



Republic of Uzbekistan
Central Election Commission

New Uzbekistan **NEW ELECTIONS**

2019 **ELECTIONS**

achievements, problems, proposals

Analysis of the elections to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and local representative bodies held on December 22, 2019



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

APA	Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan	MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan
CAL	Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Administrative Liability	MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan
CEC	Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan	Ministry of ICT	Ministry for Development of Information Technologies and Communications of the Republic of Uzbekistan
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States	Oliy Majlis	Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan (parliament)
DEC	District election commission	OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
DPU Milliy Tiklanish	The Democratic Party of Uzbekistan Milliy Tiklanish	OSCE ODIHR	OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
Ecoparty	The Ecological Party of Uzbekistan	PDPU	The People’s Democratic Party of Uzbekistan
Election Code	Election Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan	PEC	Precinct election commission
EMIS	Election Management Information System	RK	The Republic of Karakalpakstan
IPC	CEC International Press Center	RU	The Republic of Uzbekistan
LDPU	The Movement of Entrepreneurs and Businesspeople – The Liberal Democratic Party of Uzbekistan	SCO	Shanghai Cooperation Organization
Legislative Chamber	Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan (the lower chamber of parliament)	SDPU Adolat	The Social Democratic Party of Uzbekistan Adolat
Local Kengashes	Regional, district (city) Kengashes of people’s deputies	Senate	Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan (the upper chamber of parliament)
LRU	Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan	SEVR	Single Electronic Voter Register
		UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The CEC of the RU expresses its gratitude, in the preparation and conduct of the elections to the Oliy Majlis and local kengashes on December 22, 2019, to:

executive bodies – the Cabinet of Ministers of the RU, ministries and departments, the Council of Ministers of RK, khokimiyats – for assistance in establishing the polling stations, providing buildings, transport, and communications;

observers from foreign states and international organizations – for accepting the invitation to participate in the elections as observers, for objective observation of elections, recommendations and proposals given;

authorized bodies and institutions of foreign countries, diplomatic missions of the RU and representatives of the Agency for External Labor Migration abroad – for assistance in registering voters and organization of voting abroad;

international partners, in particular, representatives of UNDP, the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan – for the technical assistance provided in preparation for the elections;

representatives of media – for their active participation in conducting transparent and open elections, timely identification and elimination of shortcomings in the election process;

citizens' self-government bodies – for participation of their representatives as observers in elections, assistance in conducting meetings of candidates for deputies with voters, and providing necessary data and information materials to candidates;

law enforcement officials – for support in preventing unlawful actions and ensuring security during the election process;

members of election commissions – for the conduct of fair, honest and transparent elections on the basis of universally recognized standards and practices, in accordance with the electoral obligations of our country;

the staff of manufacturing enterprises – for their dedicated work in preparing electoral attributes and their delivery to places;

legal scholars, experts and trainers – for practical assistance in conducting training seminars for members of the election commission to improve their knowledge and skills in the field of elections;

foremost, all voters for their active participation in the elections.

METHODOLOGY

This report was developed on the basis of the regional programme “Lessons learned from the elections”, organized by the CEC of the RU with the support of the UNDP in February 2020.

To discuss the effectiveness of the preparation and conduct of elections, 14 ‘round tables’ were organized in all regions with the participation of organizers and participants of the electoral process, including representatives of election commissions at all levels, political parties, citizens’ self-government bodies, and government bodies involved.

The discussions highlighted the achievements, problems, and shortcomings encountered in the preparation and conduct of the elections, as well as in the elaboration of long-term proposals improving electoral legislation and practices.

Also, at the ‘round tables’, an in-depth analysis of each stage of the electoral process was carried out with a view to identifying ways to simplify administrative procedures and increase the role of stakeholders in electoral processes.

The CEC welcomes the recommendations made by national, international, and foreign observers, which together with this Report will serve as the basis for determining further measures to improve the electoral legislation and practices.

I. INTRODUCTION

The elections to the Parliament and local representative bodies were held on December 22, 2019 under the slogan 'New Uzbekistan – New Elections' on the basis of renewed electoral legislation brought into line with international standards.

The lower chamber of Parliament – the Legislative Chamber consists of 150 deputies elected for a term of five years. Deputies to the Legislative Chamber are elected on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot by territorial single-member constituencies on a multiparty basis¹.

The upper chamber of Parliament – the Senate is the chamber of territorial representation, in which 84 members are elected for a term of five years in equal quantity – in six persons – from the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regions and the city of Tashkent by secret ballot at relevant joint sessions of deputies of Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK and local kengashes from among these deputies; 16 members are appointed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan².

The term of office of local representative bodies – local kengashes – is five years. Elections to local kengashes are held in territorial single-member constituencies on a multiparty basis for a period of five years³. Regional and Tashkent city Kengashes of people's deputies shall consist of no more than 60 deputies, and district and city Kengashes of people's

deputies – no more than 30 deputies.

The elections took place in the context of the strengthening of democratic principles, openness, and transparency in the life of society, the significant liberalization of the socio-political environment, and the increased role and status of the media.

The elections became a national political event, in which more than 400,000 electoral organizers and participants of the electoral process took part directly, including 177,497 members of election commissions, 33,500 candidates for deputies, of which 744 – to the Legislative Chamber, 4,155 – to the regional Kengashes and 28,601 – to district and city kengashes, and 79,345 of their proxies, 54,551 authorized representatives and 59,894 observers of political parties, 10,260 observers of citizens' self-government bodies, 1,155 representatives of local and foreign media, as well as 825 observers from 10 international organizations and about 50 foreign countries, and 13,963,627 voters.

For the first time in the elections:

1) The Single Electronic Voter Register (SEVR) was introduced throughout the country. This list included data on more than 20.5 million eligible voters.

Voters were provided with the opportunity to get acquainted with information about themselves through the official website of the CEC of the

¹. Article 117 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Article 67 of the Election Code.

². Article 77 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Article 75 of the Election Code.

³. Article 88 of the Election Code.

Republic of Uzbekistan (RU);

2) 4,308 persons committed misdemeanors and crimes not constituting great social danger were included in the voter list and participated in the voting process;

3) all citizens residing abroad were given the opportunity to vote⁴.

For this purpose, an interactive service has been created on the official website of the MFA⁵, allowing citizens of the RU to submit electronic applications for inclusion in the electoral roll.

Also, members of PECs formed abroad, organized mobile voting in the places of compact residence of compatriots during the period of early voting.

In particular, at 55 polling stations established in 38 foreign countries, 112,411 voters cast their ballots, 89,807 of whom cast their ballots early by means of portable ballot boxes (mobile voting);

4) 150 deputies of the Legislative Chamber were elected by secret ballot on the basis of direct suffrage in the full-fledged general elections⁶;

5) from August 3 to December 20, 2019, about 180,000 candidates and members of election commissions were trained on the basis of a special programme using the 'cascade' interactive method;

6) from October 20 to November 20, 2019, the 'Electoral Law Outreach Month' was held across the country, with outreach to millions of voters;

7) more than a hundred briefings and press conferences, seminars, and round tables, and

about 20 video-conference calls of the CEC were organized in IPC;

8) the necessary conditions were created for holding of pre-election agitations by political parties and candidates, and 26 TV debates among them were broadcast live;

9) sufficient funds have been allocated from the national budget to finance elections – 230.5 billion UZS (24.3 million USD, or 1.18 USD per voter).

About 78 billion UZS were allocated to all DEC and PEC members for salaries and compensation payments. The compensation was set at 500,000 UZS for chairman of the commission, and 250,000 UZS for the members of the commission (after tax deduction);

10) from December 16, 2019, to January 3, 2020, to ensure a prompt respond to violations of the electoral law, all regional and district (city) administrative courts were kept on permanent duties. This measure has also been adopted at all levels of the prosecution and internal affairs bodies.

To inform the public of the legal status, the President of the Supreme Court, the Prosecutor General, and the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan held live press conferences.

This system allowed for a rapid response to media and social networks reports of electoral violations, as well as the restoration of violated rights and the prosecution of the accused.

As a result of the handling of electoral cases by

⁴ In the past, only registered citizens in the diplomatic missions of the RU abroad could participate in the elections.

⁵ <http://saylov.mfa.uz>

⁶ In the past, 135 deputies of the Legislative Chamber were elected on the basis of direct suffrage in general elections, and 15 were elected at a conference of the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan on the basis of quotas.

administrative courts, a relevant judicial practice was developed in this area.

On 22 December 2019, 13,963,627 voters participated in the elections, representing 67.8% of the total number of voters. LDPU won the largest number of seats (53) in the Legislative Chamber and gained the right to nominate a candidate for the post of Prime Minister⁷.

48 deputies (32%) elected to the Legislative Chamber are women⁸.

A total of 6,567 deputies were elected in the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK and local kengashes elections.

On January 16-17, 2020, joint sessions were held between deputies of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, representative bodies of state authority of the

regions and Tashkent city, districts and cities. For the first time, 84 members of the Senate were elected at joint sessions in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the law⁹.

All processes related to the preparation and conduct of the elections were conducted with openness and publicity, in accordance with national electoral legislation and within the legal time frame.

The elections expressed the will of the people of Uzbekistan and in accordance with the fundamental principle of periodicity, the composition of parliament and local representative bodies of state authority was renewed. And as a continuation of the electoral process, a new composition of the Government and local executive bodies has been formed.

⁷ In the Legislative Chamber, LDPU received 53 deputy seats, DP Milliy Tiklanish – 36, SDP Adolat – 24, PDPU – 22, Ecoparty – 15 seats.

⁸ In the 2014 elections to the Legislative Chamber, a total of 24 women were elected.

⁹ In previous elections, senators were elected on the basis of a by-law, i.e. a regulation approved by the CEC resolution.

II. ELECTORAL SYSTEM AND LEGISLATION



Chapter 1

The system and legal status of election commissions

A

CEC and district election commissions for elections to the Legislative Chamber



The CEC of the Republic of Uzbekistan is an independent constitutional body that organizes and conducts elections for the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, to the Oliy Majlis and referendums.



The CEC carries out its activity on a permanent basis, respecting the principles of independence, legality, collegiality, publicity, and justice.



The CEC members are elected by the Legislative Chamber and the Senate upon the recommendation of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, regions and Tashkent city Kengashes of people's deputies.



The CEC members are subject to the immunity rules applicable to deputies of the Legislative Chamber and members of the Senate.



The CEC and its members carry out their activities independently from any state bodies, public associations, and officials. Interference in the work of election commissions is prohibited and entails liability in accordance with the law.



