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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

(VENICE COMMISSION)

ELECTORAL CODE

OF

"THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA"

as of 13 November 2012

OSCE UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION
of the
ELECTORAL CODE published in the Official Gazette 40/2006
Amendments published in the Official Gazette 136/2008, 44/2011 and 51/2011
Corrigenda published in the Official Gazette 148/2008, 155/2008, 163/2008 and 142/2012
(Consolidated version)

I. BASIC PROVISIONS

Article 1

This Code shall regulate the manner, conditions and procedure for election of the: President of the Republic of Macedonia (hereinafter: "President of the Republic"), election of Members of the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia (hereinafter: "Members of Parliament"), election of the Members of Council of units of Local Self-Government and the Council of the City of Skopje (hereinafter: "Members of Council"), and election of the Mayors of municipalities and Mayor of the City of Skopje (hereinafter: "Mayor"), the manner and the procedure of registering the right to vote, maintaining of the Voters List, determining of the boundaries of the electoral districts and determining, changing and publishing the polling stations as well as the conditions for functioning of the polling stations.

1. List of terms

Article 2

Specific terms used in this Code shall have the following meaning:

1. Every citizen of the Republic of Macedonia who is at least 18 years of age and has active legal capacity shall have the "**Right to vote"**;
2. The "Voters List" is public document in which all the citizens with a right to vote are registered;
3. "Election management bodies" are the bodies in charge of administering the elections determined in this Code;
4. "Member of an election management body" is the president, the members, and their deputies; they compose the election management bodies and administer electoral actions;
5. "List submitters" are registered political parties or coalitions of political parties registered in the State Election Commission, group of voters and Members of Parliament;
6. "Candidate" is a citizen of the Republic of Macedonia confirmed by the competent election commission in accordance with this Code, for whom votes will be cast in the elections;
7. "Independent candidate" is a candidate for election of President of the Republic, Member of Parliament, Mayor or Member of Council supported by a "group of voters";
8. "Political party" is political party registered in accordance with the Law;
9. "Ruling Parties" are political parties in power that won the largest number of votes in the last election for Members of Parliament;

10. “Opposition parties” is composed of the political parties in opposition that won the largest number of votes in the last election for Members of Parliament;
11. “Authorised representative” is a person authorised by one of the registered candidates, political party, or coalition to represent their interests before the election management bodies;
12. “Coalition” is an association based on an agreement for joint participation in the elections by, expressed by two or more registered political parties;
13. “Election campaign” is public presentation of the candidates, confirmed by the authorised Election Management Bodies, and their programmes in the pre-election period of the respective election process;
14. “Organiser of an election campaign” is a person who is authorised by a political party, coalition or a group of voters that organise the election campaign;
15. “Observers” are representatives of domestic or foreign registered associations of citizens authorised by the State Election Commission to observe the elections;
16. “Diplomatic – consular offices of the Republic of Macedonia” are the representations of the Republic of Macedonia in other states and international organizations that perform tasks assigned by Law;
17. “Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad”, according to this Code, are the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who have a registered last residence in the Republic of Macedonia, and on Election Day are temporarily residing abroad for the duration of more than three months or have a temporary employment or residence abroad for more than one year, according to the records of the competent body;
18. “Employees in the public administration” is a category of persons employed in the education, health, culture, science and social protection sector who execute tasks of public interest, in accordance with the Law;
19. “Employees in the state, municipal administration and administration of the City of Skopje” is a category of persons with a status of civil servant in accordance with the Law and
20. “Election administration” is composed of employees in the Support Service of the State Election Commission, members of election management bodies, Secretaries of municipal commissions, their deputies and other individuals temporarily engaged in the electoral process within supporting bodies of the State Election Commission.

2. Equal right to vote

Article 3

(1) The President of the Republic, the Members of Parliament, the Members of Councils and the Mayors, shall be elected at general, direct, and free elections, by secret ballot.

(2) No one shall be allowed to call the voter to responsibility because of his/her voting, or ask him/her to declare for whom he/she cast her/his vote or why he/she abstained from voting.

3. Electoral system

Article 4

(1) Election of the President of the Republic of Macedonia shall be administered on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia and in the Diplomatic – consular offices of the Republic of Macedonia in Europe and Africa, North and South America, and Australia and Asia as one electoral district according to the majoritarian system.

(2) In the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, 123 Members of Parliament shall be elected, from which 120 according to proportional model, whereby the territory of the Republic of Macedonia shall be divided into six electoral districts determined in this Code and for each electoral district 20 Members of Parliament shall be elected,

3 Members of Parliament shall be elected according to the majority model in one round of elections of which 1 Member of Parliament from each of the three electoral districts in Europe and Africa, in Northern and Southern America, and in Australia and Asia respectively, as determined by this Code.

(3) In the electoral district the number of voters may vary at most from minus 5% to plus 5% in reference to the average number of voters in the electoral district, with the exception of the electoral districts in Europe and Africa, North and South America and Australia and Asia.

(4) The election of the Members of Council shall be administered on the territory of the municipality according to the proportional system.

(5) The election of a Mayor shall be administered on the territory of the municipality according to the majoritarian system.

4. Voters List

Article 5

(1) The Voters List shall be considered a public document and shall be administered for the entire territory of the Republic of Macedonia.

(2) The elections and the referendum on national and local level in the Republic of Macedonia shall be conducted based on the Voters List.

5. The right to vote and to stand for election

Article 6

(1) Every citizen of the Republic of Macedonia who is at least 18 years of age, is able-bodied and has domicile in the constituency, municipality, i.e. in the City of Skopje, where the election takes place, shall have the right to vote.

(2) The citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who on Election Day are temporarily employed or residing abroad and are registered in the Voters List based on the records of the competent organ and the application for voting, shall vote for the election of the President of the Republic and for the election of Members of Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia in the Diplomatic-Consular Offices abroad i.e. consular offices, in accordance with this Code.

Article 7

(1) Any person who meets the conditions for election of President of the Republic, as set forth in the Constitution, may stands as candidate for President of the Republic.

(2) Candidate for Member of Parliament, Member of Council and Mayor may be citizen of the Republic of Macedonia provided if he/she is:
- 18 years old; and
- with active legal capacity.

(3) Candidate for Member of Parliament, Member of Council and Mayor cannot be a person who:
- has been sentenced with a final court decision for unconditional imprisonment above six months, and serving of the sentence has not commenced yet; and
- is serving an imprisonment for a committed criminal offence.

(4) In addition to the conditions stipulated in paragraph 2 of this article, candidate for Member of Council and Mayor may be every citizen who has domicile in the municipality and the City of Skopje, where the election takes place.

6. Incompatibility of the office of President of the Republic, Member of Parliament, Mayor and Member of Council

Article 8

(1) The office of a Member of Parliament, Member of Council and Mayor shall be incompatible with the office of the President of the Republic, President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Minister, Judge, Public Prosecutor, Public Attorney, Ombudsman, and with other holders of offices elected or appointed by the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia (hereinafter: the Parliament) and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia (hereinafter: the Government)

(2) The office of a Member of Parliament shall be incompatible with the office of Mayor and Member of Council in a municipality and in the City of Skopje.

(3) The office of a Member of Parliament and Mayor shall be incompatible with the:
- Performance of professional and administrative work in the state administration bodies;
- Performance of business or other profitable activity; and
- Membership in management boards of public enterprises, public institutions, funds, agencies, bureaus and other legal entities, as well as with the appointment of a trustee of state- and publicly-owned capital in commercial enterprise.

(4) The office of Mayor of the City of Skopje and the office of Member of the Council of the City of Skopje shall be incompatible with the office of Mayor of Municipality and the office of Member of Council of the municipalities in the City of Skopje.

(5) On the day of verification of their mandate as Member of Parliament, Member of Council and Mayor, the holding of the offices under paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article shall terminate.

(6) On the day of verification of the mandate as Member of the Parliament and Mayor, the employment of the persons, referred to in paragraph 3 line 1 of this article shall cease temporarily.

(7) On the day of verification of the mandate as Member of Parliament, the business or other profitable activity of the persons referred to in paragraph 3 line 2 and 3 of this article shall be temporarily suspended, whilst their membership in management boards of public enterprises, public institutions, funds, agencies, bureaus and other legal entities, as well as the appointment as a trustee of state- and publicly-owned capital in commercial enterprise shall cease.

(8) On the day of the verification of the mandate as a Member of Council the employment of the persons working in the municipal administration shall cease temporarily in accordance with the Law.

Article 8-a

(1) The member of the Government or deputy minister from the day when they are nominated as candidates for President of the Republic, MP, member of a council or mayor, shall perform the office of member of the Government or deputy minister technically by undertaking the necessary activities within the frames of their competencies for technical operation of the authority, i.e. the Government".

"(2) Necessary activities" from p. (1) of this Article, which cannot be performed, are:

- Expenditure of: state budgetary funds, funds of the municipal budgets and the budget of the City of Skopje, public funds and funds of public enterprises and public agencies or legal entities that use state capital, unless otherwise prescribed by the law, which regulates the financing of political parties' election campaigns.

- initiation of construction works sponsored by budgetary or public funds, or with funds of public enterprises or other legal entities that use state capital, including: new

infrastructure amenities such as roads, waterworks, long-distance transmission lines, sewerage, sports playgrounds and other facilities or facilities for social activities - schools, kindergartens and other facilities unless budgetary funds are previously provided for that purpose or it is part of an implementation of a legally established annual programme for the current year.
- exceptional budgetary expenditure for salaries, pensions, state benefits, or other payments from the state budget or from the public funds; disposal of state capital; and signing of collective agreements."

(3) The candidates should seize executing activities, outlined in the p. (2), in the period between announcement and closure of elections from the day of the Decision for announcement of presidential, parliamentary and governmental elections until its completion, as well as from the day of the Decision for announcement of mayoral or municipal councillors elections - until its completion, i.e. until the establishment of the Municipal Councils and the Council of the City of Skopje".

Article 9

(1) The employment of the members of the armed forces of the Republic of Macedonia, the uniformed police officers, and the authorized officials in the Ministry of the Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, and the Intelligence Agency shall cease temporarily on the day they are confirmed as candidates.
(2) On the day of the verification of their mandate, the employment of the persons from paragraph 1 of this article shall cease temporarily.

7. Professionalism and irrevocability of the office

Article 10

(1) The Members of Parliament cannot be recalled.
(2) The office of Member of Parliament and Mayor shall be executed in a professional manner.

8. Tax, customs and fee exemption

Article 11

(1) Actions, acts, submissions, and other documents related to the administration of the elections within the electoral procedure, the service of printing of the ballots, supply and import of the election materials shall be exempt from paying customs duties and taxes.
(2) All the activities and documents of the state bodies, all submissions and evidence related to the registration of the citizens in the Voters List shall be exempt from fees and taxes.
(3) The Minister of Finance shall regulate the proceedings regarding the payment of Value Added Tax on the transactions concerning ballots and election materials needed for the administration of the elections, as well as the related custom proceedings.

II. CALLING AND ADMINISTERING THE ELECTIONS

1. Calling elections

Article 12

(1) The Act on Calling Election shall be passed by the President of the Parliament and it shall determine the day from which the deadlines for performing election activities are counted and Election Day.

(2) The Act on Calling Election shall be submitted to the State Election Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and to the Ministry of Justice.
(3) The Act on Calling Election shall be published in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia".
(4) From the day of calling elections, until the day of holding elections, a period of no more than 90 days or less than 70 days may pass.

2. Information on administering the elections

Article 13

(1) The citizens shall be informed about the elections through a public call and by displaying posters on visible places.
(2) The information from paragraph 1 of this article shall be provided by the competent election commission.

3. Administering the elections

Election of the President of the Republic

Article 14

(1) Elections for President of the Republic shall be held in the last 60 days of the mandate of the outgoing President.
(2) In case of cessation of the mandate of the President due to any reason the election of the new President shall be conducted within 40 days from the day of the cessation of the mandate.

Election of Members of Parliament

Article 15

(1) Elections for Members of Parliament shall be held each fourth year, in the last 90 days of the mandate of the outgoing Parliament, or within 60 days from the day the Parliament is dissolved.
(2) Early elections for Members of Parliament shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of this Code whereas all the deadlines for the election activities shall be five days shorter, except for the deadline determined for the duration of the election campaign.
(3) The deadlines for administering the electoral activities from paragraph 2 of this article shall be determined by the State Election Commission with a timetable.
(4) The mandate of the Members of Parliament shall last from the day of its verification and until the day of verification of the mandate of the newly elected Members of Parliament, but no longer than four years.

Election of Member of Council and Mayor

Article 16

(1) The elections of Members of Council and Mayor shall be held each fourth year simultaneously in all municipalities, in the second half of the month of March.
(2) Early elections for Members of Council and Mayor shall be called and administered in accordance with the provisions of this Code upon the fulfilment of the conditions for termination of the mandate determined by the Law on Local Self-Government.
(3) The early elections for Members of Council and Mayor shall not be administered if less than six months are left until the regular elections.

III. BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING ELECTIONS

1. Types of election management bodies

Article 17

(1) The bodies responsible for administering the elections are:
- State Election Commission,
- Municipal Election Commissions and Election Commission of the City of Skopje,
- Election Boards, and
- The Election Boards for voting in the diplomatic – consular offices of the Republic of Macedonia (hereinafter "DCO")

2. Member of an election management body

Article 18

(1) A person may not be nominated for a member of an election body if:
- he/she was convicted of a criminal offence related to elections;
- he/she had previously participated in organizing the elections and due to identified irregularities in his/her work as member of an election body the voting was annulled;

(2) The following persons may not be members of Municipal Election Commission, Election Commission of the City of Skopje and Election Board:
- elected or appointed official of the Government, Parliament and persons employed in the state administration of the Ombudsman Office, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Secretariat for Legislation, State Statistical Office, Bureau for Protection and Rescue, Crisis Management Centre, the support service of the Administrative Court, the support service of the State Election Commission and the support service of the State Commission for the Prevention of Corruption.

(3) A person selected as a member of an election management body may decide to refuse that duty only in case of health or family reasons, whereas the organ that selects the person decides whether to grant he exemption from duty based on the submitted, appropriate documentation.

(4) The performance of the work and working tasks of the employees in the bodies of the state authority shall be organised in shifts on the Election Day, for the purpose of enjoyment of their voting right.

Article 19

(1) The president and the members of the election management bodies shall execute the duties of their office independently, in good faith and responsibly in accordance with their competences determined in this Code.

(2) The president and the members of the election management bodies shall have the right to reimbursement, which will be determined with an act of the State Election Commission.

3. Incompatibility of the office of member of election management body

Article 20

(1) If a president, member of election management body, secretary or a deputy accepts a nomination for President of the Republic, Member of Parliament, Member of Council or Mayor his/her function as president, member, secretary or deputy shall cease.

4. Principle of adequate and equitable and gender representation in the election management bodies

Article 21

(1) When selecting the members of the State Election Commission the principle of adequate and equitable representation shall be applied.
(2) When selecting the members of Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje and the Election Boards in the municipalities in which at least 20% of the citizens are members of other ethnic communities the principle of adequate and equitable representation of all ethnic communities shall be respected.
(3) Each gender shall be represented in the election management bodies with at least 30%.
(4) The SEC shall issue an instruction on the implementation of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this article.
(5) The decisions on appointing the members of Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall be published in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia".

5. Nominating the representative of the list submitter

Article 22

(1) Each submitter of a list of candidates for election of President of the Republic, Members of Parliament, Members of Council, and Mayors, shall have the right to appoint a representative and deputy to the representative, who will follow the work of the election management bodies from the beginning of the elections up until the determining and publishing of the results.
(2) Each submitter of the candidate list for election of President of the Republic or the Members of the Parliament for voting in electoral districts in Europe and Africa, North and South America and Australia and Asia shall appoint official representative and his deputy in the Republic of Macedonia who will follow the work of the electoral management bodies from commencement of the elections until determining and announcing of final results.
(3) Official representative and his deputy before the electoral management bodies from paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article cannot be a person accepted as a candidate.
(4) The list submitter shall issue an authorization to the representative and shall inform the election bodies of this authorisation seven days before the day of election, at latest.
(5) The representative of the list submitter may point to irregularities in the work during sessions of the election management bodies and, if this is not accepted, the representative may ask for it to be entered in the protocol.
(6) The official representative of the submitter of the list is required to wear a badge with a number of the polling station he is authorised to observe.
(7) Authorized representative of the list submitter has the right to request and perform complete inspection in the entire documentation of the electoral body during a session of the election management body.

6. The manner of functioning of election management bodies

Article 23

(1) The election management bodies may work and take decisions if the majority of the members are present, whereby the decisions are adopted with a majority of the votes of the total number of members.

(2) In case a member of Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje or member of Election Board is absent; their deputies shall take part in the work on the sessions.
(3) While administering the elections, in the local self-government units where at least 20% of the citizens speak an official language different from the Macedonian language, the Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje and the Election Boards shall use, in addition to the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet, also the official language and alphabet spoken by at least 20% of the citizens in that local self-government unit.

Article 24

The work of the election management bodies shall be public, authorised representatives of the list submitters and accredited observers shall have the right to be present during the work of the election management bodies.

7. Support of the functioning of the election management bodies

Article 25

(1) The Parliament, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the State Statistical Office, the General Services Department of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and their regional offices as well as the municipalities and the City of Skopje shall be obliged to provide the bodies in charge of administering the elections with the technical, spatial and other conditions for their functioning.
(2) For implementing the activities from paragraph 1 of this article, the election management bodies shall be provided with resources from the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia.

8. State Election Commission

8.1 Composition of the State Election Commission

Article 26

(1) The State Election Commission shall be composed of president, vice-president and five members.
(2) The president and the vice-president shall be members of the State Election Commission.
(3) The president, vice-president and the members of the State Election Commission shall fulfil the responsibilities of their office professionally and shall have the right to be re-elected.
(4) The president, vice-president and the members of the State Election Commission shall be elected within 60 days from the day of the constitutive session of the Parliament of Republic of Macedonia, for a period of 4 years.
(5) The State Election Commission shall have a Secretary General and his/her Deputy.
(6) The State Election Commission shall have the capacity of a legal entity.
(7) The resources for the work of the State Election Commission shall be provided from the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia.
(8) In principle, session of the State Election Commission is convened and chaired by the president of the State Election Commission.
(9) In case of absence or impediment of president of the State Election Commission, session of the State Election Commission shall be convened and chaired by the vice-president of the State Election Commission.
(10) The State Election Commission shall hold a session upon a suggestion from a member of the State Election Commission if that suggestion is endorsed by the majority of the total number of members of the State Election Commission.

Selection of the composition of the State Election Commission

Article 27

(1) Any person who fulfils the following criteria may be elected as president, vice-president or member of the State Election Commission:
   - is citizen of the Republic of Macedonia with a permanent residence in the Republic of Macedonia;
   - is a law school graduate with at least 8 years of work experience in legal affairs; and
   - is not a member of an organ of a political party.

(2) The Parliament shall announce the election of the president and the members of the SEC in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" and in daily newspapers. The vacancy shall remain open for 8 days from the day of its publication.

(3) The Parliamentary Committee on Election and Appointment Affairs shall prepare a draft list from the candidates who have applied and shall submit it to the Parliament.

