



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Independent Election Commission

Election Campaign Regulation

Considering the authorities given by article (156) of the Afghan Constitution, this regulation has been adopted by Independent Election Commission to regulate political parties and candidates electoral campaigns' affairs.

Terms

Article 1:

1. Commission: Independent Election Commission (IEC) came into existence based on article (156) of the Afghan Constitution.
2. ECC: Electoral Complaint Commission established in accordance with article (52) of the Election Law.
3. MC: Media Commission established under article (52) of the Election Law.
4. Election: It includes voters' registration, candidates' registration, electoral campaigns, voting, counting of votes and declaration of poll processes.
5. Political party: A political party registered with Ministry of Justice.
6. Election Campaign: Efforts of political parties and candidates to propagate their political platforms, to attract confidence and supports of voters.

Application

Article 2:

This regulation organizes political parties and candidates electoral campaigns' affairs in the following elections:

1. Presidential Election
2. Parliamentary Election
3. Provincial Councils Elections
4. District Councils Elections

Election Campaign Period

Article 3:

The commission is to specify and publicize the start and end date of election campaign at least 120 days ahead of election in accordance with article (38) of the Election Law.



Election Campaign Conditions

Article 4:

- 1) Within the time limits set by the commission, predicted legal conditions and considering the concerned code of conduct, political parties and candidates can conduct electoral campaigns by organizing rallies, propagandizing through mass media (audio and video) and other legal means.
- 2) Political parties, candidates and their supporters neither can interfere with other political parties or candidates' electoral campaigns nor disturb their activities.
- 3) Candidates and political parties shall not involve armed forces personnel such as Ministries of Defense and Interior and General Directorate of National Security troops in their electoral campaign activities while they are in military uniform or on duty.
- 4) Political parties and candidates can not invite any foreign national to participate in electoral campaign activities.
- 5) Participation or nonparticipation of individuals in electoral campaigns is not mandatory.

Limits of Election Campaigns

Article 5:

- 1) Political parties, candidates and their supporters are to organize electoral campaign activities in accordance with the law, adopted regulations of the commission and concerned code of conduct.
- 2) Any violation of the Electoral Law and related code of conduct can be investigated by the commission, MC, and ECC or the issue is referred to the concerned authorities to be prosecuted.

Use of Resources during Electoral Campaigns

Article 6:

- 1) To raise public awareness, Public Media (TV, radio, and print media) are to fairly and impartially broadcast and publish candidates' platforms, comments, and objectives during electoral campaigns.
- 2) No one is to use public possessions and property during electoral campaigns unless an authorized authority provides equal facilities to all candidates.

Nonintervention of Government Departments Officials in Election Campaigns

Article 7:

Government Departments Officials should observe the following points during electoral campaigns:

- 1- Avoid direct or indirect intervention in favor of or against a certain party or candidate while on duty.
- 2- Avoid intervention in meetings, gatherings, and peaceful rallies.

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- 3- Avoid preferential behavior such as explicit criticism against or support for a candidate
- 4- Avoid using government facilities in favor of or against a candidate
- 5- Avoid removing or destroying posters and other materials and publicity means of candidates.
- 6- The details of the above issues are defined in a separate policy document which is attached to this regulation.

End of Electoral Campaigns

Article 8:

Election campaign period comes to an end 48 hours ahead of polling day. Candidates, political parties, and their supporters cannot continue their campaigns or distribute electoral campaign materials after ending election campaign period.

Election Campaign Materials

Article 9:

- 1) Candidates, political parties, and their supporters should not:
 - a) Use the commissions or other government and public symbols or badges for their political or electoral campaign purposes.
 - b) Fix or display electoral campaign materials on state or public owned properties without previous permission of the authorized officials or their owners.
 - c) Display or publish such electoral materials which incite violence or ethnic, religious, linguistic, and regional discriminations.
- 2) The commission's assigned officials can remove those electoral campaign materials which contradict this article's subject from where they have been posted.

Election Campaign Observation

Article 10:

- 1) Electoral Officials, observer organizations as well as national and international media representatives can observe electoral campaign processes.
- 2) Candidates, political parties' agents and their supporters cannot interfere with the activities of the persons mentioned in the (1) clause of this article as long as their activities are limited to electoral campaign process's observation

Entry into Force

Article 11:

This regulation enters into force after the date of approval and would be published.

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