PROBLEM:

During the election campaign, some opinions were expressed in the media and social networks regarding doubts about the independence of the CEC from the Government, despite the fact that the Constitution of the RU and the Election Code guarantee the independence of the CEC.



PROPOSAL:

To strengthen the independence of the CEC, to establish guarantees for further increasing openness and transparency of its activities

The CEC consists of **21 members**, 7 of whom work on a permanent basis. The working body of the CEC is the Secretariat, which consists of **45 employees**.

150

a territorial constituency was formed

On October 7, 2019, upon the proposal of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of people's deputies of the regions and Tashkent city, the CEC formed 150 territorial election constituencies for the election of deputies to the Legislative Chamber.

10 %

the maximum deviation of the number of voters

The borders of election constituencies were determined taking into account the administrative and territorial structure of the RU, as a rule, not exceeding the 10 % maximum permissible deviation of the number of voters in the election constituencies.

150

the DEC formed

On October 11, 2019, following the recommendation of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of people's deputies of the regions and Tashkent city, the CEC formed 150 DEC's and approved their 1,612 members.

The composition of the PECs comprised **743 women (46.1%)**, **1,455 (90.3%)** Uzbeks, and **157 (9.7%)** representatives of other nationalities (see below Annex No. 1).

Neither a member of DEC, nor members of election commissions at any level, can be a member of a political party. This rule ensures the objectivity of members of election commissions, carrying out their duties regardless of any political or ideological views¹⁰. The interests of political parties in election commissions are protected by their authorized representatives.

After registration of the deputies elected from the respective election constituencies by the CEC, the DEC's ceased their activities.

¹⁰. International Institute for the promotion of democracy and elections (<https://www.idea.int/>) the "Professional and ethical principles of election management" adopted in 1998 (approved by the electoral authorities of 40 States) calls on States to observe the principle of non-partisanship and neutrality of elections Commission members.

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION

of members of district election commissions for elections to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan

№	Territories	Number of election constituencies	Number of DEC members	Among them, women	Nationality						Age				
					Uzbek	Karakalpak	Kazakh	Russian	Tajik	Representatives of other nationalities	from 21 to 30	from 31 to 40	from 41 to 50	from 51 to 60	over 60
1	The Republic of Karakalpakstan	8	88	34	33	47	3	0	0	5	5	30	33	17	3
2	Andijan region	14	154	83	146	0	5	2	0	1	19	65	46	20	4
3	Bukhara region	9	99	54	94	0	0	1	1	3	11	37	29	14	8
4	Jizzakh region	6	66	28	65	0	0	0	0	1	5	18	16	17	10
5	Navoi region	5	55	25	52	1	1	0	1	0	10	14	17	12	2
6	Namangan region	13	141	68	131	0	0	0	8	2	6	55	38	34	8
7	Samarkand region	16	176	55	173	0	0	0	0	3	25	59	40	39	13
8	Sirdarya region	4	44	22	42	0	0	2	0	0	0	7	27	9	1
9	Surkhondarya region	11	107	52	99	0	0	1	7	0	17	40	27	17	6
10	Tashkent region	13	143	58	113	0	6	11	4	9	4	54	36	31	18
11	Ferghana region	17	187	97	176	0	0	1	6	4	14	51	51	51	20
12	Khorezm region	8	88	40	87	0	0	1	0	0	10	27	23	17	11
13	Kashkadarya region	14	132	73	119	0	1	0	5	7	12	37	45	32	6
14	Tashkent city	12	132	54	125	0	2	0	3	2	6	32	42	35	17
Total		150	1612	743	1455	48	18	19	35	37	144	526	470	345	127
%			100%	46,1	90,3	3,0	1,1	1,2	2,2	2,3	8,9	32,6	29,2	21,4	7,9



B

CEC of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regional, district (city) election commissions



In accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Karakalpakstan (RK), the CEC of the RK is an independent constitutional body that organizes and conducts elections to the Zhokarghy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

- ✓ The CEC of the RK is guided in its work by the Constitution of the RK, the laws of the RK on elections, referendum, and other legislative acts.
- ✓ The members of the CEC of the RK are elected by the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK on the recommendation of the district and city Kengashes of people's deputies.
- ✓ The member of the CEC of the RK are subject to the rules on immunity applicable to deputies of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK.
- ✓ The CEC of the RK consists of 17 members; the chairman works on a permanent basis and the members – on a voluntary basis.

To conduct elections to the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, **65 election constituencies** were formed and **611 members** of the PECs were endorsed.

To organize and conduct elections to local kengashes, the following commissions are formed:

1

Regional and Tashkent city election commissions on elections to Kengashes of people's deputies of regions and Tashkent city

2

District and city election commissions for elections to the district and city Kengashes of people's deputies

3

Regional, district, city election commissions are formed by the respective local kengashes and exercise their powers until the announcement of the start of the next election campaign

4

The secretaries of the election commissions of the regions and Tashkent city work on a permanent basis



To conduct elections to Kengashes of people's deputies of regions and Tashkent city, a total of **766 election constituencies** were formed, and **7,221 members** of the DEC were endorsed.

For the elections to the district and city Kengashes of people's deputies, **5,739 constituencies** were formed and **54,208 members** of the DEC were endorsed.



PROBLEM:

During the elections to the district and city Kengashes of people's deputies, DEC were inefficient and unnecessary structures. In most cases, each district had one to three polling stations, and its pre-election activities were limited to those polling stations only.

In addition, 33.2 billion UZS (3.5 million USD) were allocated from the state budget to pay salaries to the members of these DEC.



PROPOSAL:

To terminate the activities of the DEC in elections to district and city Kengashes of people's deputies by transferring their powers to district and city election commissions.

In addition, to ensure effective organization of elections to the district and city Kengashes of people's deputies, organize the work of chairpersons or secretaries of district and city election commissions on a permanent basis.

C

Precinct election commissions



10,260 polling stations have been established in the territory of the RU to hold elections for deputies to the Legislative Chamber and local kengashes.

For the first time, the composition of PECs, consisting of 111,461 members, was approved as the result of three-stage discussions:

- 1 Candidates of the commission member were nominated by citizens' self-government bodies, public associations, enterprises, institutions, and organizations;
- 2 Nominated candidates were discussed at the sessions of district and city kengashes of people's deputies, and recommended for approval;
- 3 Recommended candidates approved by the respective DEC.



A rule restricting the nomination of more than half of PEC members from one organization has been applied for the first time in the electoral practice.

The PECs consist of **54,361 (49.0%)** female members, **97,419 (87.7%)** Uzbek nationals and **14,042 (12.3%)** representatives of other nationalities (see below Annex 2).

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION

of members of precinct election commissions for elections to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and local Kenghashes

№	Territories	Number of election constituencies	Number of DEC members	Among them, women	Nationality						Age				
					Uzbek	Karakalpak	Kazakh	Russian	Tajik	Representatives of other nationalities	from 21 to 30	from 31 to 40	from 41 to 50	from 51 to 60	over 60
1	The Republic of Karakalpakstan	622	8053	3346	2987	3957	755	8	1	345	1347	2777	2165	1428	336
2	Andijan region	827	9922	6210	9461	0	0	57	65	339	2139	3602	2628	1265	288
3	Bukhara region	591	8519	4584	8389	0	45	15	32	38	1860	2924	2080	1387	268
4	Jizzakh region	519	4347	1379	4044	0	22	3	190	88	798	1309	1108	825	307
5	Navoi region	439	3 619	1 937	3 071	97	390	6	42	13	632	1 399	991	517	80
6	Namangan region	726	8843	4475	8043	0	0	25	765	10	1584	2746	2932	1186	395
7	Samarkand region	1052	11374	4008	11004	0	0	30	305	35	2157	3669	2988	2023	537
8	Sirdarya region	381	3505	1672	3203	2	13	15	167	105	751	1343	850	446	115
9	Surkhondarya region	785	8838	3039	7961	1	1	4	776	95	1486	2691	2631	1636	394
10	Tashkent region	958	10195	5411	8152	40	1053	337	393	220	1627	3407	3180	1380	601
11	Ferghana region	1051	9917	4820	9153	2	0	44	573	145	1232	2889	3628	1601	567
12	Khorezm region	499	5 678	2 798	5 640	4	5	16	0	13	873	1 598	1 640	1 165	402
13	Kashkadarya region	917	8828	4437	8184	137	25	122	278	82	2221	3016	2320	909	362
14	Tashkent city	893	9823	6245	8127	109	160	1360	18	49	1687	3221	2745	1859	311
	Жами	10 260	111461	54361	97419	4349	2469	2042	3605	1577	20394	36591	31886	17627	4963
	%	100%	49,0	87,7	3,9	2,2	1,8	3,2	1,4	18,4	32,9	28,7	15,9	4,5	



PROBLEM:

Although there was no violation of the requirements of the legislation, based on the peculiarities and internal rules of the diplomatic missions, military units, places of detention and imprisonment, sanatoriums and rest houses, hospitals, and other inpatient treatment facilities, these institutions faced difficulties in complying the requirement restricting nomination of more than a half of PEC members from one organization.



PROPOSAL:

In polling stations of this type the application of the rule restricting nomination of more than a half of PEC members from one organization shall be excluded.

In addition, a total of 55 polling stations were created in the diplomatic and other missions of the RU in 38 foreign countries, which were attached to 12 election constituencies in Tashkent city¹¹.

¹¹CEC Resolution No. 971 of November 1, 2019.



Chapter 2

Election legislation

The foundations of the electoral system are established in the Constitution of the RU.



On June 26, 2019, following the entry into force of the Election Code, a full inventory of by-laws regulating election processes was carried out. Based on the inventory work, the CEC drafted and adopted 17 regulations and instructions aimed at putting into practice the norms of the Election Code on elections to parliament and local kengashes.



Also, individual issues of the electoral process (such as accounting, archiving, etc.) are regulated by sectoral normative acts.

Elections in a sovereign Republic of Karakalpakstan are organized and held in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Karakalpakstan 'On elections'¹².

In order to prevent gaps in the legislation, during the election campaign, based on the requests from the field, timely changes and additions were made to some regulations and instructions¹³.

Also, according to the power of the CEC to provide methodological support for the activities of lower-level election commissions, 41 templates of resolutions of regional, district and city election commissions, and district and precinct election commissions were developed and delivered. Consequently, a unified practice in the adoption of resolutions by election commissions was introduced, and possible errors were prevented.

During the elections, a sufficient legislative framework was established to regulate the electoral process; measures were taken to prevent possible gaps in the legislation.



