storage of election documents during the period before their archiving shall be entrusted to the head, deputy head, or secretary of the respective precinct or district election commission.

5. The ballot papers, voter list counterfoils, preliminary and corrected voter lists, reports, applications, complaints against violations of the requirements of this Law during the conduct of

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the voting or the counting of votes, as well as the protocols and decisions of the election commissions, shall be stored at the local archival institutions specified by Part 2 of this Article for five years from the day of the official promulgation of the results of the election of MPs, whereupon they shall be destroyed in accordance with the established procedure.

6. The archival institutions shall provide access to the election documents on the election of MPs in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the legislation of Ukraine.

7. After termination of the activities of the precinct and district election commissions, the local executive bodies and the bodies of local self-government shall ensure the storage of the ballot boxes, voting booths, seals of such commissions, and methodological literature that was provided to the election commissions for the period of the election process, as well as allocating premises for the local archival institutions for temporary storage of election documents.

## **Chapter XV FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

1. This Law shall come into force from the day of its publication, except the first paragraph of Part 7 Article 26, Clause 10 Part 5 Article 27, and Clause 3 Part 2 Article 30, which shall come into force on January 1, 2013.

2. The Law of Ukraine on the Election of the People's Deputies of Ukraine (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2004, No. 27-28, p. 366; 2005, No. 35-37, p. 446, No. 38-39, p. 449, No. 52, p. 566; 2006, No. 10-11, p. 97, p. 98; No. 33, p. 285; 2007, No. 28, p. 383; 2009, No. 36-37, p. 511; 2011, No. 23, p. 160, No. 41, p. 413) shall be repealed.

3. The following legislative acts of Ukraine shall be appended as follows:

1) Part 3 Article 173 of the Code of Administrative Procedure of Ukraine (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2005, No. 35-37, p. 446) shall be appended with the following sentence: "When considering this administrative claim, the court shall ask the relevant State Voter Register maintenance body for specific information about the voter";

2) In the Law of Ukraine on the Central Election Commission (*Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy*, 2004, No. 36, p. 448; 2005, No. 35-37, p. 446):

a) in Part 2 Article 4, the word "([of] blocks)" shall be removed;

b) in Part 4 Article 7, the words "([of] election bloc of parties)" shall be removed;

c) in Part 3 Article 13, the words "([of] election blocs of political parties)" shall be removed;

d) Article 17 –

shall be appended with a new clause 7<sup>1</sup> which shall read as follows:

"7<sup>1</sup>) [shall] establish the system of territorial organization of the nationwide elections by establishing territorial election districts and election precincts, with peculiarities provided for by the respective law on elections";

in clause 9, the words "([by] election blocs of political parties)" shall be removed;

e) Article 19 shall be amended to read as follows:

"Article 19. The Powers of Commission Related to Organization of Preparation and Holding of Election of People's Deputies of Ukraine.

The Commission shall:

1) organize the preparation and holding of the election of the people's deputies of Ukraine;

2) be the highest level of the system of election commissions established for conducting the election of the people's deputies of Ukraine, and shall direct and supervise their activities;

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- 3) publish the resolutions of the Commission and other information related to the election of the people's deputies of Ukraine;
- 4) exercise control of proper use of the funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and holding of the election of the people's deputies of Ukraine;
- 5) exercise control over the receipt, accounting, and use of the funds of the electoral funds in accordance with the procedure and within the limits prescribed by the law;
- 6) register candidates for the people's deputies of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the law;
- 7) adopt decisions on cancellation of registration of candidates for the people's deputies of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the law;
- 8) establish the forms of election documents, approve samples of seals, stamps, and signboards of election commissions, determine the procedure for storage of the election documents and for their delivery to the respective state archival institutions;
- 9) approve the form, color, and text of the ballot paper for the nationwide election district and the form, color, and text of the ballot paper for the single-mandate districts, and ensure the printing thereof;
- 10) consider information on preparation and holding of the election provided by the election commissions, by the ministries and other bodies of the executive, as well as by the bodies of local self-government;
- 11) exercise the powers of the respective district election commission in the event of non-receipt of a protocol of a district election commission on the results of voting in the nationwide election district within a single-mandate district or a protocol of a district election commission on the results of voting in a single-mandate district within the time framework specified by this Law;
- 12) establish the results of the election of the people's deputies of Ukraine and officially promulgate them;
- 13) register the elected people's deputies of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Law of Ukraine on the Election of the People's Deputies of Ukraine;
- 14) publish the lists of the elected people's deputies of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Law of Ukraine on the Election of the People's Deputies of Ukraine;
- 15) hand over the temporary identification documents of the people's deputies of Ukraine to the persons who were elected and met the requirements of the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine pertaining to the incompatibility of the mandate of the people's deputy of Ukraine with other types of activities. Within seven days from the day of taking the oath by the elected people's deputy of Ukraine, hand over to him or her the identification document of the people's deputy of Ukraine issued in accordance with the approved form;
- 16) supervise the activities of state executive bodies and bodies of local self-government pertaining to provision of the election commissions with the premises, vehicles, communications, other means of material and technical support of the election;
- 17) exercise other powers pursuant to this Law, the Law of Ukraine on the Election of the People's Deputies of Ukraine, and other Laws of Ukraine";

f) in Article 23:

in Part 4, the words "([of] election blocs of parties)" shall be removed;

in Part 5, the words "([of] election blocs of political parties)" shall be removed;

g) in Clause 1 of Part 3 Article 29, the words "([of] election blocs of political parties)" shall be removed.