(4) From the candidates on the draft list, the political parties in opposition shall nominate the president of the State Election Commission and two members of the State Election Commission and the ruling parties shall nominate the vice-president and three members of the State Election Commission.

(5) The president, vice-president and the members of SEC are elected by the Parliament with a two third majority from the total number of Members of Parliament.

(6) From the day of the election the previous employment of the president, vice-president and the members of the SEC shall be temporarily suspended.

Cessation of a mandate in the State Election Commission before the expiry of the mandate

Article 28

(1) The term in office of the president, vice-president or a member of the SEC shall cease before the expiry of the mandate:
   - if any of the conditions stipulated in article 27 paragraph 1 of this Code cease to exist;
   - upon their personal request;
   - due to unprofessional and unsound execution of the responsibilities of their office;
   - due to fulfilling the conditions for pension, as determined by Law;
   - due to death; and
   - if he/she has been sentenced with a final court decision for a term of imprisonment of at least six months.

(2) With a two third majority from the total number of members, the State Election Commission may submit a proposal to the Parliamentary Committee on Election and Appointment Affairs for dismissing a member due to unprofessional and unsound execution of the responsibilities of their office.

Deadline for nominating the President, Vice-president and Members of the State Election Commission

Article 29

(1) The Political parties from article 27 paragraph 4 of this Code shall nominate the president and two members i.e. vice-president and members, and three members of the State Election Commission within 3 days from receiving the notification to submit nominations from the President of the Parliament.

(2) In case the political parties do not determine and do not submit the names of the president, vice-president and members of the State Election Commission within the

deadline determined in paragraph 1of this article, the president, vice-president and members of the State Election Commission shall be nominated by the Parliamentary Committee on Election and Appointment Affairs.

8.2 Support service of the State Election Commission

Article 30

(1) The State Election Commission shall appoint its Secretary General and his/her deputy from the graduated jurists for a period of five years.
(2) The Secretary General shall not be a member of the State Election Commission and shall not have the right to vote.
(3) The Secretary General shall execute his/her responsibilities professionally.
(4) A support service shall be established to the State Election Commission, for executing the professional - administrative and organizational- technical responsibilities of the State Election Commission.
(5) The support service shall be headed by the Secretary General of the State Election Commission.
(6) The Secretary General and the staff of the support service of the State Election Commission shall have the status of civil servants.

8.3 Competencies of the State Election Commission

Article 31

(1) The State Election Commission shall safeguard the legality of the preparation and the administration of the elections in accordance with this Code and shall supervise the work of the election management bodies.
(2) The State Election Commission shall:
   1. Request data from the competent bodies regarding the employees in the state administration, municipal administration and the administration of the City of Skopje as well as regarding the employees in the public administration and shall appoint the members of the Municipal Election Commissions and the Election Commission of the City of Skopje;
   2. Give instructions, explanations and recommendations on the implementation of the provisions of this Code and the implementation of other laws referring to elections connected issues;
   3. Dismiss any member of an election management body in case of unlawful activities;
   4. Control the legality of the work of the election bodies and undertake measures in cases of determined legal violations in the preparations, the procedure for candidacy, the administration of the elections and the determining of the election results, as well as in case of violation of the instructions and recommendations issued by the State Election Commission;
   5. Confirm and publish the lists of candidates for election of President and election of Members of Parliament and determine their sequence on the ballot by drawing lots;
   5-a Determines the sequence of the single list of candidates for members of the council, i.e. candidates for mayor by drawing lots.
   6. Adopt a programme and establish standards for mandatory education of all election bodies and coordinate the same;
   7. Administer obligatory training of the members of the Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje before every elections and shall issue certificates in manner and in timeframe prescribed by the programme;
   8. Prescribe the form for the training attendance certificate for the members of the election management bodies;

9. Establish common standards regarding the election material, take care of its procurement and prescribe the means of marking and checking the persons who have voted (UV lamp, spray and graphite[1] pad);
10. Prescribe forms for conducting elections and forms for collecting signatures of voters and Members of Parliament for nominating candidates and publish them in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia";
11. Determine the manner of handling and securing the election material;
12. Determine the quality, form, size, colour and serial numbers of the ballots;
13. Organize the printing of ballots and candidates' lists;
14. Deliver, receive and keep the election materials from the Municipal Election Commissions, i.e. and Election Commission of the City of Skopje;

14-a. Keep the election materials from the elections for the President of the Republic, members of the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia and referendum on a state level.

15. Inform and educate the public about the manner of voting and the exercise of the right to vote;
16. Adopt a Code on the rules for monitoring of elections by domestic and foreign observers, in accordance with international standards, and provide them with identification documents;
17. Control the polling stations where irregularities are reported on Election Day;
18. Confirm with a decision the adopted lists of candidates or reject the same in cases when they are not composed in accordance with the provisions of this Code;
19. Adopt a rulebook to determine the criteria for the manner and procedure of election and dismissal of presidents, deputy presidents, members and their deputies in election management bodies;
20. Tabulate and determine the results from the voting for the lists of candidates on the level of electoral district;
21. Publish the preliminary results of the elections of President of the Republic, Members of Parliament, Members of Council and Mayor based on the data in the protocols of the election bodies;
22. Publish the final results of the administered elections;
23. Issue certificates to the candidate elected as President of the Republic and to the candidates elected as Members of Parliament;
24. Adopt a rulebook and instruction for the reimbursement of members of the election management bodies and election administration, based on the number of voters, type, complexity and the scope of activities and the time needed for their completion.;
25. Submit a report to the Parliament on the administered elections and a financial overview on the administered elections and shall publish it on its web page;
26. Dispense the compensation of the expenses of the elected candidates according to the submitted financial report and publishes it on its web page;
27. Adopt the act for organization and systematization of the administrative service of the State Election Commission and shall establish the supporting bodies;
28. Publish the descriptions of the polling stations in the daily press;
29. Keep a records and safeguards the protection of the personal data of the citizens contained the Voters List;
30. Check the integrity of the database on the Voters List;
31. Sign the Voters List, i.e. the excerpts of the Voters List used for voting, no later than 15 days prior to Election Day;

[1] A corrigenda will be needed, according to article 51, Law on Amending and Supplementing the Electoral Code (Official Gazette No. 44 from 05 April 2011)

32. Establish contact with the international associations and organizations authorized to observe the elections i.e. the referendum on the national level, on issues regarding the Voters List;
33. Provide the media with data regarding the number of voters registered in the signed Voters List i.e. the excerpts;
34. Adopt Rules of Procedure for its own work and decision-making of the members of the State Electoral Commission;
35. Decide upon complaints based on inspection of the election materials and other evidence if there are at least two complaints for the respective polling station;
36. Adopt rulebook on the behaviour of the police during the elections in co-operation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
37. Adopt an instruction for taking decisions on complaints and appeals;
38. Monitor the commencement and the completion of the electoral campaign and undertakes measures determined by this Code;
39. Prescribe the forms for voter application for voting in the DCOs;
40. Establish the Election Boards for voting at the DCOs;
41. Deliver and receive the electoral materials to and from the Election Boards for voting at the DCO, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
42. Tabulate and determine the results from the voting for the lists of candidates for the election of three Members of Parliament one from each electoral districts for Europe and Africa, North and South America, and Australia and Asia;
43. Complete and submit statistical data for the needs of the State Statistical Office of the Republic of Macedonia;

43-a. Publicly announce the price lists of broadcasting and printed media on its web site;

43-b Keeps minutes of its sessions and publishes the approved minutes on its website

44. Perform other duties prescribed by this Code.

(3) The State Election Commission shall initiate disciplinary proceedings, misdemeanour proceedings or submit a criminal complaint to the competent body when there are bases of suspicion that there has been a violation of the provisions of this Code.

(4) The forms of the protocols and the entire election materials for the local self-government units where at least 20% of the citizens speak an official language different from Macedonian, shall be printed in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet and also in the official language and alphabet spoken by at least 20% of the citizens in that local self-government unit.

(5) The forms and the entire election material for the electoral districts 7, 8 and 9 from this Code, in which at least 20% of voters registered in the Voters List speak official language different from Macedonian shall be printed in Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet and in the official language and the alphabet used by at least 20% of the voters registered in the Voters List for that electoral district.

(6) The authorised representatives of the list submitters, whose objections are being considered, have the right to be present during the work and the decision making of the State Election Commission.

Article 32

(1) Within three days from the day of calling elections the SEC shall submit a request to the state administrative body responsible for record keeping of the state and public servants and the competent bodies to submit data on the employees in the state and municipal administration, the administration of the City of Skopje as well as the public administration, systematised by municipality according to their address and place of residence.

(2) The bodies from paragraph 1 of this article shall submit the data to the SEC within five days from the day of having received the request.

9. Municipal Election Commissions

9.1 Selection and composition of Municipal Election Commission

Article 33

(1) Municipal Election Commissions shall be formed:
   a) In municipalities that have their seat in a town:
      1. Municipality of Berovo
      2. Municipality of Bitola
      3. Municipality of Bogdanci
      4. Municipality of Valandovo
      5. Municipality of Veles
      6. Municipality of Vinica
      7. Municipality of Gevgelija
      8. Municipality of Gostivar
      9. Municipality of Debar
      10. Municipality of Delcevo
      11. municipalities of Demir Kapija
      12. Municipality of Demir Hisar
      13. Municipality of Kavadarci
      14. Municipality of Kicevo
      15. Municipality of Kocani
      16. Municipality of Kratovo
      17. Municipality of Kriva Palanka
      18. Municipality of Krusevo
      19. Municipality of Kumanovo
      20. Municipality of Makedonska Kamenica
      21. Municipality of Makedonski Brod
      22. Municipality of Negotino
      23. Municipality of Ohrid
      24. Municipality of Pehcevo
      25. Municipality of Prilep
      26. Municipality of Probistip
      27. Municipality of Radovis
      28. Municipality of Resen
      29. Municipality of Sveti Nikole
      30. Municipality of Struga
      31. Municipality of Strumica
      32. Municipality of Tetovo
      33. Municipality of Stip
   b) In municipalities that have their seat in a village:
      34. Municipality of Aracinovo
      35. Municipality of Bosilovo
      36. Municipality of Brvenica
      37. Municipality of Vasilevo
      38. Municipality of Vevcani
      39. Municipality of Vranestica
      40. Municipality of Vrapciste
      41. Municipality of Gradsko
      42. Municipality of Debarca
      43. Municipality of Dojran
      44. Municipality of Dolneni

45. Municipality of Drugovo
46. Municipality of Zelino
47. Municipality of Zajas
48. Municipality of Zelenikovo
49. Municipality of Zrnovci
50. Municipality of Ilinden
51. Municipality of Jegunovce
52. Municipality of Bogovinje
53. Municipality of Karbinci
54. Municipality of Konce
55. Municipality of Krivogastani
56. Municipality of Lipkovo
57. Municipality of Lozovo
58. Municipality of Mavrovo and Rostusa
59. Municipality of Mogila
60. Municipality of Novaci
61. Municipality of Novo Selo
62. Municipality of Oslomej
63. Municipality of Petrovec
64. Municipality of Plasnica
65. Municipality of Rankovce
66. Municipality of Rosoman
67. Municipality of Sopiste
68. Municipality of Staro Nagoricane
69. Municipality of Studenicani
70. Municipality of Tearce
71. Municipality of Centar Zupa
72. Municipality of Caska
73. Municipality of Cesinovo - Oblesevo
74. Municipality of Cucer - Sandevo

c) Municipalities in the city of Skopje:

75. Municipality of Aerodrom
76. Municipality of Butel
77. Municipality of Gazi Baba
78. Municipality of Gjorce Petrov
79. Municipality of Karpos
80. Municipality of Kisela Voda
81. Municipality of Saraj
82. Municipality of Centar
83. Municipality of Cair
84. Municipality of Suto Orizari
85. City of Skopje.(this election commission shall be formed only for the purpose of conducting the elections for Mayor and Member of Council of the city of Skopje)

(2) The Municipal Election Commissions shall have their seat in the municipalities determined in paragraph 1 of this article and shall be responsible for administering electoral activities at the polling stations determined with this Code.

Article 34

(1) The Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall be composed of a president and four members.
(2) The president and members of paragraph 1 of this article have deputies.
(3) The Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall have a secretary and his/her deputy appointed by the president of the MEC, from among graduated jurists, for a period of 5 years.

(4) The presidents of the Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje and their deputies, four members and their deputies shall be selected from among the employees having high education in the state administration, municipal administration and the administration of the City of Skopje. They shall be randomly selected and serve a five year term.
(5) The Secretary and his/her deputy shall perform professional, administrative and organizational-technical duties of the Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje.

Article 35

(1) The State Election Commission within 5 days from the day of receiving the data from article 32 of this Code shall form the Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje. The decisions for forming the Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall be published in the "Official Gazette of Republic of Macedonia".
(2) The manner and the procedure for appointing the president, the deputy, the members and their deputies of the Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall be determined with and act of the State Election Commission.
(3) The manner and the procedure for determining the responsibility in case of unlawful activities of the president, his/her deputy, the members and deputies of the members of the Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall be determined with the Law on Civil Servants.

Article 36

The president and members of the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje and their deputies, as a rule, shall have their domicile in the municipality for which the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje has been formed.

9.2 Competencies of the Municipal Election Commission and the Election Commission of the City of Skopje

Article 37

(1) The Municipal Election Commissions and the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall safeguard the legality in the preparation and administration of the elections in accordance with this Code and shall supervise the work of the Election Boards.
(2) The Municipal Election Commission and the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall:
    1. Appoint the composition of the Election Boards with a decision and shall submit the same, with deposited signatures of the members, to the State Election Commission;
    2. Dismiss the members of the Election Board in case they work unlawfully before the Election Day and on the Election Day;
    3. Give instructions for the work of the Election Boards;
    4. Announce the verified lists of candidates;
    5. Organize and administer the training of Election Board members, according to the plan and program of the State Election Commission before every elections and issue certificates for the completed training;
    6. Undertake technical preparations for administering the elections according to guidelines and instructions of the State Election Commission;
    7. Control the legality of the work of the Election Boards and intervene in cases when violation of the legality has been determined in the preparations, candidacy and administration of the elections and determination of the

election results, as well as in case of violation of the instructions and recommendations provided by this Commission;
8. Prepare a report and submit it to the State Election Commission;
9. Inform the citizens about the location where voting takes place;
10. Register the authorised representatives for monitoring the work of the Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje and of the Election Boards and issue badges with the numbers of the polling stations to authorized representatives who will follow the work of the electoral boards.
11. Hand over and collect the election materials to and from the Election Boards in a manner determined with this Code;
12. Tabulate the results from the voting for the list of candidates in the elections for President of the Republic, compile and submit the protocol, together with the entire election material, to the State Election Commission immediately, and at the latest 12 hours after the voting has finished;
13. Fill in and submit statistical data for the needs of the State Statistical Office;
14. After administering the elections for Members of Parliament, based on the protocols of the Election Boards, the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall tabulate the results according to the electoral districts for the polling stations for which it is competent and in accordance with their belonging to the electoral district;
15. Tabulates the results of voting for the list of candidates from the polling stations for which it is responsible, prepares records and submits them to the State Election Commission within 5 hours from the receipt of the entire election material from the Electoral Boards.;
16. Decide upon complaints in accordance with this Code; and
17. Provide evidence while deciding on the legal remedies.

(3) During Local Elections, the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall perform the competences determined in paragraph 2 of this article, except for the competences stipulated in lines 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 12, and 14.

(4) During Local Elections, in addition to the competencies stipulated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article, the Municipal Election Commission and the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall:
1. Determine whether the nominated lists of candidates for election of Member of Council and the candidate list for Mayor have been submitted in accordance with this Code.
2. Confirm the lists of nominated candidates;
3. Keeps the electoral material from the local elections.
4. Determine the results from the voting in the municipality and the City of Skopje and immediately after the results have become final shall issue, to the elected candidates for Member of Council and to the elected Mayors, certificate for election; and
5. Perform other duties, prescribed by this Code.

10. Election Board

10.1 Selection and composition of the Election Board

Article 38

(1) Election Board shall be established for each polling station.
(2) Election Boards shall be composed of president and four members.
(3) The president and members have deputies.
(4) The president of the Election Board and its deputy, two members and their deputies shall be randomly selected from among the employees in the state, public, municipal and the administration of the City of Skopje for a period of 4 years.

(5) One of the members of the Election Board and its deputies shall be selected on a nomination of those political parties in opposition, which during the last elections for Members of Parliament won the greatest number of votes.
(6) One of the members of the Election Board and its deputies shall be selected on a nomination of the ruling political parties, which during the last elections for Members of Parliament won the greatest number of votes.
(7) The political parties of paragraphs 5 and 6 of this article shall submit their proposals for members in the Election Board to the Municipal Election Commission within 5 days from the day of receiving the notification from the Municipal Election Commission.
(8) If the political parties do not submit their nominations within the deadline prescribed in paragraph 7 of this article, the members will be nominated by the Municipal Election Commission in accordance with paragraph 4 of this article.

Article 38-a

For voting in the diplomatic-consular offices, the composition of the electoral board is identical with the composition of the electoral board for voting in the Republic of Macedonia and is formed in accordance with article 38 of this Code.

Article 39

(1) For the purpose of forming the Election Boards, the State Election Commission, within 3 days from the day of forming the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje, shall submit the data from article 32 of this Code to the Municipal Election Commission.
(2) Within 5 days from the day of receiving the data from paragraph 1 of this article the Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall form the Election Boards for the polling stations that are under its competence.
(3) The manner and the procedure for appointing the president, his/her deputy, the members and their deputies in the Election Boards shall be determined with and act of the State Election Commission.
(4) The manner and the procedure for determining the responsibility for unlawful activities of the president, his/her deputy, the members and their deputies in the Election Boards shall be determined in the Law on Civil Servants and the Law on Labour Relations.

10.2 Competencies of the Election Boards

Article 40

(1) The Election Board shall safeguard the legality in the administration of the elections.
(2) The Election Board shall:
    1. Directly administer the voting procedure at the polling station;
    2. Provide regularity and secrecy in casting the ballot;
    3. Provide free and peaceful voting process;
    4. Determine and tabulate the election result at the polling station;
    5. Announce the election results at the polling station; and
    6. Prepare a report and keep a log on its work and submit them to the Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje.
(3) The Election Board shall prepare protocols about its work and the tabulation of the results on a single form prescribed and certified by the State Election Commission and together with the election materials submits it to the Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje.
(4) In case of errors in completing the protocols, the Election Board shall proceed according to the instructions of the State Election Commission.
(5) The Election Board shall perform its duties in accordance with this Code and the instructions of the State Election Commission.

(6) The Election Boards for voting in DCOs shall execute their duties in accordance with the competencies stipulated in this article.

IV. REGISTRATION OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE

1. Maintaining the Voters List

Article 41

(1) The Voters List shall be maintained by the State Election Commission.
(2) The Voters List shall be maintained according to the Registry of Citizens in the form of a Registry of Voters, with automatic data processing in electronic form.
(3) The personal data of the citizens in the Voters List shall be written in the languages and alphabets in which the original records are kept, in accordance with Law.
(4) All citizens who are 18 years old have residence on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia and who have a valid personal ID card or passport shall be registered in the Voters List.
(5) All citizens of the Republic of Macedonia, who are temporarily employed or residing abroad, with a residence on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia and with a valid passport, shall also be registered in the Voters List. These persons shall be registered according to their last place of residence in the Republic of Macedonia, prior to their departure abroad.
(6) Citizens who have been deprived of their working capacity with a final court decision shall not be registered in the Voters List.
(7) In the Voters List, the citizens shall be registered according to the municipality where they reside.
(8) Excerpts of the Voters List shall be prepared for each electoral district, municipality and polling station.
(9) In cases when different election processes are being administered simultaneously, each polling station shall receive as many signed excerpts of the voters list as the number of election i.e. election rounds.
(10) The contents of the Voters List i.e. the excerpts (first round) as issued on Election Day cannot be changed until the end of the elections.
(11) The resources for updating and preparing the Voters List shall be provided from the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia.