The Election Code is published in Uzbek, Russian, Karakalpak, and English in the amount of 26,000 copies, as well as all the provisions and instructions adopted by the CEC are published on the National Legislation Database (www.lex.uz) in Uzbek, Russian and Karakalpak languages.

¹². After the adoption of the Election Code, the laws of the RK "On the CEC of the Republic of Karakalpakstan", "On Elections to the Zhokarghy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan" and "On Elections to the district and city Kengashes of people's deputies" were annulled, and the Law of the RK "On Elections" was adopted on September 4, 2019 adapted to the EC.

¹³. For example, the Regulation on the activities of precinct election commissions for the elections to the Legislative Chamber, regional, district, and city Kengashes of people's deputies is supplemented by a new 98¹ point. Thus, the right of the parties, who disagree with the results of the counting, to appeal for the recount of votes has been established, and the mechanism for the consideration of such appeals and adoption of an appropriate decision on it has been introduced.



ОДИН ПАСПОРТ - ОДИН БАЛЛОТ
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

МILLIY TARAQQIYOT
И ГОЛОСОВАНИЕ

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

HAJONING OVOZ BERISH



O'ZBEKISTON
EKOLOGIYA VA
TAQVIMCHILIK
PARTIYASI

O'ZBEKISTON
EKOLOGIYA VA
TAQVIMCHILIK
PARTIYASI

O'ZBEKISTON
EKOLOGIYA VA
TAQVIMCHILIK
PARTIYASI

ADOLAT
O'ZBEKISTON
JAMHURIYATI
NATIJAVIY
DIPLOMATIYA
PARTIYASI



III. PRE-ELECTION ACTIVITY



Chapter 3

The election calendar and implementation schedule

Traditionally, in the year of elections, the CEC develops and implements the Programme of actions for the preparation and conduct of elections.



In order to organize and conduct the elections of 2019 on a high level, the CEC developed and adopted two Major actions Programmes¹⁴.



These Programmes had a positive effect on the implementation of the electoral processes within the deadlines established by law, the coherent and high-quality organization and conduct of the election campaign, as well as on the full implementation of the rights of the election process participants.




¹⁴. "Major actions programme on preparation for the election of the Oliy Majlis, regional, district and city Kengashes of people's deputies of 2019", approved by CEC resolution No. 913 on May 27, 2019, and the "Major actions programme for the election of deputies of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, deputies of local kengashes", approved by the resolution of the CEC No. 944 on September 20, 2019.



Chapter 4

Election Budget

230.5 billion UZS were allocated from the state budget to finance elections¹⁵ (24.3 million USD, an average of 1.18 USD per voter), including:

-  120.4 billion UZS for expenses of regional election commissions, DECAs, and PECs¹⁶;
-  46.6 billion UZS to finance the participation of political parties in the elections¹⁷;
-  63.4 billion UZS for centrally procured equipment and printed materials¹⁸.

¹⁵. CEC Resolution No. 963 of October 15, 2019.

¹⁶. 98.2 billion UZS were spent by regional election commissions, DECAs and PECs, and 22.2 billion UZS were returned to the budget.

¹⁷. Political parties spent 40.0 billion UZS, 6.6 billion UZS were returned to the budget.

¹⁸. 44.7 billion UZS of the funds allocated for centralized procurement were spent, 18.7 billion UZS were returned to the budget.



According to the results of the elections, 182.9 billion UZS were used from the allocated funds, 47.6 billion UZS were saved. Apart from this, 20.4 billion UZS were spent at the expense of the national budget of the RK and local budgets to hold elections.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE ELECTIONS:

- ✔ **78.0 billion UZS** were allocated for the payment of salaries and compensations to each member of DEC and PEC;
- ✔ the pre-election agitation of candidates for deputies of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK and local kengashes was funded by the state¹⁹;
- ✔ under the initiative of political parties, the practice of transferring directly to the accounts of candidates **30%** of the funds allocated for pre-election agitation has been introduced.

¹⁹ For each candidate for deputy of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of regions and Tashkent city (4,164) – 2.0 million UZS and 1.0 million for each candidate for deputy of the district (city) Kengashes.



PROBLEM:

Due to the lack of the financial legislation understanding of the chairpersons of the election commissions, some shortcomings in the payment of salary were identified.

PROPOSALS:



to introduce sessions on financial legislation into the training programmes for candidates and members of election commissions



to involve accountants by contracts in the work of district and city election commissions during the elections

- ✓ Expenses on elections were sufficiently funded from the state budget, cases of forced labor were prevented by paying each member of election commissions for performing duties in the interests of the state and society.



SAYLOV · 2019

IPC

SAIGANO MATSUOT NAYKAD





Chapter 5

International Cooperation

During the preparation for the elections, the OSCE Project Coordinator and UNDP in Uzbekistan provided technical assistance.



In the framework of these projects, a number of trainings were held for various participants of the electoral process, including members of election commissions, media representatives, senior officials of disabled people's societies, women's committees, and judges. Printed and audiovisual campaign materials were prepared to inform voters²⁰, and **a mobile application 'Saylov2019'** was launched, Braille/Tactile ballot sleeves were prepared for blind voters participating in the elections.

²⁰. Materials were placed on rail, air and city passenger transport, and also broadcast on the subway and on television.



The events held in cooperation with international organizations provided an opportunity for members of election commissions and other participants to study the international standards and best practices in elections. Participants positively assessed the trainings conducted, indicating that further expansion of international cooperation will contribute to inclusive elections in the RU and further enhancement of skills of electoral process participants.

The agreement reached with **UNDP on the project implementation for 2020-2021** (*budget of 3 million USD*) aimed at the continuation of international cooperation and capacity building of electoral administrators.

In order to ensure sustainable improvement of the electoral legislation and practice based on international standards and in line with current trends, in addition to cooperation with UNDP and the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, it is considered appropriate to strengthen **cooperation with the international organizations specialized in the field of elections**, such as the Venice Commission and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, International Foundation for Electoral Systems and the International Center for Parliamentary Studies.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS

Chapter 6

The participation of political parties in the elections.
Registration of candidates for deputies



The activities of political parties are regulated by the Constitution of the RU, the laws of the RU 'On political parties', 'On financing of political parties', as well as a number of by-laws.



By the time of the election campaign announcement, **the Ministry of Justice registered five political parties – LDPU, DP Milliy Tiklanish, PDPU, SDP Adolat, and Ecoparty**, promoting various political ideas and views.





A political party may nominate candidates for deputies provided that it is registered by **the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan** no later than four months before the date of the announcement of the election campaign and has collected at least **forty thousand signatures of voters** supporting its participation in the elections²¹.

- ✓ Following the election campaign announcement **on September 20, 2019**, the CEC registered authorized representatives of five political parties on September 24 and provided each of them with a sufficient number of signature forms.
- ✓ **On October 10, 2019**, each political party submitted **40,000 signatures** with an additional 10 percent – 44,000 signatures.



October 15, 2019

By the resolution of the CEC²², two expert groups were established to verify the correctness of signature forms. On October 15, 2019, based on the conclusions of the expert groups, **the CEC made a decision on the admission of political parties to participate in the elections.**

²¹. Article 68 of the Election Code.

²². CEC Resolution No. 955 of October 7, 2019 "On the creation of expert groups to verify the correctness of signature sheets submitted by political parties".

On November 11, 2019, 750 candidates for deputies of the Legislative Chamber from all political parties were registered²³ (the qualitative composition is given in Annex No. 3). Six candidates withdrew before election day. The total number of candidates in the elections was **744**.



PROBLEM:

According to the Election Code, a candidate may withdraw his/her candidacy at any time before the election. Since the Election Code does not prescribe the procedure for amending the issued ballots in case the candidate withdraws his/her candidacy, or for redistributing or cancellation the votes received by withdrawn candidates during an early voting, the CEC adopted relevant decisions to fill the legal gap²⁴.

PROPOSAL:

To establish deadlines for a candidate to withdraw his candidacy in the Election Code.

²³ CEC Resolution No. 984 of November 11, 2019 "On the registration of candidates for deputies to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis".

²⁴ CEC Resolution No. 1011 of December 17, 2019, No 1014 of December 20, 2019.



PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC
PARTY

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEPUTIES OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER OF THE OLIY MAJLIS

Number of election
constituencies

150 100%

Number of
candidates

150 100%

Re-nominated
deputies

4

women

72

SPECIALITY



Lawyers

9



Pedagogues

54



Engineers

5



Economists

30



Journalists

5



Businessmen

1



Doctors

21



Agonomists

2



Politicians

0



Philosophers

0



others

23

NATIONALITY

Uzbek

135

Kyrgyz

1

Karakalpak

7

Tatar

0

Kazakh

1

Korean

0

Russian

1

Representatives
of other
nationalities

1

Tajik

4

AGE

6 from 25 to 30

from 31 to 40 51

64 from 41 to 50

from 51 to 60 29

1 over 60



QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEPUTIES OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER OF THE OLIY MAJLIS




ADOLAT

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEPUTIES OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER OF THE OLIY MAJLIS

 Number of election
constituencies

150 100%

 Number of
candidates

150 100%

 Re-nominated
deputies

6

women

65

SPECIALITY



Lawyers

23



Pedagogues

33



Engineers

14



Economists

15



Journalists

2



Businessmen

12



Doctors

26



Agronomists

1



Politicians

2



Philosophers

3



others

19

NATIONALITY

Uzbek

138

Kyrgyz

1

Karakalpak

6

Tatar

1

Kazakh

0

Korean

0

Russian

3

 Representatives
of other
nationalities

1

Tajik

2

AGE

1 from 25 to 30

from 31 to 40 46

68 from 41 to 50

from 51 to 60 29

4 over 60



ECOPARTY

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEPUTIES OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER OF THE OLIY MAJLIS

Number of election
constituencies

150 100%

Number of
candidates

150 100%

Re-nominated
deputies

5

women

54

SPECIALITY



Lawyers

8



Pedagogues

50



Engineers

21



Economists

26



Journalists

2



Businessmen

0



Doctors

19



Agronomists

14



Politicians

0



Philosophers

1



others

9

NATIONALITY

Uzbek

140

Kyrgyz

0

Karakalpak

6

Tatar

0

Kazakh

0

Korean

0

Russian

1

Representatives
of other
nationalities

1

Tajik

2

AGE

2 from 25 to 30

from 31 to 40

40

77 from 41 to 50

from 51 to 60

29

2 over 60



LDPU

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEPUTIES OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER OF THE OLIY MAJLIS

Number of election
constituencies

150 100%

Number of
candidates

150 100%

Re-nominated
deputies

12

women

64

SPECIALITY



Lawyers

3



Pedagogues

47



Engineers

16



Economists

29



Journalists

4



Businessmen

0



Doctors

12



Agronomists

9



Politicians

0



Philosophers

0



others

30

NATIONALITY

Uzbek

134

Kyrgyz

1

Karakalpak

2

Tatar

1

Kazakh

4

Korean

4

Russian

2

Representatives
of other
nationalities

0

Tajik

2

AGE

3 from 25 to 30

from 31 to 40 36

63 from 41 to 50

from 51 to 60 45

2 over 60

In addition, the respective election commissions registered **4,155 candidates** for deputies to the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of people's deputies of regions and Tashkent city and **28,601 candidates** for district and city Kengashes of people's deputies (*a qualitative composition is given in Annexes 4a and 4b*).