4. In the regular election to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine that shall be held on the last Sunday of October 2012:

1) the right to nominate candidates to the district election commissions shall be granted to the factions of members of parliament the formation and registration of which in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the sixth convocation was announced at a plenary meeting, as well as to all

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the parties that are electoral subjects. On behalf of the faction, the submission shall be filed by a person authorized by the head of the faction on the basis of the power of attorney; on behalf of a party, by a person authorized by the party on the basis of the power of attorney. The submission from the faction shall be signed by the head of the faction and affixed with the seal of the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. The submission from a party shall be signed by the head of the party (or by a person exercising his or her powers) and affixed with the seal of such party. The submission shall be filed in accordance with the procedure and within the terms specified in Article 27 of this Law. A district election commission shall necessarily include (in the presence of a relevant submission) one representative of each of the factions of members of parliament the formation and registration of which in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the sixth convocation was announced at a plenary meeting. No more than one representative from each of the parties that are electoral subjects shall be included in the district election commission by means of drawing of lots conducted by the Central Election Commission, in accordance with the procedure established by it, no later than on the third day after the expiry of the deadline for filing submissions specified in Part 4 Article 27 of this Law;

2) the right to nominate candidates to the precinct election commissions shall be granted to the factions of members of parliament the formation and registration of which in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the sixth convocation was announced at a plenary meeting, to all the parties that are electoral subjects, and to the MP candidates running in the respective single-mandate district. On behalf of the faction, the submission shall be filed by a person authorized by the head of the faction on the basis of the power of attorney; on behalf of a party, by a person authorized by the party on the basis of the power of attorney; on behalf of an MP candidate, by the MP himself or herself, or by a proxy of the MP candidate. The submission from a faction shall be signed by the head of the faction. The submission from a party shall be signed by the head of the party (or by a person exercising his or her powers) and affixed with the seal of such party. The submission from an MP candidate shall be signed by the respective MP candidate. The submission shall be filed in accordance with the procedure and within the terms specified in Article 28 of this Law. The precinct election commission of a regular or special election precinct shall necessarily include (in the presence of a relevant submission) one representative of each of the factions of members of parliament the formation and registration of which in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the sixth convocation was announced at a plenary meeting. No more than one representative from each of the parties that are electoral subjects and from each of the MP candidates running in the respective single-mandate district shall be included in the precinct election commission by means of drawing of lots conducted by the district election commission, in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Election Commission, no later than on the third day after the expiry of the deadline for filing submissions specified in Part 6 of Article 28 of this Law;

3) the right to nominate candidates to the supervisory commission provided for by Part 4 Article 81 of this Law shall be granted to the factions of members of parliament the formation and registration of which in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the sixth convocation was announced at a plenary meeting. The submission from a faction shall be signed by the head of the faction, affixed with the seal of the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and filed with the Central Election Commission no later than the deadline established by part four of Article 81 of this Law;

4) the Central Election Commission shall conduct trainings for the heads, deputy heads, and secretaries of the district election commissions in accordance with the procedure established by it.

5. Within three months after the publication of this Law, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall:

- 1) bring its legal acts in compliance with this Law;
- 2) ensure the adoption of the legal acts specified by this Law;

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3) approve, upon submission from the Central Election Commission, the amounts of coverage of the expenses related to taking the high priority measures required for the enforcement of this Law;

4) ensure the funding of the high priority measures required for enforcement of this Law.

6. The Central Election Commission shall:

1) approve and present for consideration to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine a submission regarding the amounts of coverage of the expenses for the implementation of measures related to the preparation and conduct the next election to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, to be held on the last Sunday of October 2012;

2) establish the number of single-mandate districts in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the oblasts, the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol, having regard to the number of voters at the moment of adoption of such decision on the basis of data from the State Voter Register no later than two hundred days prior to the day of voting in the next election to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, to be held on the last Sunday of October 2012;

3) provide for the establishment of single-mandate election districts existing on a permanent basis no later than one hundred eighty days prior to the day of voting in the next election to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, to be held on the last Sunday of October 2012;

4) provide for the establishment of regular, out-of-country, and special election precincts existing on a permanent basis no later than one hundred ninety days prior to the day of voting in the next election to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, to be held on the last Sunday of October 2012;

5) bring its acts in compliance with the requirements of this Law within one month after the publication of this Law;

6) ensure the adoption of the acts specified by this Law.

President of Ukraine  
City of Kyiv  
November 17, 2011  
No. 4061-VI

V. YANUKOVYCH

Publications of the document

- *Holos Ukrainy* dd. 10.12.2011 — № 234
- *Uriadovyi Courier* dd. 15.12.2011 — № 234
- *Ofitsiyni visnyk Ukrainy* dd. 23.12.2011 — 2011, № 97, p. 16, Article 3526, Document Code 59512/2011
- *Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy* [**Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**] as of 16.03.2012 — 2012, № 10, /№ 10-11/, p. 416, Article 73