Article 42

(1) It is the official duty of the State Election Commission to record, add and delete data in the Voters List, based on data from birth registries, registries of residence and citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia, other official records, and through direct inspection.
(2) The State Election Commission shall record, add or delete data in the Voters List at the request of citizens, based on a personal ID card and passport.
(3) The State Election Commission shall delete from the Voters List a deceased person or a person who has lost, on any account, his/her voting right upon a request from a political party by submitting data on the deceased person or other person who has lost, on any account, his/her voting right, based on previous inspection of the data in the register books, place of residence and citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia, other official records and by immediate inspection.
(4) Registration of citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad can also be done based on the application submitted to diplomatic-consular offices.

2. Competencies of the bodies for submitting data to be recorded in the Voters List

Article 43

(1) The Ministry of Internal Affairs shall submit data, to the State Election Commission, for citizens who:
- Are at least 18 years of age on the Election Day and have a valid personal ID card or passport;
- Are at least 18 years of age and have died;
- Are at least 18 years of age and have moved to or out of a given municipality, or have changed their address within the municipality;
- Are at least 18 years of age and have changed their first or last name;
- Are at least 18 years of age and have acquired or lost citizenship of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Are at least 18 years of age and are temporarily employed or residing abroad.

(2) The Basic Courts shall submit data to the State Elections Commission on persons who have been deprived of their working capacity with a final court decision and data for persons to whom a home custody measure has been pronounced.

(3) The data, referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article, shall be delivered twice a year, from 1 February to10 February and 1 July to 10 July. In cases when elections or a referendum are called, the data shall be delivered the day following the day of calling of the elections or referendum and shall as a rule contain the personal identification number of the citizen (EMBG).

Article 44

(1) No later than 30 days prior to Election Day or referendum at the national level, the body in charge of administering sanctions shall submit data to the State Election Commission on persons who are in custody or serving prison sentence, based on the records kept by this body.

(2) The data from paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article shall be submitted on an electronic medium and shall as a rule contain the personal identification number of the citizen (EMBG).

3. Contents of the Voters List and the printed excerpts

Article 45

(1) The Voters List shall contain the following data: the personal identification number of the citizen (EMBG), surname, name of one of the parents and personal name, sex, residential address (municipality, settlement, street, house number, entrance and apartment), date of entering and deleting, and date and type of the data added.

(2) The printed excerpts of the Voters List and the special excerpts shall be kept in alphabetical order according to the last name of the citizen and shall contain the following columns: ordinal number, surname and name, sex, date of birth, address (settlement, street, house number, entrance and apartment), signature or fingerprint of the voter and mark (star) for the persons who are temporarily employed or residing abroad, and who have not submitted an application for out0of-country voting to a DCO.

(3) The citizens who during the elections are temporarily employed or residing abroad and have submitted an application for voting to a DCO shall not be included in the excerpt of the Voters List used for voting in the Republic of Macedonia.

4. Printing of the special excerpts of the Voters List

Article 46

(1) Special excerpts of the Voters List shall be prepared for administering the elections in DCO and penitentiary institutions for
- Voting of the citizens who during the elections are temporarily employed or residing abroad, based on a voting application.
- The persons who during the elections are in detention or are serving a prison sentence.

Article 47

The special excerpts from the Voters List, referred to in article 45 of this Code, shall be prepared in two copies, as follows:
- For the citizens who during the election are temporarily employed or residing abroad the first excerpt is systematized according to the polling station and the electoral district and the in the remark column the state in which the citizen has a temporary employment or residence abroad and the location of the DCO is stipulated, and the second excerpt is systematized according to the country in which the citizens are temporarily employed or residing abroad, the location of the DCO and in the remark rubric it is stipulated the number of the polling station and the electoral district and
- For citizens who are in detention or are serving prison sentence during the elections, one copy is systematized according to polling station or municipality; the remark column contains the municipality in which the penitentiary institution is located. The second copy is systematized according to the penitentiary institution and the municipality in which it is located: the remark column contains the number of the polling station, and the municipality to which that polling station belongs.

5. Inspection of the data in the Voters List

Article 48

(1) A citizen may, throughout the year, request to inspect the excerpts of the Voters List in the regional offices of the State Election Commission, DCO and through Internet.

(2) If during the inspection, the citizen determines that either he/she or another citizen has not been registered in the Voters List, or it is found that data should be entered, added or deleted, he/she shall have the right to submit a request to the regional office of the State Election Commission to enter, add or delete data. Adequate documentation shall be submitted along with the request.

(3) If the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad during the inspection in the DCO establish that they or some other citizen are not enlisted in the Voters List or there is a need to record, supplement or erase data, the request for recording, supplementing and erasing data shall be submitted, together with supporting documentation, by e-mail through the DCO to the State Election Commission or directly to the State Election Commission.

(4) The State Election Commission shall check the accuracy of the data and the documents enclosed by the citizen, no later than three days from the day of receiving the request and if it is determined that the request is well founded, they shall enter, add or delete data in the Voters List or, if the request is not well founded, it shall reject the same with a decision based on the authentic documentation.

(5) Within 3 days following the day of receipt of the decision, the citizen may file an appeal against the decision of the State Election Commission to initiate an administrative dispute before the Administrative Court in the Republic of Macedonia.

(6) The Administrative Court shall decide upon the appeal, referred to in paragraph 4 of this article, within 3 days following the day of receipt of the appeal.
(7) The final decision reached on the appeal by the Administrative Court, shall be considered as the basis to enter, change and delete data in the Voters List;
(8) The citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad can lodge a lawsuit against the decision of the State Election Commission by e-mail through the DCO to the Administrative Court or directly to the Administrative Court.

6. Public inspection of the Voters List

Article 49

(1) The State Election Commission shall, no later than 15 days after the calling of the elections, display the consolidated Voters List on public inspection in its district and local offices, which shall include the following data:
- Citizens who are 18 years of age or older on Election Day (first round of voting);
- Deceased persons, 30 days before the day of calling of the elections, and
- Other information from the Voters List, on the day of calling of the elections.

(2) The State Election Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivers to the DCOs the special excerpts from the Voters List for the persons who are temporarily employed or residing abroad based on the records from the competent organ in order to have them available for public inspection.
(3) Immediately upon displaying the excerpts from the Voters List on public inspection, the State Election Commission shall inform the citizens through the media of the place and the duration of the inspection, the manner of the inspection and the possibility for entering, adding or deleting data in the Voters List
(4) The public inspection shall last 15 days.
(5) The political parties during the public inspection period can perform inspection to the data in the Voters List until the closing and signing the Voters List.

7. Change of data in the Voters List that is open for public inspection

Article 50

(1) A request for entering, adding or deleting data in the Voters List excerpts that are open for public inspection, within the deadline referred to in article 49 paragraph 4 of this Code, may be submitted by each citizen if:
- he/she or some other citizen is not recorded in the Voters List;
- a person, who does not have the right to vote, does not have residence within the territory of the municipality, or has died, is registered;
- his/her personal name and address, or the personal name and address of another person, are not entered correctly.

(2) The request for entering, adding or deleting data referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be submitted in writing to the regional office of the State Election Commission or to the local office where the person resides.
(3) The necessary evidence shall be attached to the request.

7-a. Registration and inspection into the Voters List for out-of-country voting

Article 50-a

(1) The State Election Commission, immediately and no later than two days after announcement of elections, shall submit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs notification on publishing a public call for announcement of elections.

(2) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, immediately and no later than three days upon receiving the notification from paragraph 1 of this article is obliged to submit it to the DCO for its publication in the corresponding country.
(3) The notification from paragraph 1 of this article shall be published in Macedonian language and Cyrillic alphabet, in languages and alphabets of the communities listed in the preamble of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia and in the official language of the corresponding country in at least one of the three most widely circulated national newspapers, and in at least one quarter of the newspaper page.
(4) The notification from paragraph 1 of this article contains the data on the type of elections to be held, call for public inspection of the Voters List as well as for voting application, the start and the end date of the period for submitting the voting application, the necessary documents, as well as clarification on who may vote and where the voting will take place.
(5) The public call within the deadline determined in paragraph 1 of this article shall also be published on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State Election Commission and DCO.
(6) The request for recording, supplementing or erasing the data in the separate extracts from the Voters Lists, during the public inspection, the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad may submit it by email through DCO to the State Election Commission or to the State Election Commission.
(7) In the separate extracts from the Voters Lists shall be registered the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad, who have their latest residence registered in the Republic of Macedonia and who have submitted voting application for the coming elections to the DCO of the Republic of Macedonia in the corresponding country.
(8) From the day of announcement of the elections until the end of the public inspection, the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia from paragraph 7 of this article may submit a hand-signed or emailed voting application by which they register for the voting on the coming elections.
(9) For the presidential and Parliamentary elections may vote the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad, who have submitted voting application and are registered in the separate extracts of the Voters List.
(10) The request from paragraph 6 and the voting application from paragraph 8 of this article, the DCO shall immediately and no later than two days after the completion of the public inspection, submit through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, while the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall immediately and no later than 24 hours from the day of their receipt shall submit them to the State Electoral Commission.

Article 51

(1) The State Election Commission shall decide upon the requests of the citizens, referred to in article 50 of this Code, within 24 hours from the day of receiving the request and if it determines that the request is well founded, it will enter, add or delete data, if not, it will reject the request with a decision.
(2) The citizen may file a lawsuit against the decision referred to in paragraph 1of this article to the Administrative Court within 24 hours from receiving the decision.
(3) The Administrative Court shall decide upon the lawsuit referred to in paragraph 2 of this article within 24 hours from receiving the complaint.
(4) The final decision of the Administrative Court on the appeal to enter, change and delete data shall become an integral part of the Voters List confirmed by the State Election Commission.

8. Closing and signing of the Voters List

Article 52

The State Election Commission shall close the Voters List, with all the changes resulting from the inspection, printed as excerpts, no later than 15 days after the ending of the public inspection.

Article 53

(1) The Voters List i.e. the excerpts shall be closed by noting the following: number of pages of the Voters List i.e. excerpt, number of voters on the Voters List (marked with number and letters), the critical moment for the data determined in article 50, paragraph 1 of this Code, closing date, signature of the authorized person and stamp.
(2) The closed Voters List shall contain the data of citizens whose requests for deletion, registration or change of data in the Voters List have been positively resolved by the State Election Commission and the Administrative Court.

Article 54

(Deleted)

9. Protection of data in the Voters List

Article 55

(1) The personal data contained in the Voters List shall be protected in accordance with the Law, and shall not be used for any purpose other than exercising the citizens' right to vote, in accordance with this Code.
(2) The State Elections Commission shall issue, in hard copy or electronic form on CDROM, to the registered political parties and to the independent candidates, when taking part in the elections, upon their written request, data from the signed or previously prepared excerpt of the Voters List for each polling station and the excerpts from the Voters List for the voting in the DCO, containing the data referred to in article 45, paragraph 2 of this Code, within 10 days.
(3) The expenses for the preparation of the data of the Voters List in hard copy or electronic form shall be covered by the submitters of the request.
(4) The registered political parties, coalitions and the independent candidates, i.e. the authorized representatives of the list submitters and their deputies, may not use the Voters Lists for recording the persons who voted on Election Day.

Article 56

An authorized employee or any other person, body or organ, acquainted with the personal data contained in the Voters List, shall be obliged to secure and protect them, in accordance with article 55 of this Code.

V. NOMINATING CANDIDATES

1. Nominating candidates

Article 57

(1) The nomination of candidates for the election of President of the Republic, Members of Parliament, and candidates for Member of Council and for Mayor, shall be done by submitting a list of candidate for President of the Republic, a list of candidates for Members of Parliament, and a list of candidates for Member of Council i.e. list of candidate for Mayor.

(2) A candidate for President of the Republic, Member of Parliament, candidates for Member of Council and for Mayor may be nominated only on one list of candidates.

2. List Submitter

Article 58

(1) The list submitter may submit only one list of candidate for President of the Republic, candidates for Members of Parliament, candidates for Member of Council as well as only one list of candidate for Mayor.
(2) During the administration of the election, the list submitter in the units of local self-government where at least 20% of the citizens speak an official language other than Macedonian, shall submit the candidates lists, i.e. the candidate list for Mayor, in addition to the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic Alphabet, and also in the official language and alphabet used by citizens in that unit of local self-government.
(3) During the administration of the elections for Members of Parliament, the lists submitter from paragraph 1 of this article, in the electoral districts where at least 20% of the citizens speak an official language other than Macedonian, may submit the lists of candidates, in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic Alphabet, and also in the official language and alphabet used by citizens in that unit of local self-government.

Submitter of a list of candidate for President of the Republic

Article 59

(1) A list of candidate for President of the Republic may be submitted by at least 10,000 voters or at least 30 Members of Parliament.
(2) In cases when a list submitter of candidate for President of the Republic is a group of voters, it is required to collect at least 10,000 signatures of the voters registered in the Voters List.
(3) In cases when the list submitter of candidate for President of the Republic is a group of Members of Parliament, it is required to collect at least 30 signatures of Member of Parliament.

Submitter of a list of candidate/s for Member of Parliament, Member of Council and Mayor

Article 60

(1) Registered political parties individually, coalitions, as well as a group of voters (hereinafter: "list submitter") have the right to submit a list of candidate/s for MPs, Member of Council and Mayor.
(2) The State Election Commission shall determine the legal standing of the submitter of a list of candidates for election of Members of Parliament based on the agreement of the political parties that are participating in the elections as a coalition.
(3) The Municipal Election Commission and the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall determine the legal subjectivity of the submitter of the candidate list for election of Members of the Council and Mayors, based on the agreement of the political parties that act as coalition for the elections of the Members of the Council and Mayors.
(4) The coalition agreement from paragraph 2 of this article shall be concluded by the representatives of the political parties that are participating in the election together and it shall contain the name of the coalition, the symbol, municipality i.e. electoral district in which they are participating together.
(5) The candidates' list shall be signed personally by an authorised representative of the list submitter.

(6) The name of the list shall be marked according to the name of the list submitter.
(7) If the submitter of a list of candidates is a group of voters, the name of the list shall be marked with "group of voters" and the name and surname of the candidate.

Submitter of a list of candidates for Members of Parliament with collected signatures

Article 61

(1) In cases when submitter of a list of candidates for Members of Parliament, is a group of voters, at least 1,000 signatures of the voters registered in the excerpts of the Voters List of the electoral district, shall be collected.
(2) When a list submitter is a group of voters from the electoral districts abroad, it is necessary to collect at least 1,000 signatures from the registered voters in the excerpt of the Voting List for these elections districts, before the official persons in the DCO on a form prescribed by the State Elections Commission.

Submitter of a list of candidate/s for Members of Council and Mayor with collected signatures

Article 62

In cases when submitter of a list of candidates for Member of Council, i.e., candidate list for a Mayor, is a group of voters, it shall be required to collect:

- in a municipality that has no more than 10,000 inhabitants, at least 100 signatures of the registered voters in the excerpt of the Voters List of the municipality;
- in a municipality that has between 10,001 and 30,000 inhabitants, at least 150 signatures of the registered voters in the excerpt of the Voters List of the municipality;
- in a municipality that has between 30,001 and 50,000 inhabitants, at least 250 signatures of the registered voters in the excerpt of the Voters List of the municipality;
- in a municipality that has between 50,001 and 100,000 inhabitants, at least 350 signatures of the registered voters in the excerpt of the Voters List of the municipality;
- in a municipality with more than 100,001 inhabitants at least 450 signatures of the registered voters in the excerpt of the Voters List of the municipality; and
- in the City of Skopje at least 1,000 signatures of the registered voters in the excerpt of the Voters List for the area of the City of Skopje.

3. Procedure of the collection of signatures for nominating candidates

Article 63

(1) The signatures of the voters in the nomination procedure shall be collected before officials from the State Elections Commission on a form that shall contain the name and surname, the domicile and personal identification number of the candidates nominated, as well as the name and surname, and the personal identification number of the voter signing the nomination.
(2) Collecting signatures before the State Elections Commission shall commence at the 15th day from the day of calling the elections and shall last for 15 days.
(3) Each voter may give his/her signature only for one candidate list for President of the Republic, candidates for Members of Parliament, Member of Council, and candidate for Mayor.
(4) Voters submitting the list are required to be eligible to vote and to have domicile within the area of the electoral district, municipality, i.e., the City of Skopje.

4. Contents of the submitted list

Article 64

(1) The submitted list of candidate for President of the Republic shall contain the following: title of the list, name and symbol, if there is one, of the list submitter, name and surname of the nominated candidate for President along with his/her domicile and personal identification number of the citizen.
(2) The submitted list of candidates for Members of Parliament shall contain the following: number of electoral district, title of the list, name and symbol, if there is one, of the list submitter, name and symbol, if there is one, of the list head, name and surname of each candidate for Member of Parliament along with his/her domicile and personal identification number of the citizen and a statement declaring belonging to an ethnic community.
(3) The submitted list of candidates for Member of Council, i.e. list of candidate for Mayor shall contain the following: the municipality, i.e. the City of Skopje for which the elections are being administered, title of the list, name and symbol, if there is one, of the list submitter, name and surname of the list head, name and surname of each candidate for Member of Council along with his/her domicile, personal identification number of the citizen
(4) The submitted list of candidate for Mayor shall contain the following: the municipality i.e. the City of Skopje for which the candidate is nominated, title of the list, name and symbol, if there is one, of the list submitter, name and surname of the proposed candidate for Mayor along with his/her domicile and personal identification number of the citizen.
(5) In the submitted list of candidates for Members of Parliament from paragraph 2of this article and list of candidate for Member of Council of the municipality and the City of Skopje from paragraph 3 of this article, in each consecutive three places at least one will be reserved for the less represented gender.

5. Procedure for submitting a list

Article 65

(1) The list of candidate/s shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the State Election Commission.
(2) When submitter of a list of candidate i.e. candidates is political party, its registration certificate from the competent court must be attached.
(3) When a coalition is submitting a list of candidate/s, the statement from article 60, paragraph 4 of this Code must be attached.
(4) When submitter of a list of candidate i.e. candidates is a group of voters, the required number of signatures stipulated in article 61 i.e. 62 of this Code must be submitted as well.
(5) For each nomination, the candidate needs to make a written, irrevocable consent (statement).
(6) The order of the candidates on the list shall be determined by the submitter of the list in accordance with article 64 of this Code.

Article 66

(1) The authorised representatives of the list submitters shall submit the list of candidate for President of the Republic to the State Election Commission.
(2) The authorised representatives of the list submitters shall submit the list of candidates for Members of Parliament to the State Election Commission.
(3) The authorised representatives of the list submitters shall submit the list of candidates for Member of Council, i.e. the list of candidate for Mayor to the Municipal Election Commission and the Election Commission of the City of Skopje.