PROBLEM:

- ✔ **Article 117 of the Constitution** of the RU stipulates that a citizen of the RU may not simultaneously be a deputy in more than two representative bodies of state authority.
- ✔ In cases where a candidate was simultaneously nominated for deputies to two local representative bodies, the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan received a number of requests on issues related to his election campaign and holding meetings.

PROPOSAL:

- ✔ To introduce in the **Article 117 of the Constitution of the RU**, a provision that one candidate can be elected only from one election constituency and to one local representative body.



Election commissions of various levels registered **54,551** authorized representatives of political parties and **79,345** proxies of candidates. The necessary conditions were created for their free activity and the exercise of their powers.

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION

of candidates for deputies of the Jokarghy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Kenghashes of People's deputies of regions and Tashkent city

№	Territories	Number of election constituencies with candidates	Number of candidates	Including			Nationality						Age				
				Re-nominated deputies	women	Number of non-partisan candidates	Uzbek	Karakalpak	Kazakh	Russian	Tajik	Representatives of other nationalities	from 25 to 30	from 31 to 40	from 41 to 50	from 51 to 60	over 60
1	The Republic of Karakalpakstan	65	325	13	110	10	142	151	24	0	0	7	10	88	120	94	13
2	Andijan region	60	300	89	96	1	297	0	0	2	0	1	7	83	86	89	35
3	Bukhara region	60	300	14	113	1	298	0	0	1	0	1	11	102	97	79	11
4	Jizzakh region	57	285	42	99	0	280	0	1	1	1	0	13	45	51	117	59
5	Navoi region	60	300	70	120	0	273	7	17	1	1	0	2	93	108	93	4
6	Namangan region	60	300	0	96	0	280	0	0	0	19	0	13	78	83	104	22
7	Samarkand region	60	300	20	107	0	291	0	0	0	5	2	8	88	114	74	16
8	Sirdarya region	50	250	43	65	4	228	0	4	0	15	2	6	56	68	87	33
9	Surkhondarya region	60	300	14	93	0	281	0	0	0	18	1	24	68	86	90	32
10	Tashkent region	60	300	0	93	7	275	0	6	4	7	4	12	77	69	126	16
11	Ferghana region	60	300	14	103	32	284	0	0	1	14	0	13	84	92	79	32
12	Khorezm region	60	300	26	98	0	295	0	2	0	0	1	19	83	78	93	27
13	Kashkadarya region	59	295	25	92	1	287	0	0	0	6	2	12	70	93	81	39
14	Tashkent city	60	300	45	98	0	289	1	3	2	1	3	9	102	98	74	17
Total		831	4155	415	1383	56	3800	159	57	12	87	40	159	1117	1243	1280	356
%		100%		10,0	33,3	1,3	91,5	3,8	1,4	0,3	2,1	1,0	3,8	26,9	29,9	30,8	8,6

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION

of candidates for deputies of district and city Kenghashes
of People's deputies

№	Territories	Number of election constituencies with candidates	Number of candidates	Including		Number of non-partisan candidates	Nationality						Age				
				Re-nominated deputies	women		Uzbek	Karakalpak	Kazakh	Russian	Tajik	Representatives of other nationalities	from 25 to 30	from 31 to 40	from 41 to 50	from 51 to 60	over 60
1	The Republic of Karakalpakstan	425	2125	173	752	5	751	1103	213	0	1	56	319	697	560	465	84
2	Andijan region	451	2242	245	648	90	2198	0	0	2	9	6	243	631	580	588	200
3	Bukhara region	364	1820	144	632	0	1797	0	7	3	6	7	225	610	453	452	80
4	Jizzakh region	339	1695	159	564	0	1611	0	7	2	52	2	162	471	421	452	189
5	Navoi region	285	1425	108	563	0	1274	64	75	0	9	3	137	500	410	329	49
6	Namangan region	357	1777	111	510	198	1629	0	0	0	146	2	206	484	527	440	120
7	Samarkand region	480	2364	167	693	9	2317	1	0	3	9	27	194	853	663	567	87
8	Sirdarya region	320	1600	152	494	35	1471	0	9	1	92	10	152	463	458	365	162
9	Surkhondarya region	409	2045	155	576	0	1867	0	1	2	160	15	102	611	620	597	115
10	Tashkent region	626	3097	264	1024	121	2726	6	191	17	106	22	306	835	813	853	290
11	Ferghana region	567	2835	239	988	105	2604	0	0	3	213	3	292	902	787	677	177
12	Khorezm region	360	1800	203	651	28	1775	5	9	4	0	6	224	560	443	454	119
13	Kashkadarya region	429	2141	175	647	3	2037	0	1	0	67	35	171	516	636	651	167
14	Tashkent city	327	1635	203	528	15	1554	9	14	19	12	5	256	548	417	332	82
Total		5 739	28601	2498	9270	609	25611	1188	527	56	882	337	2989	8681	7788	7222	1921
%		100%		8,7	32,4	2,1	89,5	4,2	1,8	0,2	3,1	1,2	10,5	30,4	27,2	25,3	6,7



Chapter 7

Single Electronic Voter Register and voter registration process

Following the Resolution of the President of the RU²⁵, and in cooperation with the Ministry of ICT, an Election Management Information System (EMIS) was developed.



In the framework of the formation of SEVR, together with responsible officers of the authorized ministries and departments from November 2018 to April 2019, door-to-door visits of citizens were conducted and more than 33 million people were included into the register. The binding of passport data of citizens to the cadastral number of about 7 million real estate objects was carried out. As a result, a single electronic register of more than 20.5 million voters was formed and automatically distributed to polling stations. To maintain the relevance of the database, an interdepartmental secure network was created and data exchange was established. In order to clarify the voter register during the election campaign, the second round of door-to-door visits of citizens was conducted.

²⁵. President Resolution No 3961 dated October 6, 2018 "On measures to introduce modern information and communication technologies in the electoral process".

One voter – one vote

Under conditions of high migration, it is critical to create a system ensuring the assignment of the voter to the relevant election constituency and to respect in practice the principle of ‘one voter – one vote’. At the same time, this system should not lead to the restriction of the most important political right of citizens to participate in the management of the public and state affairs through their elected representatives and to participate in the elections. This right is established by the Constitution and takes priority over the restriction.



In this context, a special resolution of the CEC²⁶, aimed at ensuring full realization of the electoral rights of citizens and preventing multiple voting was adopted, about which the PEC members were timely informed.



The EMIS was developed to collect and process the information on all election commissions and their members, including information on more than **6,700 constituencies** and **10,260 polling stations** formed in the RU, and **55 in foreign countries**, as well as on more than **170,000 members** of election commissions.

²⁶ Articles 14 and 16 of the Election Code, as well as CEC Resolution No. 994 of December 3, 2019 “On certain issues of using the Single electronic voter list”.



As an experiment, while using SEVR, **60 biometric data** readers were installed in **20 polling stations** and **120 video cameras** - in **60 polling stations**²⁷.



Also, the CEC website launched the 'Find yourself in the voter register' service, which was used by more than 110,000 citizens during the elections process.



Methodical videos and instructions for using the SEVR were prepared and published in the Saylov2019 mobile application.

In order to improve the skills of work in **EMIS 'cascade' training** was carried out according to the approved schedule (*see Annex No. 5*). As a result, **30 national** and more than **2,200 regional trainers** and over **34,000 polling station** operators received access to EMIS.

²⁷. The voting process was broadcast online on the CEC website, on the big screen in the IPC and on the Uzbekistan24 TV channel.



EXPERIMENT RESULTS:

- ✔ although the biometric data readers were connected to a high-speed Internet connection (2 Mbps), the identification time was 3-4 minutes for each voter, and that created queues at polling stations during the polls. One of the reasons of this problem was also related to the lack of an identification card (ID card) among voters;
- ✔ surveillance cameras were installed in 60 polling stations, and the voting process was broadcast live in the IPC, on the official website of the CEC and Uzbekistan24 TV channel. As a result, no complaints regarding violations of the law were received at these polling stations.

PROPOSALS:

- ✔ To introduce biometric data readers into the process of future elections after the citizens of the RU are fully provided with identification cards (ID-cards);
- ✔ During next elections, to install surveillance cameras in polling stations, as a pilot project, within a separate administrative territorial unit.

PLAN-SCHEME**of training of regional, district and city trainers, as well as representatives of election commissions on using and introducing EPMIS**

Name of the event	Responsible executor	February 2019			March 2019			April 2019			May 2019			June 2019			July 2019			August 2019			September 2019			October 2019			November 2019			December 2019		
		2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3				
Development of data entry system about DECs, PECs, and their members, as well as EPMIS operators	Ministry of ICT, UNICON.UZ, CEC																																	
Establishment of headquarters for data entry about DECs, PECs, and their members, as well as EPMIS operators	Local bodies of state authority, Ministry of ICT, CEC																																	
Entering data about DECs, PECs, and their members, as well as EPMIS operators	Local bodies of state authority, Ministry of ICT																																	
Preparation of teaching materials, video courses and other educational information	Ministry of ICT, UNICON.UZ, CEC																																	
Training of specialists in the field of information and communication technologies in the regions (150 people in each region)	Ministry of ICT, UNICON.UZ, Ministry of Higher Education																																	
Conducting certification of trainers	Ministry of ICT, UNICON.UZ, Ministry of Higher Education																																	
Training of EPMIS operators (6 people for each PEC, total 60 000)	Local bodies of state authority, Ministry of ICT, CEC																																	
Checking the knowledge of EPMIS operators	Ministry of ICT, UNICON.UZ, Ministry of Higher Education																																	
Introducing EPMIS and start of operators activities	Ministry of ICT, CEC																																	
Establishment and launch of a call center	Ministry of ICT, UNICON.UZ, Ministry of Higher Education																																	
Activities of trainers and operators at polling stations	Ministry of ICT, CEC																																	

Note. Approved by the joint resolution of the CEC of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of ICT and the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education No. 909 of February 14, 2019.



Chapter 8

Ensuring openness and transparency of elections

A

Participation of observers in the elections



The CEC accredited **273 observers** from the OSCE / ODIHR, **66** – from the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA), **20** – from the SCO, **182** – from the CIS and the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS (IPA CIS), **9** – from the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (CCTS), **5** – from the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking countries (TURKPA), as well as from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Hague Conference on Private International Law, diplomatic missions of foreign states, more than **50 foreign states**, for a total of **825²⁸ international (foreign) observers** who participated in election observation.

²⁸ 171 international and foreign observers took part in the parliamentary elections of 2004, 241 in 2009, 331 in 2014, and in the presidential elections – 249 in 2007, 296 in 2015 and 555 in 2016 (including a full-fledged OSCE / ODIHR Election observations mission of 192 observers).



For the first time, missions of the **OSCE PA, IPA CIS, CCTS** and **TURKPA** participated in the observation of elections in Uzbekistan. Also, for the first time a full-fledged election observer mission **OSCE / ODIHR** took part in the parliamentary elections of the country.

For the first time, he directly followed the process of preparation and conduct of the elections.

59 894

observers of the five political parties that participated in the elections

10 260

observers of citizens' self-government bodies



A NEW PRACTICE

international observers and observers from citizens' self-government bodies of Tashkent city observed the election process at polling stations created in the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan abroad²⁹.

PROBLEM:

15 days

Interested organizations must inform election commissions about their intention to observe elections at least **15 days** before the polls³⁰. During the election, requests from representatives of foreign countries and international organizations to participate as observers in the elections were received after the deadline (*December 7*).

PROPOSAL:

10 days

To extend the deadline for submitting applications to the CEC for observers from foreign countries and international organizations to **10 days** before the election.

²⁹ Representatives of the IPA CIS observed the elections to the Legislative Chamber in Russia, Moldova, Azerbaijan, and 11 representatives of citizens' self-government bodies participated as observers in Russia (Moscow, St. Petersburg, Kazan, Yekaterinburg, Rostov-on-Don, Novosibirsk, Vladivostok) in Kazakhstan (Nur Sultan, Almaty, Aktau).

³⁰ Article 35 of the Election Code.

B

Participation of media in the elections



To ensure openness and transparency of the elections, the CEC signed a cooperation agreement with several media outlets³¹.



The election campaign was covered by **1,155 representatives of national and foreign media groups** accredited by the respective election commissions.

28 times 150-minute

Press-coffee in cooperation with the International Press Center of the CEC

7 times 30-minute

The press briefing was broadcast live on Uzbekistan24 TV channel.

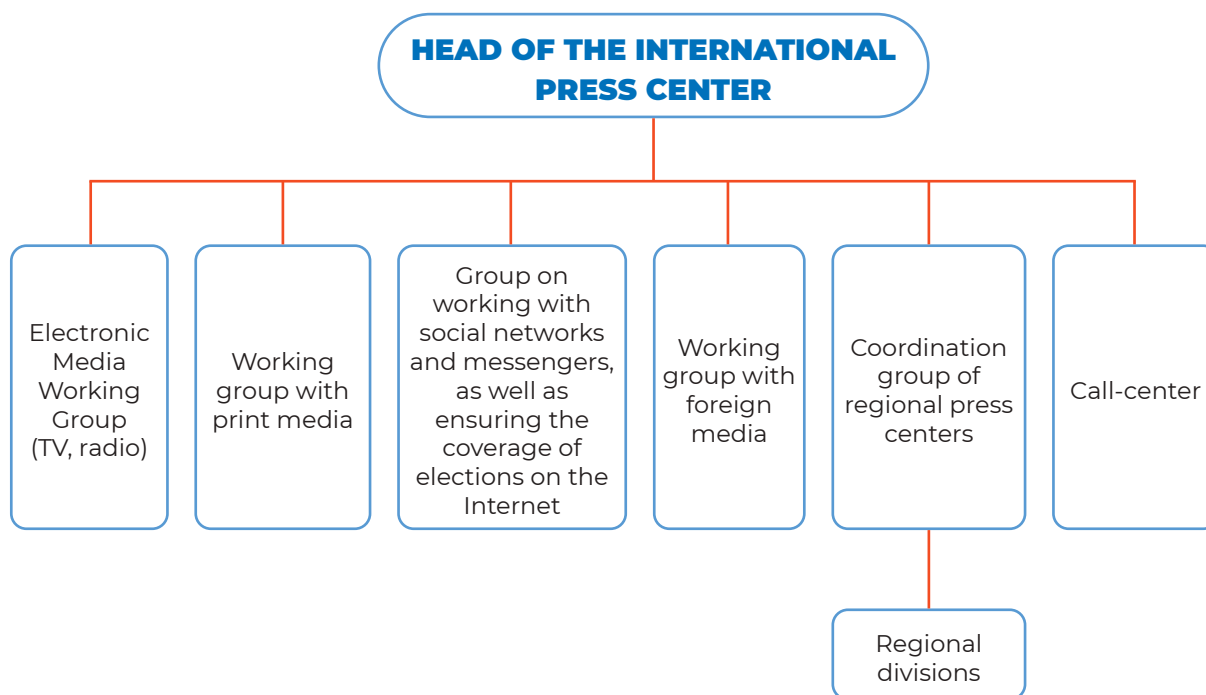
To monitor the election campaign in the media, as well as to inform the public about the election process promptly and objectively, the **IPC of the CEC and its regional branches were created**³² (see Annex No. 6).

³¹. Agreements with the National Television and Radio Company, Uza – the National News Agency of Uzbekistan, the Dunyo News Agency, the National Association of Electronic Mass Media, the Uzreport News Agency.

³². CEC Resolution No. 931 of September 11, 2019.

STRUCTURE

of the International Press Center of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan



LIMITED NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES OF THE CENTER:

- ✓ Number of employees of the International Press Center - 30 people
- ✓ The number of employees of the regional offices of the Center (3-6 people in each region) - 42-84 people
- ✓ Employees of the Call Center will be involved on a volunteer basis.



Events organized by the IPC, including the CEC sessions, press conferences and meetings with the participation of heads of election commissions at various levels, representatives of political parties, ministries, khokimiyats, public organizations, embassies, international observer missions, research centers, were broadcast live on television and radio channels **'Uzbekistan24', 'Yoshlar', 'Makhalla', 'Tashkent', 'MY5', 'Uzreport', as well as on the official Facebook page @ IPCElection2019.**



26 episodes of the talk show 'Democratic Debate' were broadcast live by the National Association of Electronic Mass Media of Uzbekistan and more than **50 tele- and radio member stations.**



For the first time, under the initiative of the CEC, an **'Electoral law outreach month'** with more than **50 thousand** various public awareness events was organized during **October 20 – November 20**³³.



The official website of the CEC (www.elections.uz) has been modernized, more than **3,800 materials in Uzbek**, about **2,400 in Russian** and over **350 in English** were published on the CEC website.



32 media spots of CEC were aired **7,200 times**, and **35 media spots** of the Uzbekkino National Agency were broadcast **3,000 times** on all non-state television channels.



In general, according to the Agency for Information and Mass Communications under the President of the RU, **more than 42 thousand** posts covering the election campaign were published on social networks, including about **4,000 critical ones**.



Ensuring transparency and openness of the elections, active participation of media and bloggers in covering the elections created an opportunity **to identify some cases of violation during the election process and take legal measures against them.**

³³ For example, the Ministry of Justice, responsible for the outreach month, attracted 454 officials of ministry to the implementation of the Adlia Chorlovi project. Under the project, law-outreach events were organized in public places, articles and speeches in the media were published, social advertisements, banners and billboards were posted calling to the elections, the rubric «Elections Alphabet» was launched on the pages of the ministry's social network pages and Telegram channel Legal Information with comments and clarifications on election issues.



Chapter 9

Pre-election agitation

Pre-election agitation begins on the next day after the deadline for registration of candidates. Campaign shall not be permitted on election day and on a day prior to the voting³⁴. Therefore, the pre-election agitation lasted from November 18 to December 20, 2019.



During the pre-election agitation, all political parties, candidates and their proxies were given equal opportunities **to meet with voters, hold rallies, discussions, debates, press conferences, interviews, performances in the media, and publish posters, media spots and banners.**

³⁴. Article 44 of the Election Code.



The financing of political parties' participation in the elections is carried out only at the expense of state funds allocated for these purposes. Financing and other material support to political parties in the elections at the expense of other means is prohibited³⁵.

Considering the above-mentioned, 46.6 billion UZS were allocated from the state budget to finance political parties' participation in the elections. In particular, the amount of funds allocated for one candidate was determined as follows:

10 million UZS each



for candidates for deputies to the Legislative Chamber

2 million UZS each



for candidates for deputies of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of regions and Tashkent city

1 million UZS each



for candidates for deputies of district (city) Kengashes

30 %

At the proposal of political parties, 30% of the funds allocated for pre-election agitation were transferred directly to the accounts of the candidates.



The CEC did not receive information about illegal use, by political parties, of funds other than those allocated from the state budget, or other support during the elections.

³⁵ Article 8 of the LRU "On the Financing of Political Parties".



- ✓ **5,890 tele- and radio broadcasts** on pre-election agitation were aired live by the National Association of Electronic Mass Media and its members.

In agreement with political parties, the media provided an equal airtime and print space³⁶. In particular, parties and candidates used **30 minutes to explain their programmes five days a week on the TV channels Uzbekistan24, Uzbekistan, Yoshlar, Makhalla and radio stations Uzbekistan and Yoshlar**. On Saturdays (*5 times*), **an inter-party debates of 90 minutes were held on Uzbekistan24 TV channel. Live debates were broadcast on 8 central and 12 regional television and radio channels.**



During the pre-election agitation, political parties used the free print space – **a total of 25 pages**, in newspapers such as “Khalq suzi” (in Uzbek), “Narodnoe Slovo” (in Russian), “Pravda Vostoka” (in Russian), “Ovozi Tojik” (in Tajik) and “Nurly Zhol” (in Kazakh).



In total, **141,952 promotional materials** about political parties and their candidates were published in media, on websites and social networks.

- ✓ In all regions and cities, each party was provided with free of charge **225 units of distribution of visual, audiovisual and other campaign materials**, a total of **1,120 external ads**, as well as **70 electronic** screens for posting campaign videos.