(4) The lists of candidates from paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall be submitted to the competent election commission no later than 35 days prior to the Election Day.

Article 67

(1) The State i.e. Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje from article 66 of this Code, shall, upon the receipt of the lists of candidate i.e. candidates, examine whether they have been submitted within the prescribed deadline and whether the lists have been compiled in accordance with the provisions of this Code.
(2) Should the State i.e. Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje determine that there are irregularities in the list, it shall call upon the authorised representative of the submitter, i.e., the first signed candidate for Member of Parliament, to eliminate the irregularities within 48 hours from the receipt of the lists.
(3) Should the State i.e. Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje determine that the lists have been submitted within the prescribed deadline and have been compiled in accordance with the provisions of this Code, i.e. the irregularities and the omissions have been eliminated by the lists submitters within the deadline set in paragraph 2 of this article, it shall confirm the submitted lists with a decision.
(4) Should the State i.e. Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje determine that the lists have not been submitted timely, i.e. the irregularities and the omissions have not been eliminated by the list submitters within the deadline set in paragraph 2 of this article, the submitted lists shall be rejected with a decision within 24 hours from the receipt of the lists.
(5) Against the decision of the Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje stipulated in paragraph 4 of this article, lawsuit may be submitted to the Administrative Court, within 24 hours upon the receipt of the decision.
(6) Against the decision of the State Election Commission from paragraph 4 of this article, a lawsuit may be submitted to the Administrative Court through the State Election Commission within 24 hours upon receipt of the decision.
(7) The Administrative Court is obliged to take a decision within 24 hours upon receipt of the lawsuit.
(8) Submitting complaints and lawsuit by post shall not be permitted.
(9) Filing complaints and lawsuits on the voting in electoral districts in Europe and Africa, North and South America and Australia and Asia may not be done by post and shall be done through the official representative of the candidates for those electoral districts in the Republic of Macedonia.

Article 68

(1) The order of the candidates in the list of candidates i.e. the order of the lists of candidates shall be determined by the State Election Commission by drawing lots. This number shall be the same in all electoral districts, i.e. municipalities, and in the electoral district i.e. municipality where there is no own representative, the respective number of the list submitter shall be left out and in his place shall be written the ordinal number of the following head of the list without leaving an empty space.
(2) The candidate lists for council members and for mayors that have been submitted by the same submitter shall receive the same ordinal number in all municipalities (or just in the respective municipality).
(3) The Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje, after confirming the list of candidates for council members and the list of candidates for mayors, shall submit the lists to the State Election Commission for

determining the order of candidates in the single list of candidates, based on p. (1) and (2) of this article.

(4) The State Election Commission shall previously notify the authorised representatives of the list submitters about the activities it will undertake in line with the p. (1) and p. (2) of this article.

6. Publishing the lists

Article 69

(1) The State Election Commission shall publish the verified list of candidate for Election of President of the Republic in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia", at the latest 30 days prior to Election Day.

(2) The State Election Commission shall publish the verified lists of candidates for Members of Parliament in the Electoral Districts in the daily newspapers, of which one shall be in the language of the community spoken by at least 20% of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia, at the latest 25 days prior to Election Day.

(3) State Elections Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall deliver to the DCO unified lists for their publication within 48 hours.

(4) The Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall announce the verified single lists of candidates for Members of Council i.e. lists of candidate for Mayor, by displaying them in all inhabited places and in the polling stations in the municipality, at the latest 25 days prior to Election Day.

(5) The Municipal Election Commissions i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall post the verified lists of candidates for Members of Parliament in the polling stations in the municipality for which they are competent.

(6) In the units of the local self-government where at least 20% of citizens speak an official language other than the Macedonian, the verified lists of candidates shall be published, in addition to the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet, also in the official language and alphabet that are used by citizens in that unit of local self-government.

VI. ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Article 69-a

(1) As an election campaign is considered: public gathering and other public events organised by the campaign organiser, public display of posters, video presentations in public areas, electoral media and internet presentation, dissemination of printed materials and public presentation of confirmed candidates by official electoral bodies and their programmes.

(2) The election campaign commences 20 days prior the Election Day and in the first and the second round of election cannot continue 24 hours before elections and on the Election Day.

1. Organiser of election campaign

Article 70

(1) Submitter of a list of candidates whose list of candidates for election of President of the Republic, Members of Parliament, Members of Council, candidates for Mayor, have been confirmed by the competent election commission, shall have the right to organise election campaigns (hereinafter: "organisers of election campaign").

(2) The organisers of election campaign shall have the right to use equally and under the same conditions all forms of political promotions action, press releases, and other forms of promotional actions, which aim to influence the voters' decision during voting.

(3) Foreign legal entities and persons may not organise election campaigns.

Article 71

(1) For the purpose of collecting funds for financing of an election campaign, the political party, coalition, the submitter of a independent list of a group of electors, i.e. persons having an intention to candidate, are obliged to register unique tax number labelled “for election campaign” and to open a bank account labelled “for the election campaign”, which may not be used for other purpose whatsoever.

(2) The entities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, are obliged to register unique tax number and to open a bank account from paragraph 1 of this Article the latest within 48 hours after verification of the list of candidates, and the earliest within 48 hours after calling the elections. During this 48 hrs deadline, the proof for the registered unique tax number and the opened bank account shall be submitted to the competent election commission.

(3) The registering of unique tax number and the opening of the bank account from paragraph (1) of this Article for a coalition, political party, group of electors, i.e. persons having an intention to candidate, shall be agreed upon by a coalition agreement, i.e. statement of intention, notary certified, given by the political party, group of electors, i.e. persons having an intention to candidate.

(4) Should the political party, the coalition, the submitter of independent list of group of electors, i.e. persons having an intention to candidate, fail to register a unique tax number and open a bank account within the time period specified in paragraph (2) of this Article, the list of candidates shall be rejected by a decision taken by the competent Election Commission.

(5) In case when the bank account is opened by the submitter of independent list of group of electors, i.e. persons having an intention to candidate, the authorized signatory of the bank account shall be the submitter of independent list or person authorized by the list submitter.

(6) All funds transferred by legal entities or private persons for financing the election campaign shall be deposited on the bank account from paragraph (1) of this Article. The donations for financing the election campaigns may be transferred only onto the bank account from paragraph 1 of this Article, and latest by the date determined for submitting the financial report for financing the election campaign defined by Article 85, paragraph (1) of this Code.

(7) In case of not submitting or not confirming the list of candidates, the entities from paragraph (1) of this Article who have registered unique tax number and have opened a bank account are obliged to return the unspent funds to the donor proportionally to the donated amount of funds and within a time period of 60 (sixty) days.

(8) In case a coalition agreement has been made between entities from paragraph (1) of this Article, the entities from paragraph (1) of this Article, who had previously registered a unique tax number and had opened a bank account, shall be obliged to annul the registered UTN from the respective registry and to close the bank account after having transferred the funds, the rights and obligations of the bank account under the coalition agreement and the registered UTN, within the deadlines from paragraph (2) of this Article.

(9) All funds aimed for financing of the election campaign shall be transferred onto the bank account from paragraph (1) of this Article and all expenses aimed for the election campaign shall be made from such bank account.

Article 72

(1) The election campaign organiser shall be responsible for the legality of the conduct of the election campaign.

(2) The election campaign organiser shall also be responsible for the election campaign activities of other persons that have been authorised by election campaign organiser.

Article 73

(1) If during the election campaign or during the public events or promotional activities by organisers of election campaigns, the rights of candidates are being violated (by preventing and disturbing the opponents' campaign), the candidates have the right to immediately initiate a procedure before the competent Basic Court for the protection of their rights.
(2) The Basic Court shall decide upon the request for protection of voting rights within 48 hours after the request has been submitted.
(3) Appeal against the decision of the Basic Court may be lodged before the competent Court of Appeals within 48 hours after it has been received.
(4) The competent Court of Appeals shall decide within 48 hours of the day the appeal was submitted.
(5) The final decision shall immediately be announced in the media.

Article 74

From the day of making the Decision for announcement of elections to the completion of the elections for President of the Republic of Macedonia, Members of Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, and appointment of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia in accordance with the results from the elections as well as from the day of making the decision for announcement of elections to the completion of the elections for Mayor or Members of the Council i. e until the constitution of the Municipal Council and the Council of the City of Skopje no extra payment of salaries, pensions, social benefits or other payments from the state budget or other public funds is allowed.

2. Media Presentation

Article 75

(1) The Broadcasting Council after previously obtained opinion from the State Election Commission adopts a Rulebook on the conduct of broadcasters in the period before commencement of the election campaign and a Rulebook on equitable access to media presentation during election campaign and shall publish them in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia.
(2) The Rulebook on the conduct of broadcasters in the period before commencement of the electoral campaign shall stipulate the contents to be considered election media presentation and which shall not be allowed in the period before the commencement of the election campaign as well as the conduct of broadcasters from the day of announcement of elections to the day set for commencement of the election campaign.
(3) The Rulebook on equitable access to media presentation during election campaign shall stipulate the forms of equitable electoral media presentation during the election campaign, the manner for securing equitable approach in presenting the participants in the electoral process in all forms of election media presentation and the methods of reporting during the election silence in the programming schemes of the broadcasters.
(4) The broadcasters are required to comply with the rulebooks from paragraph 1 of this article.
(5) The broadcasters are required to allow equitable access to election media presentation during the election campaign to all participants in the election process in accordance with the Rulebook on equitable access to media presentation during election campaign.

Article 75-a

(1) During the election campaign, the broadcasters covering the elections can broadcast additional 15 minutes of advertising on every real hour broadcasted program, exclusively allocated for paid political advertising whereas only 10 minutes can be allocated to a single participant in the election campaign.
(2) Broadcasting and printed media are required within five days from the day of announcement of elections to establish price lists for paid political advertising of election programmes and candidates of participants in the election process.
(3) During the period from establishing the price lists to the commencement of the election campaign, the media are required to, at least twice, publicly announce the price lists from paragraph 2 of this article in their program or printed editions.
(4) The price lists cannot be changed during the election campaign.
(5) Printed media are required to submit the price lists from paragraph 2 of this article to the State Election Commission and State Audit Office within the deadline set in paragraph 3 of this article while broadcasters also to the Broadcasting Council of the Republic of Macedonia.
(6) Broadcasting and printed media in the Republic of Macedonia are required to provide equitable access to paid political presentation to all participants in the election process.

Article 76

(1) Paid political advertising must be properly and visibly indicated as “paid political advertising” and clearly separated from other media contents.
(2) The client ordering the advertising must be clearly indicated in all the forms of paid political advertising.
(3) Participation of minors in paid political advertising is prohibited.
(4) Broadcasters cannot broadcast paid political advertising during news, special informative programmes, educational and children programmes and during live broadcast from religious, sport, cultural, entertainment and other events.
(5) The public broadcasting service shall not broadcast paid political advertising.

3. Media coverage

Article 76-a

(1) The public broadcasting service is required, without compensation, in cooperation with the State Election Commission to inform the citizens on the manner and techniques of voting and to broadcast other election process related information.
(2) During the election campaign the public broadcasting service is required to broadcast political presentation of participants in the election process free of charge and in accordance with the Rulebook on equitable access to media presentation during election campaign.

Article 76-b

(1) The Broadcasting Council is required to follow the election media presentation and programmatic schemes of broadcasters in the Republic of Macedonia from the day of announcement of elections until the end of voting on the Election Day.
(2) After establishing irregularities, the Broadcasting Council is required to institute misdemeanour procedure against the broadcaster that violated the provisions of this Code before the relevant court.
(3) The respective court is obliged to decide upon the request for misdemeanour proceedings within 3 days of the day of receipt of the request.
(4) The decision of the competent court can be appealed within 48 hrs of the day of receipt of the decision.
(5) The appellate court should decide upon the appeal within 48 hours of the day of receipt of the appeal.

4. Opinion polls

Article 77

(1) Opinion polls related to participants in the election process shall be published no later than 5 days before Election Day.
(2) When publishing the opinion polls related to participants in the election process the media are required to provide information on the client who ordered and financed the poll, the institution that conducted the poll, applied methodology, size and the structure of the sample and the period when the poll was conducted.

5. Election posters

Article 78

(1) Displaying election posters free of charge shall be allowed only at locations determined by the municipality, i.e. the City of Skopje.
(2) The municipality and the City of Skopje have an obligation to mark the locations from paragraph 1 of this article separately for each list submitter.
(3) The municipality and the City of Skopje may determine additional places where posters can be displayed for a fee.
(4) Municipalities and the City of Skopje immediately after the end of elections are obliged to utilize part of the funds referred to in paragraph 3 of this article in order to eliminate the garbage left during the election campaign.
(5) The municipality and the City of Skopje are obliged to announce the conditions for obtaining the right to use the locations for displaying posters no later than 50 days prior to Election Day.
(6) The municipality and the City of Skopje are obliged to ensure equal conditions for all election campaign organisers when displaying posters at the designated locations.
(7) Election posters may be displayed on residential buildings and other private buildings, with prior consent of the owner of the building.
(8) Election posters may not be displayed on buildings where the polling station is located or in the room where voting takes place.

Article 79

(1) Destroying election posters or affixing posters on top of the posters of the other election campaign organisers shall be forbidden.
(2) The organizer of the election campaign is obliged, within 30 days after the end of the elections, to clean up the garbage left over from the posters.

6. Pre-election rallies

Article 80

(1) The pre-election rallies shall be public.
(2) The body in charge of internal affairs shall be in charge of keeping law and order during the pre-election rallies.

Article 81

The election campaign organiser shall inform in writing the competent body for internal affairs, through the regional office regarding the organisation of a pre-election rally on public places and on public transport places, no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled time for the rally.

Article 82

(1) Pre-election rallies may not be held in military buildings, religious buildings, hospitals, retirement homes, schools, kindergartens, and other public institutions.

(2) As an exception, the organisers shall be allowed to hold pre-election rallies in schools, or cultural centres if there is no other appropriate building in the municipality where the rally could be held.
(3) The permission for holding a pre-election rally shall be issued by a person in charge of the institution, under equal conditions for all election campaign organisers.
(4) The facilities, equipment or other property of the state bodies and bodies of local self-government and the City of Skopje may not be used for the purposes of election campaigns.
(5) As an exception, the facilities of the bodies from paragraph 4 of this article may be used if there are no other appropriate facilities in the place that may be used for the purposes of election campaign.
(6) The permission shall be issued by the person in charge of the institution, under equal conditions for all election campaign organizers.

7. Financing of the elections

Article 83

(1) The election campaigns may not be financed from:
- Funds from the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia, except the funds defined in article 86, paragraph 2 of this Code;
- Funds from the budget of municipalities and the City of Skopje, except the funds defined in article 86, paragraph 2 of this Code;
- Funds from public enterprises and institutions;
- Funds from citizens' associations, religious communities, religious groups, and foundations;
- Funds from foreign governments, international institutions, bodies, and organisations of foreign states and other foreigners;
- Funds from joint ventures with dominant foreign capital; and
- Funds from unidentified sources.

(2) The election campaign may be financed by:
- the membership fee of the political party;
- private persons, up to 5,000 Euro in Denar equivalent; and
- legal entities, up to 5% of the total income in the previous year.

(3) The electoral campaign may be financed by donations of private persons and legal entities in a form of money, goods and services in a value that may not exceed the amount determined in paragraph 2, lines 2 and 3 of this article.
(4) If the amount of the donation is larger than the amount determined in paragraph 2, lines 2 and 3 of this article, the organiser of the electoral campaign shall be obliged to transfer the difference between the allowed and donated value to the Budget of Republic of Macedonia, within 5 days of receiving the donation.
(5) If the origin of the donation cannot be determined, the organiser of the electoral campaign is obliged within the 5 days of receiving the donation, to transfer the donated value to the Budget of Republic of Macedonia.

Article 83-a

(1) In terms of article 83 of this Code, the following shall also be considered as a donation:
- providing services free of charge to the organisers of the electoral campaign;
- providing services to the organiser, which are funded by a third party;
- selling of goods and providing services to the organisers of campaigns and charging prices lower than the market prices.

(2) The seller of the goods, i.e. the service provider shall be obliged to inform the organiser of the electoral campaign of the market price of the goods sold, i.e. the services provided and shall be obliged to send him/her the invoice.
(3) The difference between the market price and the invoiced value shall be considered as donation.
(4) Pubic companies shall be obliged to offer equal prices for their services to all the participants in the campaign through their official price lists.
(5) The discounts in the prices that the broadcasters and printed media outlets give for political advertising to the participants of the electoral campaign shall be considered as a donation, expressed in money value.

Article 83-b

(1) The organizer of electoral campaign during the campaign shall keep a registry of donations with the following data:
   - The name, i.e. title of each of the donors;
   - The type and the value of the donation;
   - The date of receipt of the donation
(2) The registry of donations shall also contain data of paid donation of subjects which are directly or indirectly related to the political party or are under its control.
(3) The registry of donations is kept in a template prescribed by a rulebook adopted by the Minister of Finance, which establishes the form, the content and the manner of keeping the registry of donations.

Article 84

When financing the election campaign, the election campaign organiser may spend no more than 180 Denars per registered voter in the electoral district i.e. municipality for which they have submitted list of candidate/s.

Article 84-a

From the day of adopting the decision to call elections until the end of the elections, the state bodies and the bodies of the local self-government and of the City of Skopje may not publish advertisements financed by the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia, i.e. the budgets of the municipalities and of the City of Skopje.

Article 84-b

(1) The organiser of the election campaign is required on the eleventh day from the day of the election campaign to submit financial report on the incomes and expenditures on the election campaign bank account from the day it was open until the end of the tenth day of the election campaign.
(2) The organiser of the election campaign is required one day after the end of the election campaign to submit financial report on the incomes and expenditures on the election campaign bank account for the second half of the election campaign.
(3) Reports from paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article shall be submitted on a template adopted by the Minister of Finance, which includes information on the name or designation of the donor, type and amount of donations, dates when donations were received and expenditures for each donation as well as incomes and expenditures throughout the election campaign.
(4) Integral part of the template from p. (3) of this article shall form the Guidelines for the manner of filling out the template of the report.
(5) Reports are submitted to the State Election Commission, State Audit Office and the State Commission for Preventing Corruption, which are required to publish them on their web sites.

8. Financial Report

Article 85

(1) The organiser of the election campaign is required, immediately and no later than 30 days after the end of the election campaign, to submit total financial report on the election campaign.
(2) The financial report on the election campaign shall be submitted in a form prescribed in article 84-b, paragraph 3.
(3) The financial report shall be submitted to the State Election Commission, State Audit Office, State Commission for Preventing Corruption and the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, and for the local elections also to the Municipal Council and the Council of the City of Skopje.
(4) The financial report from paragraph 3 of this article shall be published by State Election Commission, State Audit Office and the State Commission for Preventing Corruption on their websites.
(5) When the organiser of a campaign is a group of electors, the excess of collected funds shall be donated to charity.
(6) The State Audit Office shall, within 60 days of the submission of the report from p.(1) of this article, conduct a revision. The revision shall include all transactions conducted as of the day of the opening of the election account until its closure.
(7) Should the State Audit Office (SAO) detect irregularities in the financial report of the election campaign organiser, which are contrary to the provisions of this Code, the SAO shall initiate a misdemeanour procedure or it shall report the irregularities to the respective public prosecutor within 30 days of the day of its detection.
(8) The State Election Commission, the State Audit Office and the State Commission on Prevention of Corruption shall sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation. This Memorandum shall govern the implementation of the provisions on election campaign financing for exchange of information on detected irregularities in the submitted financial reports and the respective measures taken against the party which is subject of oversight.