³⁶. CEC Resolution No. 977 of November 12, 2019.



PROBLEM:

- ✓ The practice of the CEC on equal allocation of free of charge billboards and electronic screens to political parties has led to the similarity and homogeneity of the campaign activities of parties and candidates.

PROPOSAL:

- ✓ In the next elections, to abandon such practices and create conditions for a variety of pre-election agitation.

According to political parties, by candidates and their proxies



more than 42,000
meetings with voters were
held



During the period of the pre-election
agitation
1,325 rallies were held

Public and economic administration bodies, local authorities, public associations, and citizens' self-government bodies, on equal terms, provided political parties and candidates for deputies with free of charge equipped rooms for meetings with voters.



Holding meetings with voters is included in the category of mass events³⁷ and under the current procedures, permission for such meetings is issued by the Council of Ministers of the RK, khokimiyats of the regions and Tashkent city.



To provide ample opportunities for parties and candidates during the pre-election agitation, the CEC recommended the Council of Ministers of the RK, khokimiyats of the regions and Tashkent city to review requests for a permit and issue them as soon as possible. During the pre-election agitation, the CEC did not receive any reports from political parties nor candidates about any obstruction from local authorities during the meetings with voters.

PROBLEMS:

- ✓ Under the Election Code, the election commissions are tasked to assist in organization of meetings of candidates for deputies with voters, timely informing voters about the place and time of the meetings³⁸.
- ✓ These functions are not inherent to election commissions and may violate the principle of equality of political parties and candidates. In particular, during the peak of the pre-election agitation, members of election commissions become busy with the organization of meetings of political parties and candidates with voters which is not typical for them.

³⁷. Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of RU No. 205 of July 29, 2014 “On measures to further improve the organization and conduct of public events”.

³⁸. Articles 22 and 48 of the Election Code.

PROPOSALS:

- ✓ To exclude from the powers of election commissions the functions associated with organization of meetings of candidates for deputies with voters and informing voters about the place and time of meetings;
- ✓ To abolish the procedures for obtaining permission by political parties and candidates to conduct such mass events as meetings with voters and to establish a procedure of notification of local authorities about the place and time of the meetings by political parties and candidates.



Monitoring and overseeing the execution of law during the election campaign were carried out by the PECs, the Agency for Information and Mass Communications (in print and electronic media), as well as by the prosecution and internal affairs bodies within the framework of their powers.



As a result of monitoring and oversight measures, it was noted that the pre-election agitation of political parties and candidates was strengthened on the last days of campaign and **there were no violations of the rules of the pre-election agitation** for the elections to the Legislative Chamber.



At the same time, in three cases the candidates and their proxies conducted campaigns violating **Art. 44 of the Election Code**, i.e. provided goods and services on preferential terms, and brought to appropriate administrative liability³⁹.

³⁹ Violation of Article 44 of the Election Code was committed in the 38th Almazar constituency for elections to the Tashkent city Kengash of people's deputies, the 32th Isfarkhan constituency for elections to the Namangan regional Kengash of people's deputies, the 11th Jalaer constituency for elections to the Kuva district Kengash of people's deputies.



Chapter 10

Participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities in the election process

A

Participation of women in the electoral process

- ✓ The number of women nominated by political parties shall not be less than **30% of the total number of candidates**⁴⁰.
- ✓ In the process of nomination, this requirement was fulfilled by political parties. In particular, **41.6% (310 out of 744)** of candidates for deputies to the Legislative Chamber were women⁴¹.
- ✓ According to the election results, **48 women** were elected to the lower chamber of parliament (*32% of the total number of deputies*)⁴², and **24 women (24%)**⁴³ took seats in the upper chamber.

⁴⁰. Article 70 of the Election Code.

⁴¹. In the 2014 parliamentary elections, this figure was 31.8%.

⁴². According to the results of the 2014 elections, this indicator amounted to 16.0% (24 persons).

⁴³. In 2014 – 19% (19 persons) were women.



- ✔ Currently, **29.1%** of all members of both houses of the Oliy Majlis (72 out of 248 parliamentarians) are women. This indicator is higher than the global average by 4.91% (as of January 1, 2019, among the members of various national parliaments, the ratio of women ranged from 0% to 61.3%, with an average of 24.2%)⁴⁴.
- ✔ In the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of people's deputies of regions and Tashkent city, out of the total number of newly elected deputies, **250 are women** (30%), in district and city Kengashes – **1,396** (24%)⁴⁵.
- ✔ Besides, there were **743 women** (46.1%) in the DEC on elections to the Legislative Chamber, and **54,361** (49%) in PECs⁴⁶.

⁴⁴ High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, convened under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council // Special Edition: Achieving Sustainable Development Goals. Report of the UN Secretary-General, items 5 a and 6 of the agenda for the 2019 session (July 26, 2018 - July 24, 2019).

⁴⁵ In 2014, the indicator was 23.5% and 22%, respectively.

⁴⁶ In 2014, women in the composition of the DEC on amounted to 307 (20.9%) and in PECs – 36,534 people (43.8%).

✔ 10 million 355 thousand

Of the total number of voters included in the SEVR, more than half are women. In this context, increasing the legal culture and electoral activity of women was of particular importance.



For this purpose, in March 2019, the CEC and the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan signed an agreement aimed at ensuring the constitutional right of women to participate in the elections.

In November 2019, in cooperation with the UNDP office in Uzbekistan, training seminars were held on the topic 'Strategies for increasing the participation of women in parliamentary and local elections'⁴⁷.



The CEC, in cooperation with the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, prepared printed and audiovisual materials aimed at increasing the electoral activity of women, which were widely distributed in makhallas, at study and work places of the people, broadcast on television, at railway stations and airports as well as urban passenger transport and transport stations.

PROPOSAL:

- ✔ To establish separate quota for women (candidates, proxies, party members) when providing free airtime to political parties and candidates during the pre-election agitation.

⁴⁷. Training seminars were organized for senior officials of the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan, chairpersons of women's committees in Tashkent city and the Tashkent region, representatives of the Women's rehabilitation and adaptation centers and women's NGOs, as well as in Nukus city for the Women's committee of the RK.

B

Participation of youth in the electoral process



7,162,316, or 34.7% of voters included in the SEVR were people under the age of 30, of which almost 2 million who reached the age of 18 took part in the elections for the first time.



On June 28, 2019, the CEC signed an Agreement of Cooperation with the Central Council of the Youth Union of Uzbekistan to increase the role of youth in the electoral process and their involvement in the future of the country, and to strengthen promotion of their participation in the elections.



Following the agreement, a number of events, including the nationwide seminar **'Young voter 2019'**⁴⁸, a legal competition **'I am ready for elections'**⁴⁹ among young people, the youth forum **'Young voter'**⁵⁰, and a legal quiz in the framework of the project **'I am voting for the first time'** aimed at increasing the legal awareness were held among youth, and the **'Ready to vote'** and **'Dialogue on elections'** manuals were published and distributed among young people.

Youth became a part of election commissions. In particular, there were **144** (8.9%) young people under the age of **30** among DEC members for conducting elections to the Legislative Chamber, and **20,394** (18.4%) among PEC members.

⁴⁸ Held in the "Youth Camp" with the participation of Mr. M. Abdusalomov, the Chairperson of the CEC, on October 28-30, 2019 in Bustonliq district, Tashkent region.

⁴⁹ Legal competition at district, city, the RK, regions and Tashkent city levels; over 450 thousand youth took part.

⁵⁰ Over 10,300 young people participated in the forum.





Besides, political parties nominated **14 young candidates** to the Legislative Chamber under **the age of 30, of which 9 (64.2%)** were elected.



- ✔ Also, **26 out of 159 young candidates were elected to the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of regions and Tashkent city**, and **291 out of 2,989 young candidates nominated to the district and city Kengashes of people's deputies were elected.**

C

Participation of persons with disabilities in the electoral process

- ✔ The voter register included more than **630,000 people** with disabilities, including about **61,000 blind** citizens⁵¹. From this perspective, the issue of inclusiveness of elections, ensuring the right of persons with disabilities to participate in elections, has become an urgent task.
- ✔ For this purpose, on **September 27, 2019**, the CEC signed an agreement on cooperation with the Societies of the Disabled, Blind and Deaf of Uzbekistan.

⁵¹. Based on data of the Society of persons with disabilities.

The CEC recommended to include the persons with disabilities to the election commissions.



3.5% (57 persons)

in the PECs for the elections to the Oliy Majlis



3.1% (244 persons)

in the PECs for the elections to the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of regions and Tashkent city



2.8% (1,516 persons)

in the DECs for elections to city and district Kengashes



2.1% (2,341 persons)

persons with disabilities were included in the CECs that held elections to district and city councils.

The CEC adopted a special resolution⁵² on ensuring the electoral rights of persons with disabilities, which approved the initiative to conduct elections under the slogan 'Equal Opportunities in Elections!'

Under this initiative, almost all polling stations were equipped with ramps and special voting booths for persons with disabilities; conditions were created for their free movement in the premises; voting was organized at the place of residence of voters with disabilities; pre-election agitation was broadcast in sign language and using subtitles.

Three types of Tactile/Braille ballot sleeves⁵³ were prepared and delivered to polling stations.

⁵² CEC Resolution No. 926 of July 23, 2019.

⁵³ Stencils adapted to the ballots of the elections to the Legislative Chamber, Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, Kengashes of regions and Tashkent city, as well as district and city Kengashes.



PROBLEMS:

- ✔ All three types of Tactile/Braille ballot sleeves were enclosed with ballot papers, which were limited to the inscription on belonging to certain elections and had no data on the candidates of the respective election constituencies. The procedure of verbal informing by PEC members about the candidates caused dissatisfaction among some blind voters.
- ✔ Since the elections were held in single-mandate election constituencies, 6,720 different voting ballots were issued for all constituencies on elections to Legislative chamber and local kengashes, and a decision was made to produce the same number of Tactile/Braille ballot sleeves.
- ✔ However, due to the limited number of special sleeve manufacturing facilities and the terms of the election campaign, it was not possible to produce 6,720 ballot papers in Braille, each of which should have been of different contents with specific data of the candidates.

PROPOSALS:

- ✔ To install in voting booths audio devices that provide information about candidates. This is to ensure implementation of the principle of equality in elections for blind voters;
- ✔ To improve the design of a Tactile/Braille ballot sleeve.



Chapter 11

Training of members of election commissions

The CEC approved the Concept for the organization of training of candidates for election commission members and the Schedule of activities for the implementation of the Concept⁵⁴.



A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (APA) to ensure the implementation of the Concept. Within the framework of the Memorandum, a programme of training seminar, consisting of 12 modules and covering all stages of the preparation and conduct of elections, was prepared at APA. The special workbook for trainers and participants was published in Uzbek, Karakalpak and Russian languages. The programme was enriched with lecture texts, glossary, case studies, tests and control questions, slides and infographics.

⁵⁴ CEC Resolution No. 926 of July 23, 2019.

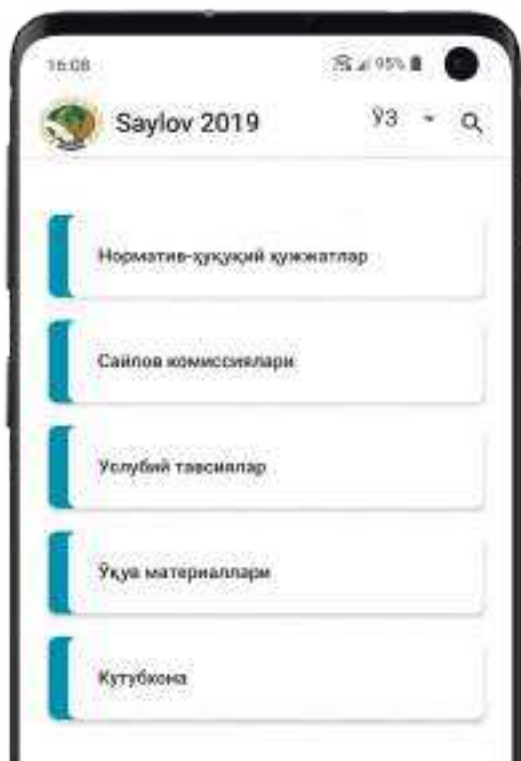


THE TRAINING OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS WAS ORGANIZED USING THE **'CASCADE' METHOD**. IN PARTICULAR:

- ✔ **at the initial stage**, a group of 70 'national trainers' (professors and lecturers of higher educational institutions and specialists of state institutions) was formed and trained based on APA training programmes and received the corresponding certificates;
- ✔ **then** the 'national trainers' during field visits, formed a group of 748 'regional trainers' (professors and lecturers of regional higher educational institutions) who also were trained in special programmes and granted certificates;
- ✔ **at the final stage**, 'regional trainers' during the field visits, provided a step-by-step guide to more than 180,000 candidates and members of election commissions about election procedures.

For the first time in national electoral practice, the training of participants in the electoral process was organized by the method of seminar-training, covering no more than 20-25 participants in each group. Every participant was provided with the workbook.

The CEC concluded contracts with 'national trainers', and the CEC of the RK, the election commissions of the regions and Tashkent city – with 'regional trainers'; who received compensation.



To increase the knowledge and practical skills of members of the election commissions and other participants of the electoral process, the **Saylov2019 mobile application** has been developed.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES HAVE BEEN POSTED TO THE MOBILE APPLICATION

- ◆ seminar-training program,
- ◆ relevant lecture texts,
- ◆ glossary, slides and infographics,
- ◆ election case and test questions
- ◆ teaching materials.



Special training seminars organized for **participants** were **effective**. The members of the election commissions **mastered the necessary knowledge and practical skills in the newly adopted election legislation, which was demonstrated during the election process.**





Chapter 12

Procurement of election equipment and delivery (logistics)

The LRU ‘On public procurement’ does not apply to public procurement conducted for the preparation and conduct of elections to the Oliy Majlis and local Kengashes⁵⁵.



For centralized procurement of inventory necessary for the elections, the CEC formed a Special Commission on Procurement.


In July-August 2019, electoral materials were requested by the regional, district and city election commissions. In September 2019, requests were accepted through the field visits of the CEC employees together with the election commissions (*see Appendix No. 7*).

⁵⁵. Article 1 of the LRU “On Public Procurement”.

INFORMATION

on the needs of election commissions for election equipment

Nº	Territory	State flag	State emblem	Stationary ballot box	Mobile ballot box	Voting booth
1	The Republic of Karakalpakstan	2 762	501	83	81	59
2	Andijan region	1 844	992	302	156	306
3	Bukhara region	2 048	1 024	202	260	107
4	Jizzakh region	1 842	921	126	130	115
5	Navoi region	1 564	782	87	119	111
6	Namangan region	2 310	1 155	36	36	62
7	Samarkand region	1 881	404	98	130	128
8	Sirdarya region	1 216	571	149	176	145
9	Surkhondarya region	2 318	1 123	207	266	317
10	Tashkent region	2 898	1 352	371	417	364
11	Fergana region	1 987	642	122	227	62
12	Khorezm region	615	265	23	44	18
13	Kashkadarya region	2 065	966	233	192	227
14	Tashkent city	1 274	295	261	478	197
TOTAL		26 624	10 993	2 300	2 712	2 218



The priority in determining manufacturers and suppliers was the price and quality of products, delivery times, as well as the level of social orientation of the enterprise. For example, secret voting booths and ballot boxes were manufactured and delivered by enterprises of the penitentiary institution of the MIA.

Taking into account that the majority of polling stations were located in public education institutions, the delivery of electoral materials was carried out by the State Unitary Enterprise 'O'quv ta'lim ta'minoti' under the Ministry of Public Education, electoral documents and ballots for polling stations – by the State Courier Service. Electoral attributes were delivered to polling stations abroad through the MFA and the State Courier Service.



At the elections, as an experiment, **3,167** new type portable voting booths were tested.

EXPERIMENT RESULTS:

PEC members assessed positively the portable booths, which ensured the principle of secret voting and quick adaptation, based on the characteristics of the polling station premises. Voters also praised the CEC for providing brightness of portable cabins.

PROPOSALS:



for next elections, replace stationary voting booths that have become unusable with portable booths, as well as install lighting in each stationary booth.

In general, the necessary **inventory for the elections were delivered to the election commissions at all levels within the time limits established by law.**

PROBLEMS:

- ✔ the cost estimate for the preparation and conduct of the elections was approved close to the election day, i.e., October 15, 2019⁵⁶.
In this regard, due to the lack of reliable information on the allocated funds for the procurement of electoral materials, the choice of the manufacturer or supplier and the conclusion of relevant agreements with them were delayed;
- ✔ a wrong information about electoral materials was submitted by the field offices, and therefore, 10-15 days prior to the election, an additional demand for inventory items was requested (voting booths, State emblem, etc.).
As a result, shortly before the election day, it was necessary to give manufacturers and suppliers an additional unplanned order, and to find alternative enterprises urgently

These problems created the risk of untimely provision of polling stations with necessary inventory items. This threat was eliminated by the joint efforts of the CEC Commission on Procurement, manufacturers and suppliers.

PROPOSALS:

- ✔ to approve the Budget of elections at least 6 months before the election and to begin procurement activities based on established needs;
- ✔ 2) at the beginning of the financial year, within the framework of the planned budget, announce a tender for manufacturers or suppliers of electoral materials;
- ✔ 3) to determine the chairpersons or the secretary of the precinct election commission (if the proposal on his/her permanent work is approved) responsible for the proper preservation of the electoral equipment and timely submission of real needs from the field.

⁵⁶ CEC Resolution No. 963 of October 15, 2019.



Chapter 13

Ballot papers

The form, size and volume of information that the ballot paper should contain were determined by the resolution of the CEC⁵⁷. To save budget funds, for the first time, watermarked paper was not used.



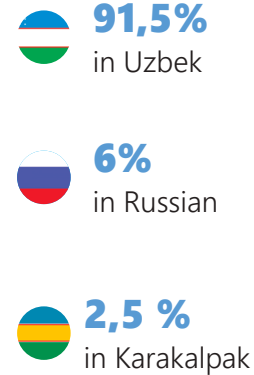
The CEC printed **20,699,552 ballots**, including **18,993,417** for PECs in Uzbekistan and **1,706,135 ballots** for PECs abroad.



Ballots were delivered to PECs before **December 9, 2019** in the amount of **5%** of the total number of voters at the polling station, and the remaining 95.5 percent – by **December 19, 2019**.

⁵⁷. CEC Resolution No. 980 of November 14, 2019.

According to the Election Code, ballot papers were printed in the state language, as well as by the decision of the district election commission in the languages spoken by the majority population of the respective district⁵⁸. Accordingly, the ballots were printed in Uzbek, Russian and Karakalpak languages, which are spoken by the majority of the population.



PROBLEMS:

- ✓ 1) it was difficult to differentiate the ballot papers from each other both by voters during the voting and by PEC members when counting⁵⁹;
- ✓ 2) due to the abundance of information on candidates on the ballots, the texts were printed in small print, especially, on the ballots for voting to district and city kengashes (format A5) in some election constituencies caused dissatisfaction of voters;
- ✓ 3) according to the Election Code⁶⁰, PECs receive ballots no later than three days before the day of voting. The number of ballots received by PECs may not exceed the number of voters included in the precinct registers by more than half a percent.

At the same time, there is a provision that amendments to the voter registers should be terminated three days prior to the election⁶¹.

⁵⁸ Article 31 of the Election Code.

⁵⁹ Light green color was chosen for the ballots of the elections to the Legislative Chamber (format A-4), and the ballots for regional kengashes (format A-4) – white. The similarity of colors made it difficult to sort the ballots dropped in one place.

⁶⁰ Article 32 of the Election Code.

⁶¹ Article 29 of the Election Code.



Because of high levels of migration, difficulties arose in ensuring the constitutional right of each voter to participate in elections in compliance with this requirement. Moreover, there was a risk that some polling stations could not be provided with a sufficient number of ballot papers on time. Thanks to the urgent measures taken by the election commissions, all PECs were timely provided with the required number of ballots.

PROPOSALS:



to prepare ballot papers in three different colors for elections of three levels



to prepare ballots in the A4 format (297x208 mm) for the election of all representative bodies and reduce the amount of information about candidates



to revise the deadline for amending the voter registers and determine that they must be terminated five days prior to the election





**V. VOTING PROCESS.
DETERMINATION
OF ELECTION RESULTS**



Chapter 14

Organization of early voting

Early voting begins ten days before the election and ends three days before the election⁶². In this regard, early voting was held from December 12 to 18 until 6.00 pm at 10,260 polling stations formed in the country and 55 - abroad. The corresponding decision was adopted by the CEC⁶³.



The CEC clarified that it was sufficient for the voter to write an application for early voting and, at the same time, it was forbidden to request any additional supporting documents.

⁶² Article 57 of the Election Code.