Article 85-a

(1) The broadcasters and the print media outlets in the Republic of Macedonia shall be obliged to submit a report for the advertising space that has been used by the each organiser of the electoral campaign and the financial means that have been paid or are invoiced to be paid based.
(2) The report from paragraph 1 of this article shall be submitted no later than 15 days following the day of the completion of the electoral campaign.
(3) The report from paragraph 1 of this article shall be submitted to the State Election Commission, the State Audit Office and State Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, which shall be obliged to publish them on their web sites.
(4) The report from paragraph 1 of this article shall be submitted on a template prescribed by the Minister of Finance.

Article 85-b

The audit reports of the reports of the campaign organisers shall be published on the State Audit Office website, within a deadline prescribed by law.

9. Reimbursement of election expenses

Article 86

(1) The election campaign organisers whose candidates have been elected Members of Parliament, Member of Council, and Mayors, shall have the right to reimbursement of the election expenses of 15 Denars per vote won.

(2) The organizers of election campaign from whose candidates' lists have not been elected candidate for President of the Republic, candidate for Member of Parliament, candidate for Member of Council, candidate for Mayor, shall have the right to reimbursement of election expenses in the amount of 15 Denars per vote won, if they have won at least 1.5% of the total number of cast votes on the level of the Republic, electoral district, i.e. municipality.
(3) The reimbursement of election expenses shall be paid from the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia, i.e. from the budget of the municipality and the City of Skopje, within 3 months from the day of submitting the financial report on the election campaign, based on the report from the State Election Commission regarding the elections.
(4) The reimbursement of the election expenses shall be determined with a decision of the Parliament, of the Municipal Council and the Council of the City of Skopje.

Article 87

(1) Based on the decision from article 86, paragraph 4 of this Code, the competent body shall adopt a decision for non-reimbursement of the expenses to the election campaign organisers in accordance with article 85, paragraph 7 of this Code.

VII. ADMINISTERING THE ELECTIONS

1. Funds for administering the elections

Article 88

(1) The funds for administering elections shall be provided from the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia and they shall be at the disposal of the State Election Commission.
(2) Two thirds of the funds intended for the elections shall be used to cover the expenses related to the election activities of the bodies in charge of administering the elections.
(3) One third of the funds intended for administering the elections shall be used to cover part of the expenses incurred by the election campaign organisers whose candidates have been elected.
(4) The funds for administering local elections shall be provided for from the budget of the municipality and the City of Skopje and they shall be at the disposal of the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje; the funds for the election materials shall be provided from the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia and they shall be at disposal of the State Election Commission.

2. Election material

Article 89

The election materials for administering the elections shall consist of

- Ballot boxes and panels;
- Forms for protocols and a notebook for the work of the Election Boards;
- Ballot booklet, according to the excerpts of the Voters List;
- Candidates lists;
- Signed excerpt from the Voters List;
- Devices for marking and inspection of persons who have voted (UV lamp, spray and pad);
- Seals;
- Voting guidelines; and
- Other materials necessary for voting.

Article 90

(1) The voting guidelines shall be displayed on a visible place on the voting panels and other visible places at the polling stations in accordance with the instruction issued by the State Election Commission. The instruction shall be printed in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet and in the languages and alphabets of the other communities mentioned in the Preamble of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia.
(2) The Candidate list shall be displayed in the polling station.

3. Transferring the election material

Article 91

(1) The State Election Commission shall transfer the election materials to the Municipal Election Commissions no later than 72 hours prior to Election Day.
(2) The State Elections Commission shall transfer the election materials to the authorised person from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, no later than 10 days prior to Election Day.
(3) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall transfer the election materials to the DCO, immediately and no later than 24 hours upon receipt.
(4) For the transfer of the election materials protocol shall be filled out, in which the total number of ballots with the related serial numbers and the required number of lists of candidates to be displayed in the voting facilities shall be indicated.

Article 92

(1) The Municipal Election Commission shall be obliged to transfer the election materials to the Election Boards on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia one day prior to Election Day.
(2) For the transfer of the election materials from the Municipal Election Commission to the Election Boards a protocol shall be filled out, in which the total number of ballots with the related serial numbers and the rest of the necessary voting material shall be indicated.
(3) The president and Election Board members, and the member of the election commission who is transferring the material shall all sign the protocols.
(4) Should the present representatives of the lists submitters have objections to the transfer of the election materials, they shall have the right to record the same in the protocol and they may be used as a basis in the procedure for protection of the right to vote.
(5) If the objections of the authorised representatives from paragraph 4 of this article are not recorded in the protocol, they shall have the right to submit them to the Municipal Election Commission within five hours of the signing of the protocol.
(6) Authorised observers shall have the right to be present at the transfer of election materials.

4. Ballot

Article 93

(1) The ballot shall be printed in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet.
(2) The name of the list submitter, the name and the surname of the candidate i.e. the head of the list shall be written in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet.
(3) For the members of the other communities, the name of the list submitter, the name and the surname of the candidate i.e. the head of the list shall be written in the Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet and in the language and the alphabet of the community to which they belong.
(4) In units of local self-government where at least 20% of citizens speak an official language other than Macedonian, the ballots for the elections shall be printed, in

addition to Macedonian and its Cyrillic alphabet, also in the official language and alphabet that are used by citizens in that unit of local self-government.

Article 94

(1) If there are list submitters with the same name and surname, then the initial letter of their middle name shall also be written.
(2) On the ballot, the candidates shall be given the same order as defined in the unique candidates' list.
(3) The ballot shall contain a part for voting and a part that shall remain on the ballot stub.

For President of the Republic

Article 95

(1) The part of the ballot for voting in the election of President of the Republic shall contain:
   - Title of the ballot, municipality and number of the polling station, for voting in the Republic of Macedonia
   - Title of the ballot, the location of the DCO for the out-of-country voting;
   - Ordinal number, name and symbol (if any) of the list submitter; and
   - Name and surname of the candidates, according to data from the public registry.
(2) The part of the ballot that remains on the ballot stub shall contain the serial number of the ballot, the municipality, i.e. the seat of the DCO and the number of the polling station.
(3) The name of the ballot shall contain the flag of the Republic of Macedonia.

For Members of Parliament

Article 96

(1) The part of the ballot used for voting in the election of Members of Parliament shall contain:
   - Title of the ballot, number of electoral district, municipality and number of the polling station;
   - Ordinal number, name and symbol (if any) of the list submitter; and
   - Name and surname of the candidates, according to data from the public registry.
(2) The part of the ballot that remains on the ballot stub shall contain the serial number of the ballot, the number of the electoral district, the municipality and the number of the polling station.
(3) The name of the ballot shall contain the number of the electoral district and the flag of the Republic of Macedonia.

For Member of Council

Article 97

(1) The part of the ballot used for voting in the election of Member of Council shall contain:
   - Title of the ballot, number of polling station, and municipality;
   - Ordinal number, name and symbol (if any) of the list submitter; and
   - Name and surname of the first candidate on the list, according to data from the public registry.
(2) The part of the ballot that remains on the ballot stub shall contain the serial number of the ballot, the municipality, and the number of the polling station.

(3) The name of the ballot for election of Member of Council shall contain the name of the municipality, i.e. the City of Skopje, for which the election is being administered.

For Mayor

Article 98

(1) The part of the ballot used for voting in the elections of Mayor shall contain:
- Title of the ballot, number of the polling station, and municipality;
- Name and symbol (if any) of the list submitter; and
- Ordinal number, name and surname of the candidates, according to data from the public registry.

(2) The part of the ballot that remains on the ballot stub shall contain the serial number of the ballot, the municipality, and the number of the polling station.

(3) The name of the ballot for election of Mayor shall contain the name of the municipality, i.e. the City of Skopje, for which the election is being administered.

5. Polling station

Article 99

(1) A place where voting will take place (premises in the facility) shall be determined for each polling station (hereinafter: polling station).

(2) The list of candidates shall be posted in the premises that have been determined.

Article 100

(1) The president and members of the Election Board shall gather in the premises where voting takes place no later than one hour prior to the beginning of the voting to determine whether:
- The room is in the same condition as was left on the day before Election Day;
- The election materials are in the same condition as left on the day before Election Day; and
- The ballot box is empty.

(2) The Election Board shall prepare a protocol on the condition encountered, which is signed by the president and members of the Election Board.

(3) The remarks of the board members shall be entered into the protocol.

(4) Should the present representatives of the lists submitters have any remarks, the president shall be obliged to enable them to enter them in the protocol and they may be used as a basis in the procedure for protection of the right to vote.

(5) If the remarks of the present representatives of the lists submitters from paragraph 4 of this article are not entered in the protocol, they shall have the right to submit the remarks to the Municipal Election Commission within five hours after the signing of the protocol.

(6) Authorised observers shall also have the right to be present at the inspection of the conditions before voting begins.

6. Duration of voting

Article 101

(1) Voting shall begin at 7:00 am and last uninterruptedly until 7:00 pm, and in the DCOs the time difference in the country shall be taken into consideration, i.e. from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm according to the time zone in the country where the voting takes place.

(2) The polling station shall be closed at 7:00 pm, and the voters who happen to be in the building where the voting takes place will be allowed to cast their vote.

(3) The Election Board may close the polling station before the end of the period from paragraph 1 of this article, in case when all the voters registered on the excerpt of the Voters List have already cast their votes, but shall not start with the counting of the votes before 19.00

7. Securing the polling station

Article 102

(1) The police shall secure the polling station from 6:00am until 7:00pm.
(2) Upon closure of the polling station and during the counting of the votes, the police shall secure the building where the polling station and the Election Board are located and shall remove all unauthorised persons from the building.
(3) Upon request by the Election Board, the police shall secure the Election Board until the protocols and the electoral materials are transferred to the Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje.

8. Competencies of the Election Board during voting

Article 103

(1) The Election Board shall maintain peace and order at the polling station.
(2) The Election Board may remove anybody who disturbing the peace and order at the polling station.
(3) The facility where the polling station is located and access to it shall be secured by the police during voting.
(4) The Election Board may ask for police assistance in order to restore order at the polling station.
(5) Nobody shall be allowed to come to the polling station armed, except for the police in the case provided for in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this article.
(6) The Election Board in co-operation with police shall be obliged to remove the promotional materials from the building or the room where voting takes place.
(7) The police, upon request from the Election Board shall be obliged to remove the unauthorised persons from the building and the room where voting takes place as well as the unauthorised persons in a radius of 100 meters from the building where voting takes place.

Article 104

(1) The Election Board may suspend the voting when the order at the polling station is disturbed, up until the moment it is again restored.
(2) The voting may be suspended in cases of natural disasters or other emergency circumstances.
(3) The Election Board shall suspend the voting if the building where the polling station is located is not secured by the police, and this was needed, or if the police was summoned but failed to respond to the request.
(4) The president or the deputy of the president of the Election Board may summon the police to enter in the room where voting is taking place if there is a need for that.
(5) If voting has been disrupted for more than an hour, it will be prolonged for as much time as the disruption lasted, but no longer than three hours.
(6) The reasons for the disruption of the voting and its duration shall be entered into the protocol.

9. Rights and obligations of the list submitters and the authorised observers during voting

Article 105

(1) Should the representatives of the lists submitters have any remarks on the work of the Election Board during voting, they may point out the irregularities in order to eliminate the same.
(2) Should the present representatives of the lists submitters have any remarks, the president of the Election Board shall be obliged to enable them to enter the remarks in the protocols and they may be used as a basis in the procedure for protection of the right to vote.
(3) If the objections of paragraph 2 of this article raised by the representatives of the lists submitters were not entered in the protocol, they shall have the right to submit the same to the Municipal Election Commission within five hours after the signing of the protocols.
(4) Accredited observers, should they have any objection about the work of the Election Board, shall have the right to enter them in the log of the polling station.
(5) Representatives of the list submitters and accredited observers may follow up-close the verification of a voter's identity who is approaching to vote.

Article 106

(1) The president, the members of Municipal Election Commissions and Election Boards, as well as the Election Boards in the DCOs, and their deputies, as well as the representatives of list submitters, and the observers shall not be allowed to have any marks or symbols of a political party, coalition or candidate.
(2) Authorized representatives of submitters of lists, during the voting at the polling stations, shall wear badge with the number of the polling station they are authorised to observe.
(3) Electoral board can remove from the polling station any person who uses mobile phone or a camera to take photographs of the ballot paper during voting.

10. Voting

Article 107

(1) The voting takes please in person at the polling stations in the Republic of Macedonia and in the DCOs.
(2) Voting on behalf of other person shall not be permitted, except in cases stipulated in article 111 of this Code.

Verifying the identity of the voter

Article 108

(1) The voters vote one at a time.
(2) When the voter approaches to vote, a member of the Election Board examines if the voter is at the appropriate polling station and with an ultraviolet lamp checks whether the voter has an inerasable mark on the nail and the thumb of the right hand of the voter.
(3) When the voter approaches to vote, the Election Board checks his/her personal identity.
(4) The voter shall prove his/her personal identity with an identity card or a passport.
(5) Having verified the voter's identity, the Election Board circles the ordinal number of the voter in the excerpt of the Voters List and the voter puts his/her signature there. If the voter is illiterate, then the voter shall affix his/her fingerprint of the right thumb. If the voter does not have a right thumb, then the voter shall affix the fingerprint of

the left thumb. If he/she does not have a left thumb as well, then no fingerprint shall be affixed.

(6) After the identification, the voter shall be given a ballot and his/her right thumb shall be marked with invisible ink, that is, the left thumb, if no right thumb, paying close attention to mark the thumbnail as well. If the voter has no thumbs on both hands, then there will be no marking.

11. Manner of voting

Article 109

(1) Voting shall be performed with one ballot for each type of election determined by this Code.
(2) The ballot shall be removed in numerical sequence from the stub of the booklet, a stamp shall be put on the front side of the ballot and it shall be given to the voter.
(3) The voter shall be instructed of the manner of voting and shall be allowed to vote.
(4) The voter cast his vote concurrently when there are two or more elections or or a referendum.

Article 110

(1) The voter shall cast their vote by circling the ordinal number of the list submitter i.e. the ordinal number of the candidate for whom he/she has decided to vote and shall put the folded ballot into the ballot box.

Voting of incapacitated and ill persons

Article 111

(1) The voter who is unable to vote at the polling station (incapacitated or ill person, pursuant to the Instruction of the State Election Commission) but wants to vote, shall notify the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje thereof no later than 3 days prior to Election Day.
(2) The notification referred to in paragraph 1 of this article may also be submitted through a proxy.
(3) The Election Board shall enable the person referred to in paragraph 1 of this article to vote in his/her home or the hospital where he/she is located, one day prior to Election Day in a manner that will guarantee the secrecy of the voting.
(4) The Election Board shall provide a special ballot box for the voting referred to in paragraph 3 of this article, which is taken empty to the home or hospital where the voter is located.
(5) The voting, referred to in paragraph 3 of this article, shall be recorded in the protocol of the Election Board.
(6) For the date and time of voting, referred to in paragraph 3 of this article, the president of the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall notify the representatives of the list submitters in writing.

Voting of persons who are not able to vote by themselves

Article 112

(1) A Voter, who due to a physical disability or illiteracy is unable to vote in the manner defined by this Code, shall have the right to bring along a person to assist him/her with voting.
(2) If the voter referred to in paragraph 1 of this article does not bring along a person to assist him/her with voting, the Election Board shall appoint another person from among the voters.
(3) The person helping another person with voting may come from among the Election Board members, representatives of the list submitters or observers.

(4) The same person may provide voting assistance to no more than two voters, referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.
(5) The Election Board shall instruct the person referred to in paragraph 3 of this article that his/her assistance should not influence the voter's choice.
(6) The voting referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be recorded in the protocol of the Election Board.

Article 112-a

The electoral board shall enable the voting of a person with special needs who cannot enter the polling station and vote in accordance with this Code, based on the guidelines of the State Election Commission.

Voting of persons who on Election Day are serving a penitentiary sentence or are in custody or in home custody

Article 113

(1) Voters who on Election Day are serving a prison sentence or are in custody or in home custody shall vote in the penitentiary institutions or in the place of the home custody.
(2) Following receipt of the lists of voters who on Election Day are serving a prison sentence or are in custody or in home custody, the Municipal Election Commission is required to immediately submit the lists to the penitentiary institutions where the voters serve a prison sentence or are held in custody.
(3) The voters who on Election Day are serving home custody and are willing to vote shall use an authorised person to inform the Municipal Election Commission or the Election Commission of the city of Skopje, at the latest three days prior to the Election Day.
(4) For the voters referred to in p. (2) and (3) of this article, the elections shall be administered by the Electoral Board of the nearest polling station or a special Electoral Board, in accordance with this Code, one day before Election Day, and the representatives of the list submitters are notified thereof with a view to their being present at the voting.
(5) The Electoral Board shall enable voting for the voters referred to in p.(3) of this article in the place of home custody, one day before the Election Day, while preserving secrecy of the vote
(6) For the voting of p. (5) of this article the Electoral Board shall provide a separate empty ballot box, brought in the place where the voter is serving his/her home custody.
(7) With regard to the voting of voters referred to in p. (3) of this article, the State Election Commission informs the respective authorities that ordered the home custody and the respective investigative body.
(8) The Electoral Board shall produce separate protocols about the voting of these voters.
(9) The protocols and the election materials shall be submitted to the respective Municipal Election Commissions after the completion of voting.

Article 113-a

(1) The voters who are temporarily employed or residing abroad on Election Day shall vote in the DCO or consular offices of the Republic of Macedonia abroad, one day prior to the Election Day in the Republic of Macedonia.
(2) Out of country voting will be conducted in the DCO's and consular offices of the Republic of Macedonia abroad:
    - Republic of Albania – Tirana;
    - Republic of Austria – Vienna, which covers Slovakia and Japan;

- Commonwealth of Australia – Canberra and Melbourne;
- Kingdom of Belgium – Brussels, which covers Grand Dutch of Luxembourg;
- Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo;
- Republic of Bulgaria – Sofia, which covers Republic of Moldova;
- Canada – Ottawa and Toronto;
- People's Republic of China – Beijing, which covers the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Socialistic Republic of Vietnam;
- Republic of Croatia – Zagreb;
- Kingdom of Denmark – Copenhagen;
- Arabic Republic of Egypt – Cairo;
- Republic of Estonia – Tallinn;
- Republic of France – Paris and Strasbourg, which covers the Portuguese Republic;
- Federal Republic of Germany – Berlin, Bonn and Munich;
- Republic of Greece – Athens and Thessaloniki;
- Republic of Hungary – Budapest;
- India – New Delhi;
- Republic of Italy – Rome and Venice, which covers Malta;
- State of Israel – Tel Aviv;
- The Holy See of Vatican;
- Kingdom of Holland –The Hague;
- Republic of Poland – Warsaw;
- Romania – Bucharest;
- Russian Federation – Moscow, which covers the Republic of Belarus;
- Republic of Serbia – Belgrade;
- Republic of Slovenia – Ljubljana;
- Kingdom of Spain – Madrid;
- Kingdom of Sweden – Stockholm, which covers the Republic of Finland;
- Switzerland – Bern and Geneva, which cover the Principality of Lichtenstein;
- Republic of Turkey – Ankara and Istanbul, which covers Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan Republic, Azerbaijan Republic and Republic of Uzbekistan;
- Ukraine – Kiev;
- Great Britain – London, which covers Ireland and Republic of Iceland;
- USA – Washington, Detroit, Chicago and New York;
- Qatar – Doha;
- Montenegro – Podgorica;
- Czech Republic – Prague;
- Republic of Kosovo – Pristina; and
- Kingdom of Norway – Oslo

(3) The State Election Commission is obliged immediately after receiving the election material to deliver it to the DCO through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(4) For the voters referred to in the paragraph 1 of this article, the elections shall be conducted by the Election Boards in the DCO.

(5) Election Boards in the DCOs shall prepare protocols for the voting in the DCOs.

(6) The ballots are placed in separate envelopes, which shall indicate the location of the DCO and electoral district and it shall be sealed.

(7) Election Boards through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall deliver the protocols, sealed envelopes and other election materials to the State Elections Commission after voting is completed.

(8) State Elections Commission shall tabulate and determine the results from the out of country voting.

12. Tabulating and determining the election results at polling stations

Article 114

(1) The results of the voting at polling stations shall be tabulated and determined in the following manner:
- the unused ballot shall be counted and first the lower right hand corner shall be torn off and then they shall be put in a special envelope which shall be closed, sealed and the number of the unused ballots shall be written on it;
- the total number of voters registered in the excerpt of the Voter's List who have cast their vote and have placed their signature or fingerprint, shall be determined;
- the ballot box shall be opened and the counting of votes shall begin;
- by drawing lots, one member will be selected who will take out and open the ballots from the ballot box one at a time and hand them over to the president of the Election Board;
- the ballot is shown to all Election Board members, to the present representatives of the lists submitters, and to the observers;
- the Election Board shall determine whether or not the ballot is valid and for which list of candidates i.e. candidate the vote has been cast;
- the cast vote shall be recorded, the ballot shall be put in the corresponding place and a new ballot shall be taken out of the ballot box.

Valid ballot

Article 115

(1) The ballot shall be considered valid if it has been circled in the way prescribed in article 110 of this Code.
(2) A valid ballot shall be considered the one from which in a reliable and unambiguous way it can be established for which list of candidate or list of candidates the voter has cast his/her vote.
(3) The ballot shall be invalid if it is not filled out or multiple lists of candidates or candidate are circled.

Voting protocols

Article 116

(1) The Election Board shall enter the following information in the protocols: the ordinal number of the polling station, the number of the decision for establishing the polling station, the number of the decision for establishing the Election Board, the time of beginning and concluding the voting; the total number of voters in the polling station according to the excerpt of the Voters List; the total number of voters who have voted; the total number of sick and disabled persons who have voted; the total number of ballots put in the ballot box; the total number of ballots that have not been used; the total number of invalid ballots and the total number of votes each list of candidates has won separately.
(2) The protocols shall contain a separate tabular section for the tabulation and the determination of the results from the polling station.
(3) Remarks by the Election Board members shall be recorded in the protocol as well.

Article 117

(1) The protocol shall be signed by the president and Election Board members.
(2) The protocol shall be considered valid if signed by the majority of the Election Board members whose signatures have been deposited.

(3) The president of the Election Board should state the reasons for the protocol not being signed by a member of the Election Board.
(4) If the majority of members of the Election Board do not sign the protocols, the protocols shall be completed and signed by the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje, based upon the entire election materials.
(5) Should the present representatives of the list submitters have remarks, the president of the Election Board shall be obliged to enable them to enter their remarks in the protocol, and the remarks may be used as a basis in the procedure for protection of the right to vote.
(6) If the remarks by the representatives of the list submitters referred to in paragraph 5 of this article are not recorded in the protocol, they shall have the right to submit them to the Municipal Election Commission of the City of Skopje within 5 hours after the completion of the protocol and those comments may serve as grounds for submitting a complaint.
(7) If the accredited observers have any remarks on the work of the Election Board, they shall be entitled to enter them in the log at the polling station.

Hand over of the election materials to the Municipal Election Commission

Article 118

(1) The protocols and the other election materials shall be submitted to the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje by the Election Board within five hours after voting is completed.
(2) A copy of the protocols duplicated as a carbon copy shall be given to every representative of the list submitter, and the accredited observers. The original sample that has been previously verified with a seal from the State Election Commission shall be submitted to the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje.
(3) Upon the completion of the activities described in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article, the Election Board shall immediately announce and post the results tabulated from the voting conducted at the polling station.
(4) The election materials shall be submitted to the Municipal Election Commission i.e. Election Commission of the City of Skopje by the president of the Election Board accompanied by interested Election Board members or representatives of the lists submitters and representatives of the police, if deemed necessary.
(5) Separate protocols shall be prepared for the handover of the material of paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 118-a

(1) The protocol and other election material from the voting in the DCO shall be handed over by the electoral board to the responsible person of the DCO, designated by the State Election Commission (hereinafter “the responsible person of the DCO”) within 5 hours from the end of voting. A special protocol is prepared for this hand over.
(2) Every representative of the submitter of the list and accredited observers shall get a carbon copy of the protocol from the voting. The original sample, stamped earlier by the State Electoral Commission shall be delivered to the responsible person of the DCO.
(3) The responsible person of the DCO is obliged immediately to submit the State Election Commission the protocol from voting in the DCO, the entire electoral material from the voting in the DCO and one copy of the special protocol from paragraph 1.

13. Tabulating and determining the results from the voting for election of President of the Republic

Article 119

(1) The Municipal Election Commission shall, within five hours after receipt of the entire election materials from the Election Boards, tabulate the results of the voting for the list of candidates in the polling stations for which it is competent, and shall submit them to the State Election Commission.
(2) For its activities, the Municipal Election Commission prepares a protocol.
(3) The protocol on voting shall incorporate the data on the summed-up votes, the ordinal numbers of the polling stations in the electoral district for which the municipal commission is in charge, the total number of voters recorded in the excerpts of the Voters List for those polling stations, the total number of voters who voted, the total number of sick and disabled persons who voted, the total number of invalid ballots and the total number of votes received by each candidate list from the polling stations for which this Municipal Election Commission is in charge.
(4) Remarks from the members of the Municipal Election Commission are also entered into the protocol.

Article 119-a

(1) The protocol from article 119 of this Code is signed by the president and members of the Municipal Election Commission.
(2) The protocol shall be valid if it is signed by the majority of the members of the Municipal Election Commission.
(3) The president of the Municipal Election Commission is obliged to list the reasons for a member of the Municipal Election Commission refusing the sign the protocol.
(4) The president of the Municipal Election Commission is obliged to allow the present representatives of submitters of the lists, if they have remarks, to record them into the protocol so that the remarks will serve as a basis in the procedure for the protection of the voting right.
(5) Copy of the report is provided to each representative of submitters of the lists and accredited observers.

First round

Article 120

The candidate who wins a majority of votes from the total number of voters registered in the Voters List shall be elected as President of the Republic

Second round

Article 121

(1) If no candidate for President of the Republic wins the required majority in the first round, then voting will be administered in the second round for two candidates who won the most votes in the first round.
(2) The second-round of voting shall take place within 14 days after the first-round of voting.
(3) For president is elected a candidate who received majority of the votes providing that more than 40% of the voters have cast their votes.

Repetition of the voting

Article 122

(1) The entire election procedure shall be repeated if no candidate wins the required majority in the second round of voting as well.

(2) The entire election procedure shall be repeated if only one candidate is nominated for President of the Republic and that candidate fails to win the required majority in the first round of voting.

Statement

Article 123

(1) Before assuming office, no later than ten days from the day the results are announced, but not prior to the end of the term of the previous President, the President of the Republic shall give and sign an ceremonial oath before the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, as follows:
"I hereby declare that I shall execute the Office of the President of the Republic of Macedonia in conscientious and responsible manner, that I shall respect the Constitution and the Laws, and that I shall protect the sovereignty, the territorial integrity and the independence of the Republic of Macedonia".

(2) The President of the Republic of Macedonia, elected in presidential elections due to cessation of term, shall deliver the oath from paragraph 1 of this article three days after the final results are announced.

14. Tabulating and determining of the result from the voting for election of Members of Parliament

Article 124

(1) The Municipal Election Commission, within five hours from receiving the entire election material from the Election Boards for which it is competent, shall tabulate the results of the voting for the lists of candidates, at the polling stations of the corresponding electoral district.

Voting protocols

Article 125

(1) The Municipal Election Commission shall prepare protocols for its work

(2) The protocols on the voting shall contain data on the tabulated results of the voting such as: ordinal number of the polling stations in the electoral district for which it is competent, the total number of voters for those polling stations registered in the excerpts in the Voters List, the total number of voters who have voted, the total number of ill and incapacitated persons who voted, the total number of invalid ballots and the total number of votes cast for each list of candidates at a level of electoral district and from the polling stations for which the Municipal Election Commission is competent.

Article 126

(1) The protocols from article 125 of this Code shall be signed by the president and the members of the Municipal Election Commission.

(2) The protocols shall be considered valid if signed by the majority of the members of the Municipal Election Commission.

(3) The president of the Municipal Election Commission should state the reasons for the protocols not being signed by a member of the commission.

(4) In case the present representatives of the lists submitters have remarks, the President of the Municipal Election Commission shall be obliged to enable them to enter the remarks in the protocols and they may serve as basis in the procedure for protection of the right to vote.

(5) Each representative of the list submitter and accredited observers shall receive a copy of the protocols as well .

15. Determining results and distributing mandates for the election of Members of Parliament

Article 127

(1) The State Election Commission shall determine the total results of the voting in the electoral districts.
(2) The State Election Commission shall determine the voting results based on the result protocols tabulated by the Municipal Election Commissions and the entire election material.
(3) The State Election Commission shall determine the results for each individual electoral district according to the number of the total votes that individual lists of candidates have won based on the tabulated results by the Municipal Election Commission for the polling stations in the electoral district for which it is competent.
(4) When determining the election results, the d`Hondt formula shall be applied.
(5) Having determined the total number of votes cast for that number of candidates in the electoral district (so-called electorate), each list is divided by the sequence of quotients 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. until all seats in the electoral district are allocated according to the determined principle.
(6) The quotients of the division, referred to in paragraph 5 of this article, are classified by size, whereby relevant are as many of the largest quotients as there are Members of Parliament being elected in the electoral district.
(7) A list of candidates shall obtain as many parliamentary seats as there are largest quotients out of the number of quotients referred to in paragraph 6 of this article.
(8) Should there be two identical quotients when distributing the last seat in the Parliament the mandate shall be allotted by drawing lots.
(9) When allocating the seats in the Parliament, the number of mandates shall correspond to the number of seats won by the list.
(10) Candidates are elected from the list of candidates according to the established sequence.

Article 127-a

(1) The State Election Commission shall tabulate and determine the total results from the voting in the three electoral districts in Europe and Africa, North and South America and Australia and Asia.
(2) The elected member of the Parliament shall be the candidate who received greater number of votes from the voters who cast their votes but no less than 2% of the total number of registered voters in the electoral district.

Article 128

(1) For each electoral district, the State Election Commission shall prepare a separate protocol for determining the results of the voting.
(2) The protocols shall contain the following information on the voting results:
- the total number of polling stations;
- the total number of voters registered in the excerpts of the Voters List for the electoral district;
- the total number of ill and incapacitated persons; and
- the total number of voters who have cast their vote;
- the total number of invalid ballots;
- the total number of votes that each individual list of candidates won;
- the number of parliamentary seats won by the list of candidates; and
- the name and surname of the candidates elected.

Article 129
(Deleted)

16. Tabulating and determining of the results from the voting for election of Member of Council

Article 130

(1) The overall results of the voting in a municipality shall be determined by the Municipal Election Commission.
(2) The Municipal Election Commission shall determine the voting results based on the received protocols with the tabulated votes from the Election Boards as well as the complete election material.
(3) The Municipal Election Commission shall determine the results according to the number of the votes won by lists of candidates for Member of Council, based on the tabulated results from Election Boards.
(4) The Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall determine the results from the voting in the City of Skopje for Member of Council according to the number of the votes won by lists of candidates for Member of Council, based on the tabulated results received from the election commissions in the area of the City of Skopje.
(5) When determining the election results, the d'Hondt formula shall be applied.
(6) Having determined the total number of votes cast for each list of candidates, each list is divided by the sequence of divisors 1,2,3,4, etc. until the number of Members of Council for the municipality and the City of Skopje is reached.
(7) The quotients of the division referred to in paragraph 6 of this article are placed in a sequence according to size whereby as many largest integers are relevant as the number of Member of Council being elected.
(8) The list of candidates for Member of Council shall obtain as many municipal councillor seats as there are the large quotients from the number of results referred to in paragraph 6 of this article.
(9) Should there be two identical quotients when distributing the last seat in the Parliament the mandate shall be allotted by drawing lots.
(10) When allocating municipal councillor seats, the number of elected candidates shall correspond with the number of seats won by the list.
(11) The candidates for Member of Council are elected from the list of candidates according to the established sequence.

Article 131

(1) The Municipal Election Commission shall prepare protocols to determine the results of the voting.
(2) The protocol shall contain the following information on the voting results:
   - the total number of polling stations in the municipality and the City of Skopje,
   - the total number of voters registered in excerpts of the Voters List for the municipality and the City of Skopje,
   - the total number of ill and incapacitated persons who voted ,
   - the total number of voters who have cast their vote,
   - the number of invalid ballots,
   - the total number of votes that each candidates list has won separately,
   - the number of seats for Member of Council won by the list of candidates, and
   - name and surname of the candidates elected.
(3) A copy of the protocol shall be given to every representative of the list submitter and accredited observers.

17. Determining the results from the elections for Mayor

First round

Article 132

(1) The candidate who wins the majority of the votes from the voters who have voted shall be considered as elected in the first round of voting for Mayor, provided 1/3 of the total number of voters registered in the excerpt of the Voters List for the municipality in question have voted.
(2) The Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall determine the results of the voting for Mayor according to the number of votes that each of the lists of candidates for Mayor wins, based on the tabulated results received from the Municipal Election Commissions in the area of the City of Skopje.
(3) The entire election procedure shall be repeated if there is one candidate nominated for Mayor and this candidate fails to win the required majority votes in the first round of voting referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.

Second round

Article 133

(1) If in the first round no candidate for Mayor wins the required majority votes in accordance with article 132, paragraph 1 of this Code, then voting in the second round shall be organised for two candidates who won the most votes in the first round.
(2) The second round shall take place within 14 days after the first round of voting.
(3) The candidate who wins the most votes in the second round, shall be considered elected for Mayor.

Appointing a trustee until the new elections

Article 134

(1) Should there be no elected Mayor even after the second round of voting, for any reason, then the electoral commission shall, within 15 days from the completion of the elections, notify thereof the Government of the Republic of Macedonia.
(2) Upon receiving the notification referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia shall appoint, within 15 days, a trustee to execute the office of Mayor.
(3) Within 15 days of having appointed a trustee, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia shall notify the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia for the purpose of calling elections for Mayor.

18. Announcing the results of the elections

State Election Commission

Article 135

(1) The State Election Commission shall announce the initial results of the elections consecutively as they receive them electronically; the results based on the protocols of the Municipal Election Commissions i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall be announced within twelve hours after the elections are completed.
(2) The State Election Commission shall announce the final results of the voting immediately and no later than 24 hours from the day they become final.

Municipal Election Commission

Article 136

(1) Within 7 hours after the voting is completed, the Municipal Election Commission shall announce the initial results of the elections for Member of Council i.e. Mayor based on the data from the Election Boards by displaying the results on a bulletin board in the municipality and announcing them to the media.
(2) Within 10 hours after the voting is completed the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall announce the initial results of the elections for Member of Council i.e. Mayor, based on the data from Municipal Election Commissions for the City of Skopje, by displaying them on a bulletin board in the City of Skopje and announcing them to the media.
(3) The Municipal Election Commissions i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall announce the final results of the elections for Member of Council and Mayor immediately and no later than 24 hours from the day they become final.

19. Elections for President of the Republic of Macedonia due to the early termination of the term

Calling election

Article 137

(1) Should the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Macedonia render an act that confirms the existence of conditions for cessation of the office of President of the Republic of Macedonia, in accordance with article 81 paragraph 8 of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia, the Court shall submit it, within 24 hours, to the President of the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia and shall publish it in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia".
(2) Within 48 hours of the moment of the act referred to in paragraph 1 of this article is published, the President of the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia shall issue an act calling elections for President of the Republic of Macedonia.

Procedure for collection of signatures

Article 138

(1) The collection of signatures in the procedure for nominating a candidate for President of the Republic of Macedonia and the public inspection of the Voters List shall be administered before State Elections Commission, and shall commence on the fifth day from the day the presidential elections are called, due to early termination of the mandate and shall last ten days.

Submitting a list of candidate

Article 139

(1) The list of candidates for President of the Republic of Macedonia shall be submitted to the State Election Commission, at the latest, on the 16th day from the day elections are called.
(2) A candidate may revoke his/her candidacy, at the latest, within 17 days from the day elections are called.

Competencies of the State Election Commission

Article 140

(1) Within 24 hours upon receipt of the list of presidential candidates, the State Election Commission shall determine whether they have been submitted within the deadline stipulated in article 139, paragraph 1 of this Code.
(2) Should the Commission of paragraph 1 of this article conclude, upon receiving the lists, that certain irregularities or omissions have been committed, then it shall call upon the lists submitters to eliminate them immediately and at the latest within 24 hours after the submission of the lists.
(3) Should the Commission of paragraph 1 of this article conclude that the lists have been submitted within the prescribed deadline and have been made in accordance with this Code, i.e. the lists submitters did eliminate the irregularities and omissions, within the deadline set in paragraph 2 of this article, then the Commission shall confirm the submitted lists with a decision within 24 hours after receiving the corrected lists.

Article 141

(1) Should the State Election Commission conclude that the lists were not submitted on time, i.e. the lists submitters did not eliminate the irregularities and failures found within the deadline stipulated in article 140, paragraph 2, of this Code the Commission shall, within 24 hours, reject the submitted list with a decision.
(2) A lawsuit against the decision of the State Election Commission may be filed to the Administrative Court within 24 hours upon receipt of the decision.
(3) The Administrative Court shall decide on the lawsuit within 24 hours from reception.
(4) The lawsuit referred to in paragraph 2 of this article shall be submitted through the State Election Commission, postal delivery of the lawsuit shall not be permitted.

Publishing the lists

Article 142

The State Election Commission shall announce the verified lists in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia”, no later than the 21st day from the day elections are called.

Electoral campaign

Article 143

The electoral campaigns shall commence on the 22nd day from the day elections are called and shall end 24 hours before Election Day.

Organiser of electoral campaign

Article 144

The organiser of the electoral campaign shall open a bank account designated “for electoral campaign”, on the basis of the issued confirmation from the State Election Commission for having submitted a candidate list for President of the Republic of Macedonia.

Presentation in the media

Article 145

(1) The Broadcasting Council shall submit a proposed decision about the rules for equal presentation in the media during the election for President of the Republic of Macedonia due to cessation of the mandate in the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, at the latest 15 days after elections are called. The Parliament shall adopt the decision within two days after receiving it.

(2) The decision of paragraph 1 of this article shall be published immediately, at the latest within 24 hours, in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia”.

Publishing the descriptions of the polling stations

Article 146

(1) The State Elections Commission shall submit a copy of the decision on determining the number and the description of every Polling Station, to the Municipal Election Commission, no later than 10 days prior to Election Day.
(2) The Municipal Election Commission shall, no later than 5 days prior to Election Day, display at a visible location the descriptions of the determined Polling Stations, thus indicating which polling stations are designated for voters from a particular area.

VIII. PROTECTION OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Article 147

(1) The procedure for the protection of the right to vote is urgent.
(2) The submissions (complaints and appeals) for the protection of the right to vote shall be communicated directly to the competent Election Management Bodies via the institutions that have made the previous decisions.
(3) The complaints shall be submitted in writing and shall incorporate:
- time, place, description of the committed irregularity, the perpetrator and the evidence the submitter calls upon;
- name, surname and a signature of the submitter of the complaint and the official representative and
- electronic mailbox for receiving correspondence.

(4) Submitting a complaint and lawsuit by post shall not be permitted.
(5) The complaints may also be submitted on separate forms, prescribed by the State Election Commission, which are published in the Official Gazette and on the website of the State Election Commission.
(6) The submission of complaints and lawsuits for the voting in electoral districts in Europe and Africa, North and South America and Australia and Asia is not allowed through post, but shall be done through the official representative in the Republic of Macedonia.
(7) The decisions of the Administrative Court are final and against them no appeal or other form of legal protection may be submitted.

1. Procedure for protection of the right to vote of the list submitters

Article 148

(1) Each submitter of a list of candidates in the procedure for voting, tabulating and determining the results has the right to submit a complaint to the State Election Commission.
(2) The complaint referred to in paragraph 1of this article shall be submitted within 48 hours after the end of the voting, i.e. after the preliminary results are announced.
(3) The State Election Commission shall decide on the complaint within 48 hours from having received it.
(4) The decision from paragraph 3 of this article shall be delivered through the electronic mailbox for receiving correspondence and the decision shall be considered as delivered within 5 hours after it has been delivered in the electronic mailbox.
(5) A lawsuit against the decision of the State Election Commission may be submitted before the Administrative Court by the submitter, within 48 hours from the receiving of the decision.

(6) The lawsuit to the Administrative Court shall be based on the allegations listed in the complaint on which the first instance decision was adopted.

2. Procedure for protection of the voters right to vote

Article 149

(1) Every voter whose right to vote has been violated in the election procedure may submit a complaint to the State Election Commission within 24 hours.
(2) Every voter whose election right was violated in the procedure for out-of-country voting may submit complaint to the State Election Commission within 24 hours, through express mail and time of handing over the shipment shall be considered as a time of submission of the complaint.
(3) The first instance organ shall be obliged to make a decision upon the complaint within 4 hours from having received it.
(4) Against the decision made by the first instance organ, i.e. the State Election Commission, lawsuit may be submitted before the Administrative Court within 24 hours from having received the decision.
(5) If the decision of paragraph 2 refers to the certain action of the Election Board and the voting process is still ongoing, the voter shall be enabled to exercise his/her voting rights.

The decision-making procedure before the Administrative Court

Article 150

(1) The Administrative Court decides upon the lawsuit from article 148 and article 149 of this Code in a panel of five judges elected by drawing lots, during a session open to the public for which it shall inform the official representatives upon whose lawsuits the court shall decide.
(2) The Administrative Court shall decide upon the lawsuit within 48 hours from having received the appeal.
(3) The Administrative Court may confirm or change the decision.
(4) Decisions related to complaints and lawsuits shall, as they are adopted, be published on the website of the Administrative Court, the State Election Commission, the Municipal Election Commissions and the Election Commission of the City of Skopje and in another appropriate manner.

IX. ANNULMENT AND REPETITION OF VOTING

Article 151

(1) The State Election Commission, “ex officio” or based on a filed complaint, shall with a decision annul the voting at the polling station in the following cases:
- if the Election Board fails to conduct the voting in the manner defined by this Code;
- if the secrecy of voting has been violated;
- if the voting has been suspended for more than three hours;
- if the police has failed to respond to the request for intervention made by the Election Board, provided there was a need for such intervention and that this has influenced the conduct of the voting in the polling station;
- in case it has been established that there is a greater number of ballots in the ballot box than the number of voter turn out; and
- if any person or persons have voted for other person (persons).

(2) When deciding upon complaints the State Election Commission is obliged to inspect the overall election materials in the cases stipulated in the lines 1, 2, 5 and 6 of

paragraph 1 of this article, if the facts which are invoked have been entered in the protocols.

(3) The State Election Commission shall repeat the voting with a decision in cases stipulated in paragraph 1 of this article at the polling stations where the voting has been annulled, if the total number of voters registered at those polling stations on the level of electoral district, city, i.e. municipality has an impact on the overall results.

(4) A lawsuit against the decision from paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article may be submitted to the Administrative Court through the State Election Commission within 24 hours from the receipt of the decision.

(5) The Administrative Court must act on the lawsuit within 48 hours of its receipt.

(6) The voting at the polling station that has been annulled shall be repeated 14 days from Election Day.

X. REPEATED ELECTIONS

1. Termination of the mandate and additional elections for Members of Parliament

Article 152

(1) The mandate of a Member of Parliament shall terminate before the period for which he/she has been elected if
- he/she resigns;
- he/she is sentenced for a criminal offence for which a sentence of at least five years is prescribed;
- there is incompatibility with the office of Member of Parliament;
- he/she dies;
- he/she is declared as not being able-bodied by an effective decision.

(2) If the Member of Parliament resigns, the Parliament at its next session shall determine that his/her mandate terminates from the day that session is held.

(3) The mandate of a Member of Parliament shall terminate on the day the conditions referred to in paragraph 1, line 2, 3, 4, 5, of this article are fulfilled, which is determined by the Parliament at the first following session.

Article 153

(1) If the mandate of the candidate elected from the list of candidates terminates, pursuant to one of the grounds defined in article 152 of this Code, the next candidate on the list shall become Member of Parliament for the remaining duration of the mandate.

(2) The State Election Commission shall notify the next candidate on the list in the cases referred to paragraph 1 of this article within three days of the termination of the mandate.

(3) If the following candidate on the list referred to in paragraph 2 of this article does not notify the State Election Commission within 8 days whether he/she accepts the mandate, this right shall be transferred to the next candidate on the list.

(4) In case when the list of candidates has been exhausted in accordance with the provisions in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this article, realisation of this right shall commence again from the very start of the list of candidates, if there are any on the list.

Article 154

(1) If the list of candidates has no candidates and if the grounds for acquiring the mandate of Member of Parliament as determined in article 153 of this Code are exhausted, additional elections are called for Members of Parliament in the electoral district where the Member of Parliament was originally elected.

(2) If the mandate of the member of the Parliament who has been elected from the list of candidates in the three electoral districts in Europe and Asia,[2] North and South America and Australia and Asia has been terminated in accordance with one of the conditions stipulated in article 152 of this Code, additional elections for member of the Parliament shall be announced in the electoral district from which the member was elected.

2. Termination of the mandate and additional elections for Member of Council and Mayor

Article 155

(1) If the mandate of a Member of Council terminates or is revoked, pursuant to one of the grounds defined in the Law on Local Self-Government and in this Code, then the next candidate on the list shall become municipal councillor for the remaining duration of the mandate.
(2) The Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall notify the next candidate on the list in the cases referred to in paragraph 1 of this article within three days of the termination of the mandate of the Member of Council .
(3) Within 8 days from the day of receipt of the notification referred to in paragraph 2 of this article, the candidate referred to in paragraph 1of this article shall be obliged to notify, in written form, the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje whether he/she accepts the mandate.
(4) If the candidate, pursuant to paragraph 3 of this article, does not accept the mandate, this right shall be transferred to the next candidate on the list.

Article 156

(1) In case when the list of candidates, in accordance with article 155, is exhausted, the realisation of this right shall commence again from the very start of the list of candidates, if there are any on the list
(2) If there are no candidates on the list of candidates and if the conditions for acquiring the mandate as Member of Council have been exhausted, additional elections for municipal councillors and members of the council of the City of Skopje shall be conducted.
(3) The additional elections shall be announced by the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia within 15 days from the day the mandate is revoked.

3. Elections for substituting Member of Council

Article 157

(1) If an effective court decision establishes that during the election a political party, coalition or a group of electors, used bribe and means acquired through criminal acts to win votes, the mandates won by this political party, coalition i.e. group of electors, shall be annulled by the Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje and replacement elections shall be conducted for these mandates.
(2) Replacement elections may not be called six months before the end of the mandate for which the council was elected.
(3) The mandate of a Member of Council, pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, i.e. elected at replacement elections, shall last until the end of the mandate of the municipal councillor whose mandate was terminated i.e. revoked.

[2] A corrigenda will be needed; apparently, in the amendments a mistake was made. Instead of Europe and Asia, should be Europe and Africa.

(4) The replacement election shall be called by the President of the Parliament upon suggestion of the competent Municipal Election Commission.

4. Early elections of Mayor and Members of Council

Article 158

(1) If a mandate of a Mayor is terminated due to one of the reasons stipulated in the Law on Local Self-Government and in this Code and if the Mayor receives a non-confidence vote in accordance with the Law early elections for Mayor shall be called.
(2) If less than six months remain until the regular elections for Mayor, the early elections of paragraph 1 of this article shall not be called.

Article 159

(1) Early elections for Members of Council shall be called before the end of the mandate, if one of the conditions stipulated in the Law on Local Self-Government and in this Code takes place.

5. Repeated election of Members of Council

Article 160

If the session of the council does not take place until the 31st day from the day the elections are competed, in accordance with article 37 paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Law on Local Self-Government, repeated elections for Member of Council shall take place, which shall be called by the President of the Parliament**.**

XI. ELECTION OBSERVATION

Article 161

(1) Elections and election procedures may be observed by:
- domestic associations and foreign organisations registered according to the Law, at least one year before the Election Day and in whose statutes the principle of protection of human rights is incorporated ;
- international organisations; and
- representatives of foreign countries.

(2) The State Election Commission shall determine the procedure for observing the elections and the electoral procedure.

Article 162

(1) Upon obtaining authorisation from the State Election Commission, the organisations and persons from article 161 of this Code may observe the entire election process.
(2) Applications for observation, together with the required identification documents, shall be submitted to the State Election Commission from the day elections are called, but not later than 10 days prior to Election Day.
(3) The State Election Commission shall issue authorisations to the observers no later than seven days from the day the application is received.
(4) The State Election Commission has the right to revoke the observation authorisation from the entities referred to in article 161 of this Code, if they start expressing support for a candidate, party, or a coalition.

Article 162-a

Only accredited observers can report on the course of the electoral process and the related observation activities.

XII. POLLING STATIONS

Article 163

Under this Code, a polling station shall be considered the inhabited places or part of inhabited places where the voters from that area exercise their right to vote.

1. Criteria for determining polling stations

Article 164

(1) The polling stations shall be determined for inhabited places or parts of inhabited places that have voters entered in the excerpts of the Voters List for those inhabited places or parts of the inhabited places.
(2) The polling stations shall be within the boundaries of the municipality.
(3) For the out-of-country voting within the DCOs of the Republic of Macedonia, special polling stations shall be determined.

Article 165

(1) The number of voters voting in the polling station shall be determined in a manner that shall enable unimpeded voting during the voting time.
(2) A polling station may not be established for an inhabited place that has less than 10 voters and in a DCO where less than 10 voters are registered to vote.

Article 166

(1) As a rule, the polling station shall be located no more than 3 km away from the furthest address in urban inhabited places and no more than 5 km in the rural inhabited places.
(2) The rule determined in the paragraph 1 of this article shall not apply for the polling stations in the DCOs.

2. Procedure for determining, changing and announcing polling stations

Article 167

The State Elections Commission, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the body in charge of affairs in the area of urban planning and construction, the body in charge of land surveying and cadastre and the administrative organisation in charge of statistical affairs and organisational-technical and methodological processing of the data in the Voters List, prepares the administrative-technical descriptions of the polling stations. The administrative-technical description of the polling stations contains

- municipality, number of electoral district, number of polling station, inhabited area and location of the polling station (facility and address of the facility where the voting will be conducted, inhabited area), whether the polling station is an entire inhabited area, street (name), indicator of division and house number (from – to).

Article 168

(1) Based on the administrative-technical descriptions of the polling stations prepared in accordance with article 167 of this Code, the State Elections Commission will reach a decision determining the number and description for each polling station separately, by pointing out the inhabited areas, i.e. streets and house numbers included in the polling stations and the voting facility.

Article 169

(1) The change of the description of the polling stations shall be done when changing the names of the streets or house numbers and if the number of voters or the distance from the polling station increase.

(2) The State Elections Commission adopts a decision determining the change of the description of the polling station.
(3) The changes in the description of the polling stations may be conducted no later than 30 days prior to Election Day or the day of holding a Referendum.

Article 170

(1) The Municipal Election Commission i.e. the Election Commission of the City of Skopje shall, no later than 15 days prior to Election Day i.e. the day of holding a Referendum, shall affix on a visible location the descriptions of the polling stations that have been selected for voting, marking the allocation of voters per polling station, according to area where the voter resides.
(2) The announcement of the descriptions of the polling stations may also be competed through the local media.
(3) The State Election Commission shall be obliged to inform the citizens by publishing the descriptions of the polling stations in the press and the other means that provide information to the public.

3. Conditions for functioning of polling stations

Article 171

(1) Each polling station has an ordinal number.
(2) The ordinal number of the polling station is displayed on the facility where voting for that particular polling station takes place; if voting for two or more polling stations is conducted in the same facility, on the outer walls of the facility, with the ordinal number of the polling station, every room that is selected for voting in that polling station is clearly indicated.

Article 172

(1) The premises in which the voting takes place cannot be selected in a facility where offices of a political party are located or which is used for activities of political parties.

Article 173

(1) The voting takes place in a closed room that fulfils the conditions for the individual, free and secret voting of the voters.
(2) The names of the inhabited places and parts of the inhabited places (streets and parts of streets) that are covered by the polling station are displayed in the room where the voting takes place.
(3) The room selected for voting is equipped with booths i.e. partitions or curtains so that it cannot be seen how the voter marks the ballot.
(4) Every polling booth must be equipped with a pen for the needs of the voters.
(5) Transparent ballot boxes made from a hard material are placed in the room for voting and those are transferred to the Election Boards sealed with a protocol.
(6) The rooms selected for voting must be administratively-technically equipped in order to be able to be locked and sealed.

XIII. ELECTORAL DISTRICTS FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Article 174

(1) Electoral districts comprise (contain) of the polling stations within the municipal borders where the citizens exercise their election right.
(2) Electoral districts for out-of-country voting shall contain the polling stations, i.e. DCO in the elections district where the citizens exercise their electoral right in accordance with this Code.

Article 175

(1) There are nine electoral districts in the Republic of Macedonia:

ELECTORAL DISTRICT 1			
Municipality of KARPOS	polling stations from	2592	to 2653
Municipality of KISELA VODA	polling stations from	2425	to 2427
Municipality of KISELA VODA	polling stations from	2654	to 2672
Municipality of KISELA VODA	polling stations from	2739	to 2751
Municipality of KISELA VODA	polling stations from	2761	to 2771
Municipality of KISELA VODA	polling stations from	2774	to 2795
Municipality of CENTAR	polling stations from	2796	to 2818
Municipality of CENTAR	polling stations from	2822	to 2822
Municipality of CENTAR	polling stations from	2828	to 2828
Municipality of CENTAR	polling stations from	2830	to 2868
Municipality of CENTAR	polling stations from	2870	to 2871
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2819	to 2821
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2823	to 2827
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2829	to 2829
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2869	to 2869
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2872	to 2898
Municipality of AERODROM	polling stations from	2673	to 2738
Municipality of AERODROM	polling stations from	2752	to 2760
Municipality of AERODROM	polling stations from	2772	to 2773
Municipality of SARAJ	polling stations from	2428	to 2461
Municipality of MAKEDONSKI BROD	polling stations from	0224	to 0274
Municipality of SOPISTE	polling stations from	2412	to 2424
Municipality of STUDENICANI	polling stations from	2341	to 2361
ELECTORAL DISTRICT 2			
Municipality of GAZI BABA	polling stations from	2332	to 2332
Municipality of GAZI BABA	polling stations from	2476	to 2552
Municipality of GJORCE PETROV	polling stations from	2553	to 2591
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2899	to 2903
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2916	to 2917
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2922	to 2922
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2924	to 2928
Municipality of CAIR	polling stations from	2934	to 2945
Municipality of SUTO ORIZARI	polling stations from	2955	to 2973
Municipality of BUTEL	polling stations from	2904	to 2915
Municipality of BUTEL	polling stations from	2918	to 2921
Municipality of BUTEL	polling stations from	2923	to 2923
Municipality of BUTEL	polling stations from	2929	to 2933
Municipality of BUTEL	polling stations from	2946	to 2954
Municipality of ARACINOVO	polling stations from	2333	to 2340
Municipality of KUMANOVO	polling stations from	0995	to 1104
Municipality of LIPKOVO	polling stations from	1105	to 1130
Municipality of STARO NAGORICANE	polling stations from	1156	to 1186
Municipality of CUCER - SANDEVO	polling stations from	2462	to 2475
ELECTORAL DISTRICT 3			
Municipality of BEROVO	polling stations from	0001	to 0016
Municipality of VELES	polling stations from	2135	to 2203

Municipality of VELES	polling stations from	2207	to 2210
Municipality of VINICA	polling stations from	0303	to 0332
Municipality of GRADSKO	polling stations from	2217	to 2226
Municipality of DELCEVO	polling stations from	0572	to 0604
Municipality of ZELENIKOVO	polling stations from	2362	to 2376
Municipality of ZRNOVCI	polling stations from	0888	to 0891
Municipality of ILINDEN	polling stations from	2393	to 2411
Municipality of KARBINCI	polling stations from	2316	to 2331
Municipality of KOCANI	polling stations from	0830	to 0874
Municipality of KOCANI	polling stations from	0892	to 0902
Municipality of KRATOVO	polling stations from	0903	to 0937
Municipality of KRIVA PALANKA	polling stations from	0938	to 0981
Municipality of KUMANOVO	polling stations from	1131	to 1141
Municipality of KUMANOVO	polling stations from	1144	to 1150
Municipality of LOZOVO	polling stations from	1704	to 1712
Municipality of MAKEDONSKA KAMENICA	polling stations from	0605	to 0618
Municipality of PETROVEC	polling stations from	2377	to 2392
Municipality of PEHCEVO	polling stations from	0017	to 0025
Municipality of PROBISTIP	polling stations from	1530	to 1573
Municipality of RANKOVCE	polling stations from	0982	to 0994
Municipality of SVETI NIKOLE	polling stations from	1671	to 1703
Municipality of STARO NAGORICANE	polling stations from	1142	to 1143
Municipality of STARO NAGORICANE	polling stations from	1151	to 1155
Municipality of CASKA	polling stations from	2204	to 2206
Municipality of CASKA	polling stations from	2211	to 2216
Municipality of CASKA	polling stations from	2227	to 2246
Municipality of CESINOVO - OBLESEVO	polling stations from	0875	to 0887
Municipality of STIP	polling stations from	2247	to 2315
ELECTORAL DISTRICT 4			
Municipality of BITOLA	polling stations from	0194	to 0204
Municipality of BOGDANCI	polling stations from	0368	to 0377
Municipality of BOSILOVO	polling stations from	1811	to 1826
Municipality of BOSILOVO	polling stations from	1842	to 1843
Municipality of VALANDOVO	polling stations from	0280	to 0302
Municipality of VASILEVO	polling stations from	1794	to 1810
Municipality of GEVGELIJA	polling stations from	0333	to 0367
Municipality of DEMIR KAPIJA	polling stations from	1238	to 1248
Municipality of KAVADARCI	polling stations from	0659	to 0712
Municipality of KONCE	polling stations from	1608	to 1617
Municipality of KRIVOGASTANI	polling stations from	1508	to 1519
Municipality of MOGILA	polling stations from	0181	to 0193
Municipality of MOGILA	polling stations from	0214	to 0223
Municipality of NEGOTINO	polling stations from	1213	to 1237
Municipality of NOVACI	polling stations from	0158	to 0180
Municipality of NOVO SELO	polling stations from	1774	to 1792
Municipality of PRILEP	polling stations from	1350	to 1457
Municipality of PRILEP	polling stations from	1494	to 1507
Municipality of PRILEP	polling stations from	1520	to 1529
Municipality of RADOVIS	polling stations from	1574	to 1607
Municipality of RADOVIS	polling stations from	1618	to 1623

Municipality of ROSOMAN	polling stations from	0713	to 0722
Municipality of DOJRAN	polling stations from	0378	to 0385
Municipality of STRUMICA	polling stations from	1713	to 1773
Municipality of STRUMICA	polling stations from	1793	to 1793
Municipality of STRUMICA	polling stations from	1827	to 1841
ELECTORAL DISTRICT 5			
Municipality of DEBAR	polling stations from	0549	0554
Municipality of CENTAR ZUPA	polling stations from	0557	0571
Municipality of DEBARCA	polling stations from	1314	to 1334
Municipality of DEBARCA	polling stations from	1343	to 1349
Municipality of BITOLA	polling stations from	0026	to 0157
Municipality of BITOLA	polling stations from	0205	to 0213
Municipality of VEVCANI	polling stations from	1921	to 1923
Municipality of VRANESTICA	polling stations from	0802	to 0813
Municipality of DEMIR HISAR	polling stations from	0619	to 0658
Municipality of DOLNENI	polling stations from	1209	to 1211
Municipality of DOLNENI	polling stations from	1458	to 1493
Municipality of DRUGOVO	polling stations from	0758	to 0781
Municipality of KICEVO	polling stations from	0723	to 0757
Municipality of KRIVOGASTANI	polling stations from	1212	to 1212
Municipality of KRUSEVO	polling stations from	1187	to 1208
Municipality of OHRID	polling stations from	1249	to 1313
Municipality of OHRID	polling stations from	1335	to 1342
Municipality of PLASNICA	polling stations from	0275	to 0279
Municipality of RESEN	polling stations from	1624	to 1670
Municipality of STRUGA	polling stations from	1844	to 1920
Municipality of STRUGA	polling stations from	2976	to 2976
ELECTORAL DISTRICT 6			
Municipality of BOGOVINJE	polling stations from	2050	to 2079
Municipality of BRVENICA	polling stations from	2032	to 2049
Municipality of VRAPCISTE	polling stations from	0436	to 0462
Municipality of GOSTIVAR	polling stations from	0386	to 0435
Municipality of GOSTIVAR	polling stations from	0480	to 0480
Municipality of GOSTIVAR	polling stations from	0499	to 0533
Municipality of GOSTIVAR	polling stations from	0782	to 0782
Municipality of GOSTIVAR	polling stations from	2974	to 2975
Municipality of DEBAR	polling stations from	0477	to 0477
Municipality of DEBAR	polling stations from	0534	to 0548
Municipality of DEBAR	polling stations from	0555	0556
Municipality of ZELINO	polling stations from	2089	to 2114
Municipality of ZAJAS	polling stations from	0814	to 0829
Municipality of JEGUNOVCE	polling stations from	2115	to 2134
Municipality of KICEVO	polling stations from	0783	to 0801
Municipality of KICEVO	polling stations from	0814	to 0829
Municipality of MAVROVO I ROSTUSA	polling stations from	0463	to 0476
Municipality of MAVROVO I ROSTUSA	polling stations from	0478	to 0479
Municipality of MAVROVO I ROSTUSA	polling stations from	0481	to 0498
Municipality of OSLOMEJ	polling stations from	0783	to 0801
Municipality of TEARCE	polling stations from	2007	to 2031
Municipality of TETOVO	polling stations from	1924	to 2006
Municipality TETOVO	polling stations from	2080	to 2088

(2) For administering the election of three Members of Parliament, three elections districts shall be formed:
- Electoral district number 7 for the voting of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who temporarily work and reside in Europe and Africa comprised of the polling stations, i.e. DCO in those countries;
- Electoral district number 8 for the voting of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who temporarily work and reside in North and South America comprised of the polling stations, i.e. DCO in those countries; and
- Electoral district number 9 for voting of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who temporarily work and reside in Australia and Asia comprised of the polling stations, i.e. DCO in those countries.

Article 176

If a polling station is altered in accordance with this Code, the voters from the new polling station shall exercise their right to vote in the electoral district in which the polling station used to belong.

Article 177

The State Election Commission shall, no later than 30 days prior to Election Day, publish the descriptions of the polling stations determined with this Code.

XIV. PENAL AND MISDEMEANOR PROVISIONS

Article 177-a

(1) Regardless of the misdemeanour liability for not complying with the provisions of this Code related to limitation of expenses for the election campaign and submission of financial reports for financing of election campaign to the organizer of election campaign shall be imposed:
- partial loss of compensation of expenses for the election campaign;
- complete loss of compensation of expenses for the election campaign; or
- suspension of compensation payment of expenses for the election campaign.

(2) Partial loss of compensation of expenses for the election campaign shall be imposed to an organizer of an election campaign in case when the permitted amount of expenses for the election campaign is exceeded, pursuant to Article 84 of this Code;

(3) Partial loss of compensation of expenses for the election campaign as of paragraph (2) of this Article consists of reduction of the amount for compensation of expenses for the election campaign for the amount exceeding the permitted amount of costs and expenses for the election campaign. If the amount of funds exceeding the permitted amount of costs for the election campaign is higher than the amount for compensation of expenses for the election campaign, in such a case, a complete loss of the right of compensation of expenses for the election campaign shall be imposed.

(4) Suspension of payment of expenses for the election campaign shall be imposed to the organizer of election campaign in the cases when they do not submit the financial report in the determined time framework and content, pursuant to Article 84-b, paragraphs (1) and (2) and Article 85 of this Code.

(5) The suspension of payment of compensation of expenses for the election campaign from paragraph (4) of this Article shall last until the proper fulfilment of determined obligation pursuant to Article 84-b, paragraphs (1) and (2) and Article 85 of this Code.

(6) The decision for partial or complete loss of compensation of expenses for the election campaign from paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Article and the decision for

suspension of payment from paragraph (4) of this Article shall be taken by the State Election Commission upon a proposal by the State Audit Office.

(7) The decision from paragraph (6) of this Article is final, but an administrative dispute may be initiated against it.

(8) The decision of the Minister of Justice as of paragraph (7) of this Article shall be published in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia".

Article 178

(1) For acts of preventing the elections and voting, violating and abusing the right to vote, violating the voter's freedom of choice, bribing during the elections and voting, destroying electoral documents and committing electoral fraud, shall be punished pursuant to the provisions of the Criminal Code.

(2) For the criminal acts of paragraph 1 of this article the procedure is urgent.

Article 178-a

Prior filing a request for instituting misdemeanour proceedings before competent courts a settlement procedure shall be initiated in accordance with Law on Misdemeanours.

Article 179

(1) A fine of 500 up to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a member of Government and deputy-minister for acts contrary to art. 8-a of this Law.

(2) A fine of 500 up to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a person for participating in election campaign while in official uniform (article 9).

(3) A fine of 500 up to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a Member of an Election Management Body acting contrary to the provisions of this Code (article 19, paragraph 1).

Article 179-a

A fine of 500 to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to registered political parties, coalitions and independent candidates and official representatives of submitters of candidate lists and their deputies if they use the data from the Voters List for any other purpose or use them on the Election Day to register the voters (article 55, paragraph 1 and 4).

Article 179-b

(1) A fine of 3,000 to 5,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a legal entity for non-compliance with the deadline for commencing and concluding the election campaign (article 69-a, paragraph 2).

(2) A fine of 300 to 1,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a physical person for obstructing or preventing the election campaign (article 73).

Article 180

(1) A fine of 3,000 up to 5,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to an organiser of an electoral campaign for not complying with article 72 of this Code

(2) A fine of 500 up to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a candidate or any other private person for acts referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 181

(1) A fine of 1,500 to 3,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a broadcaster if:

- it does not comply to the rules from article 75, paragraph 2 and 3 of this Code; and
- it does not provide equitable presentation of the participants of the electoral process (article 75, paragraph 5 and article 75-a, paragraph 1).

(2) A fine of 300 to 1,000 EUR in MKD equivalent shall be imposed to the editor-in-chief for the activities from paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 182

(1) A fine of 3,000 to 5,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a broadcasting or printed media if they:
- broadcast additional time of paid political advertising per real hour, contrary to article 75-a, paragraph 1 of this Code;
- do not determine a pricelist for paid political advertising of election programmes of the participants in the electoral process (article 75, paragraph 2);
- do not publish the price list in the period from commencement and conclusion of the election campaign (article 75-a, paragraph 3);
- make changes to the pricelist during the election campaign (article 75-a, paragraph 4);
- do not submit the pricelists to relevant authorities (article 75-a, paragraph 5; and
- do not allow for equitable presentation of the participants in the electoral process (article 75-a, paragraph 6).

(2) A fine of 500 to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for an offence shall be imposed to the editor-in-chief for activities from paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 183

(1) A fine of 3,000 to 5,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to the broadcaster if it:
- broadcasts the election advertising without referring to it as paid political advertising and without separating it from other programmatic contents (article 76, paragraph 1);
- does not make clear indication of who is the client of the paid political advertising (article 76, paragraph 2);
- broadcasts election advertising involving minors in paid political advertising (article 76, paragraph 3);
- broadcasts paid political advertising in news, information, education and children programmes and during live coverage of religious, sport, cultural and other events (article 76, paragraph 4);

(2) A fine of 500 to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for an offence shall be imposed to the editor-in-chief for activities from paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 183-a

(1) A fine of 1,500 to 3,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to the editor in chief of the public media if it:
- publishes the results of the opinion polls contrary to article 77 paragraph 1 of this Code; and
- publishes the results of the opinion polls without indicating the data stipulated in article 77 paragraph 2 of this Code.

Article 184

A fine of 500 up to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent shall be imposed to the responsible person from a municipality, i.e. the City of Skopje for failing to determine places for displaying posters free of charge, and for not marking them for each list submitter separately (article 78).

Article 185

A fine of 500 up to 2,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for misdemeanour shall be imposed to the organiser of the electoral campaign for failing to remove the waste of the posters within the deadline stipulated in article 79, paragraph 2 of this Code.

Article 186

A fine of 500 up to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for misdemeanour shall be imposed to a person destroying or affixing election posters over the posters of other election campaign organiser on the locations designated for their display receive (article 78, paragraph 1).

Article 187

A fine of 3,000 up to 5,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for misdemeanour shall be imposed to a political party, coalition, representative of an independent list of candidates for:

- failing to report an election rally at least 48 hours prior to its holding; and
- organising a rally contrary to articles 81 and 82 of this Code.

Article 188

A fine of 300 to 800 EUR in MKD equivalent for misdemeanour shall be imposed to the responsible person of a competent state body, religious community or public institution who will allow the election campaign organiser to organise pre-election rallies contrary to article 82 of this Code

Article 188-a

A misdemeanour fine of 4,000 to 5,000 EUR (in MKD equivalent) shall be imposed to the political party, coalition, representative of an independent list of candidates or potential nominees should they fail to return to the donors the full amount of funds that were not spent in the prescribed deadline, in case when the list of candidates has not been submitted or verified (art 71, p. 7)

Article 189

(1) A fine of 4,000 up to 5,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to an organiser of a political campaign that fails to submit a report on the financing of election campaign referred to in article 85 of this Code, i.e. when financial means have been used for financing of election campaign in accordance with article 83 of this Code

(2) A fine of 4,000 up to 5,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a political party, coalition or a representative of independent list of candidates for spending more funds during the election campaign than the amount defined in article 84 of this Code.

(3) A fine of 500 up to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for misdemeanour shall be imposed to the responsible person of a political party for the activities referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article.

Article 189-a

(1) A fine of 3,000 to 5,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a broadcasting or printed media which will not submit a report on advertising space used by each organiser of election campaign and money paid or claimed on that basis, 15 days following the conclusion of the election campaign, at latest (article 85-a).

(2) A fine of 500 to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for an offence shall be imposed to the editor-in-chief for activities from paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 190

(1) A fine of 1,000 to 2,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to the person responsible from the legal entity if it acts against the provisions from article 74 of this Code.
(2) A fine of 300 to 1,000 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a person who makes use of a mobile phone or camera to take photographs of the ballot paper during voting.
(3) A fine of 200 to 500 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a person from article 106 of this Code if he/she displays mark or symbol of a political party or a candidate during and at the place of voting or he/she does not wear a badge during voting.

Article 191

(1) A fine of 500 up to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to a person who votes for other persons or on behalf of another person, as well as one who prevents the presence of the police if there was an expressed need (articles 102,103, 111, and 112).
(2) A fine of 500 to 1,500 EUR in MKD equivalent for a misdemeanour shall be imposed to an official person (police officer) who abuses his or her position and causes disorder at the polling station (article 102).

XV. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 192
(Article 192 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 40/06)

On the day this Code enters into force, the following Laws will become invalidated: Law on Election of President of the Republic of Macedonia "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No.20/94, 48/99 and 11/2004; Law on Election of Members of Parliament, Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No.42/2002 and 46/2004, Law on Local Elections, Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No.45/2004, 52/2004, 60/2004 and 4/2005, Law on Voters List, Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 42/02, 35/2004 and 74/2005, Law on Polling Stations, Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No.50/97, and Law on Electoral Districts for Election of Members of Parliament in the Republic of Macedonia, Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No.43/2002.

Article 193
(Article 193 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 40/06)

(1) At the first forthcoming elections for Members of Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, the Election Board shall be comprised of five members and their deputies.
(2) The President of the Election Board and his/her deputy shall be selected from among the employees in the state, municipal and the administration of the City of Skopje, while two members and their deputies shall be selected from among the public administration employees by random selection.
(3) One member of the Election Board and his/her deputy are appointed upon a nomination of the opposition political parties that won the majority of votes at the last parliamentary elections.
(4) One member of the Election Board and his/her deputy are appointed upon proposal of the ruling political parties that won the majority of votes at the last parliamentary elections.
(5) The manner and the procedure for election of members from paragraph 2 of this article are realised in accordance with article 39 of this Code.

(6) The political parties shall submit their nominations for members from paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Code to the Municipal Election Commission within 5 days from the day of receipt of notification from the Municipal Election Commission.
(7) If the political parties do not submit the nominations within the deadline stipulated in paragraph 6 of this article, the members will be appointed by the Municipal Election Commission.

Article 194
(Article 194 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 40/06)

(1) The entering of personal data in accordance with article 41, paragraph 3 of this Code shall be implemented after conditions are met.
(2) The State Statistical Office shall continue administering the organisational – technical and methodological processing of the data from the Voters List until it is fully transferred to the Ministry of Justice.
(3) For administering the voting of Internally Displaced Persons, the Ministry of Justice shall prepare special excerpts of the Voters List based on the records of the competent bodies.

Article 195
(Article 195 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 40/06)

The State Election Commission shall be appointed within 15 days from the day this Code enters into force.

Article 196
(Article 196 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 40/06)

The by-laws stipulated by this Code shall be adopted by the State Election Commission within 20 days from the day it enters into force.

Article 197
(Article 95 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 136/08)

In article 18 paragraph 2, 21: paragraphs 2 and 5; 23 paragraphs 2 and 3; 31 paragraph 2 lines 1, 7 and 14; 34; 35; 36 and 37; 39 paragraphs 1 and 2; 40 paragraphs 2 point 6 and paragraph 3; 66 paragraph 3; 67 paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; 68 paragraph 3; 69 paragraphs 3 and 4; 102 paragraph 3; 111 paragraphs 1 and 6; 113 paragraph 3; 117 paragraphs 4 and 6; 118 paragraphs 1, 2 and 4; 135 paragraph 1; 151 paragraphs 2 and 3; 157 paragraph 1 and article 170 paragraph 1 and after the words "Municipal Election Commission", the words " Election Commission of the City of Skopje" shall be added.

Article 198
(Article 96 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 136/08)

State Election Commission shall be elected no later than 30 days from the date this Code enters into force.
The State Election Commission continues with its work until the election of the State Election Commission in accordance with this Law.

Article 199
(Article 97 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 136/08)

Until 1 September 2009, the Ministry of Justice shall continue executing those competences that shall be transferred to the SEC, pursuant to this Law.

Article 200
(Article 98 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 136/08)

The State Election Commission in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall commence performing the activities related to registering of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad within 60 days from the day this Law enters into force.

Article 201
(Article 99 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 136/08)

For citizens who are temporarily employed or residing abroad, the voting for members of the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia as well as for the President of the Republic shall be administered after 1 September 2009, in accordance with this Law.

Article 202
(Article 100 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 136/08)

By-laws determined by this Law shall be adopted no later than three months from the date this Law enters into force.

Article 203
(Article 101 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 136/08)

Upon a proposal of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, no later than 60 days from the day this Law enters into force, shall establish a Coordinative Body for the implementation of the activities related to the transfer of the Voters List from the Ministry of Justice to the State Election Commission, comprised of members from the Ministry of Justice, State Election Commission, State Statistic Office.
In the coordinative body one member from the parties in opposition and one member from the ruling parties represented in the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia shall be selected.
The Coordinative Body for the implementation of the activities from paragraph 1 shall adopt, no later than 1 September 2009, a Program and an Action Plan with which it shall determine the deadlines for the implementation of the activities related to the transfer of competences.
The State Statistical Office shall continue conducting the organisational-technical and methodological processing of the data of the Voters List until 1 September 2009, i.e. the transfer to the State Election Commission.

Article 204
(Article 102 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 136/08)

The employees in the local offices of the Ministry of Justice who perform the working duties and tasks related to the registration of the right to vote shall be transferred to the State Election Commission.

Article 205
(Article 92 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 44/2011)

The Deputy President of the State Election Commission continues to perform the function as Vice-President of the State Election Commission until the end of the mandate for which he was elected.

Article 206
(Article 93 from Law published in "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 44/2011)

The by-laws envisaged with this Law shall be adopted within 10 days from the day of entry into force of this Law.