⁶³ CEC Resolution No. 999 of December 3, 2019.

In contrast to the previous elections, PECs were provided with ballot papers for early voting in the amount of 5% of the total number of voters. This, in turn, prevented the shortcomings related to voting papers in the 2014 elections.



For the first time at 55 polling stations formed in foreign countries early voting was organized, using mobile ballot boxes, for citizens of Uzbekistan in places of compact residence.

In total voters took part in early voting⁶⁴. **149,033 voters**

59,226 voters
in the territory
of the RU



89,807 voters
in the foreign
countries



⁶⁴. In 2014, 8,331 voters participated in early voting..



Chapter 15

Organization of voting at polling stations abroad

By the decisions of the CEC, 53 polling stations were formed in diplomatic and consular missions abroad, and 2 polling stations in the offices of the Agency for External Labor Migration under the Ministry of Labor and Employment of the RU in Moscow and Gwangju⁶⁵.



Unlike previous elections, by agreement with the MFA, polling stations abroad were attached to **12 election** constituencies of Tashkent city for elections to the Legislative Chamber, and not to one Temiryulchi constituency No. **141 - by the location of the MFA⁶⁶.**

⁶⁵ CEC Resolutions No. 967 of October 22, 2019 and No. 988 of November 26, 2019.

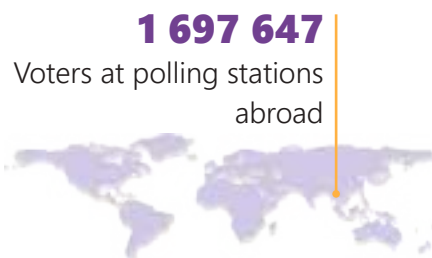
⁶⁶ CEC Resolution No. 971 of November 1, 2019.



THE FOLLOWING FACTORS WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT:

- ◆ the possible excess of the established maximum permissible deviation of 10 percent in the number of voters in election constituencies, in case of attaching to one constituency, in connection with the creation of conditions for participation in elections for all citizens of the RU abroad regardless of consular registration, and consequently a possible increase in voter turnout;
- ◆ the availability of a convenient logistic infrastructure and air transport connecting the capital with foreign countries for the timely equipping of polling stations abroad with appropriate election attributes;
- ◆ the number of voters in election constituencies for the election to the Legislative Chamber in Tashkent city amounted to 127,000, which is lower than the average number of voters in other administrative-territorial units;
- ◆ equal legal status of Tashkent city for all citizens of the country as a capital.

To effectively organize elections abroad, the Regulation⁶⁷ and Action Plan⁶⁸ on the procedure for forming polling stations in diplomatic and consular missions of the RU in foreign countries were approved. Through **the official website of the MFA**, citizens residing abroad were given the opportunity to submit an electronic application for inclusion in the voter register.



A procedure was established to include all citizens with the right to vote in foreign countries, regardless of their consular registration, and a voter register was formed. The number of voters at polling stations abroad was 1,697,647



Prior to early voting, the CEC transmitted through the MFA ballot papers in the amount of 100.5% of the total number of voters in the register to PECs abroad.



Together with the competent authorities of foreign countries, for citizens of Uzbekistan temporarily residing and working abroad, early voting was organized by mobile ballot boxes in places of their compact residence or work. In particular, mobile voting was held in 26 countries in 204 places of residence of voters.






At all 55 polling stations in 38 countries, 112,411 voters voted, of which 89,807 voted early.



⁶⁷. CEC Resolution No. 966 of October 22, 2019

⁶⁸. CEC Resolution No. 989 of November 26, 2019.

PROBLEM:

-  Because elections are a political process, citizens abroad have encountered some problems in agreeing the issue of holding early voting with the administrations of educational institutions, enterprises, and organizations where they study or work.
-  In particular, organization of election processes on the territory of another state, especially, conducting early voting in the cities where the polling station is not located, requires the establishment of constant contacts with the competent authorities of foreign states on issues such as assisting in ensuring security, official trips of foreign PEC members and conducting of election processes, covering rental expenses of premises, a coincidence of early voting with working hours and classes, and the lack of premises for the organization of the electoral process.
-  These problems were resolved with the active participation of the MFA and the heads of diplomatic and consular missions in close cooperation with the competent authorities of foreign states.

PROPOSALS:

-  to expand the interstate cooperation of the CEC, aimed at ensuring the electoral rights of citizens abroad, and to promote the initiative of adopting a universal international document on this issue in the framework of international organizations (OSCE / ODIHR, CIS, etc.). Also, to strive to expand cooperation with the election management bodies of foreign states on a parity basis;
-  to indicate separate financial sources for the organization of elections abroad in the cost estimate of the CEC on the organization and conduct of elections.



Chapter 16

Organization of voting on election day

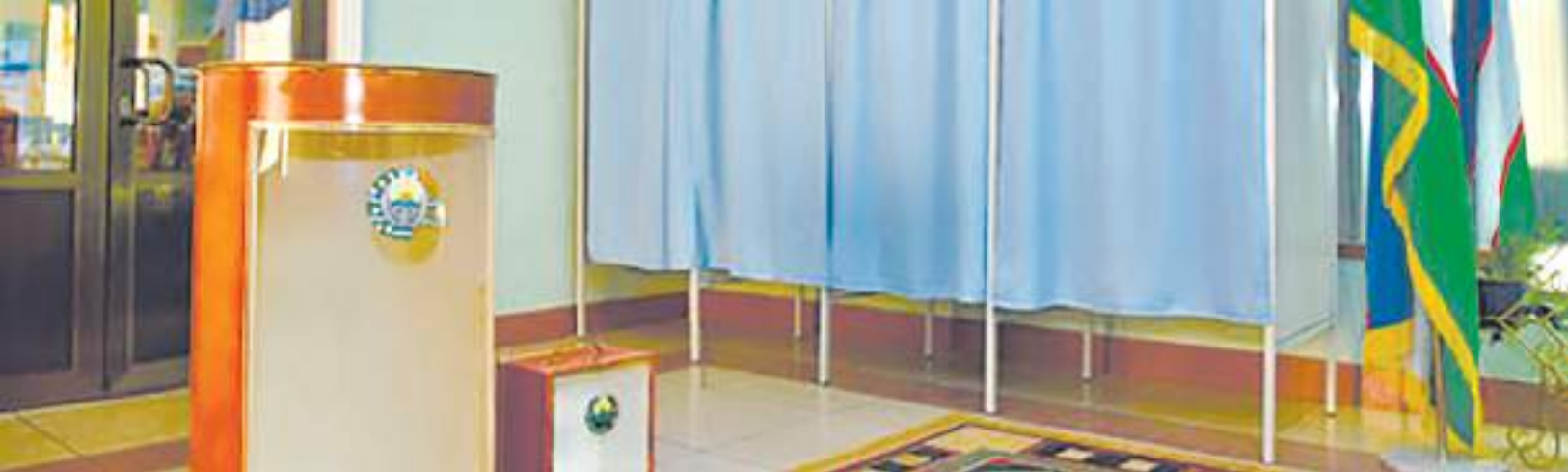
The election of deputies to the Legislative Chamber and local kengashes began on December 22, 2019 at 08:00 am at 10,260 polling stations in the country and ended at 08:00 pm on the same day.



Elections are considered valid if at least **33%** of voters participate⁶⁹. **In total, 13,963,627 voters participated in the elections**, including abroad, which amounted to **67.8% of the total number of voters (20,596,570)**⁷⁰. As a result, elections to the Legislative Chamber and local kengashes were considered conducted and valid.

⁶⁹ Article 96 of the Election Code.

⁷⁰ Of 20,789,572 voters included in the voter list in parliamentary elections of December 21, 2014, 18,490,254 or 88.94% voted.



PROBLEMS:

- ✔ local and international observers noted that at some polling stations facts of 'family' voting (on behalf of several family members) were noted. PEC members took the necessary measures to prevent such violations.
- ✔ However, in contrast to the 2014 parliamentary elections, the number of cases of 'family' voting considerably reduced. In particular, in its Final Report the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission (EOM), noted that in 10 percent of polling stations proxy voting was observed. Following the 2014 parliamentary elections, the OSCE / ODIHR LEOM stated that such cases were observed in almost all polling stations⁷¹.

PROPOSALS:

- ✔ to increase the financial interest and responsibility of PEC members and continue intensive training through special programmes to enhance the knowledge and skills of PEC members.
- ✔ to continue equipping polling stations with surveillance cameras and broadcasting the voting process online on the Internet.

⁷¹ Final Report of the OSCE / ODIHR Limited Observation Mission to the Parliamentary Elections in RU on December 21, 2014.



Chapter 17

Counting and completing final protocol

According to the Election Code, elections were held based on a majoritarian electoral system. A candidate who receives more than half of the votes cast shall be recognized elected⁷².



Counting was conducted according to the rule of the absolute majority – 50%-plus-one-vote. Votes were counted by PEC members using the ballots contained in the ballot boxes. After the completion of voting, PEC members performed their duties in the manner prescribed by law and carried out counting of ballot papers placed inside the ballot boxes⁷³.



⁷² Article 96 of the Election Code.

⁷³ Paragraph 92 of the "Regulations on the procedure for the activities of precinct election commissions for elections to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, regional, district and city Kengashes of people's deputies", approved by the CEC Resolution No. 924 of July 23, 2019.






Based on the results of voting, PECs completed the final results protocols and submitted them to the relevant DEC. The DEC summarized the protocols, determined the election results for the respective election constituencies, and submitted them to the CEC headquarters.

PROBLEMS:

-  mistakes were made while determining election results to the Legislative Chamber in three DECs (67th Pastergom, 102nd Yaipan, 106th Baghdad). In particular, decisions were made on the election of candidates who received more than half of the votes casted for all candidates (excluding ballots recognized invalid), even though according to the law the candidate who received more than half of the votes out of the total number of voters participated in the polls is considered elected. The CEC considered this as an arithmetic error, and decided to conduct re-vote with the two candidates with the highest number of votes received in the election constituencies;
-  There were appeals from political parties, candidates and observers that the DEC did not publish protocols on election results in the election constituencies.

PROPOSALS:

-  to organize a 3-5-day practical training programme on the topic 'Determining Voting Results' to ensure clear and uniform application of counting procedures by the members of the DECs and PECs;
-  to include the text of the commissions' decision on the election results on the 2nd page of the form of the DEC protocol;
-  to introduce rules on the immediate posting of a copy of the DEC protocol at the DEC building for public inspection for a period of not less than 48 hours.



Chapter 18

Repeat voting

If more than two candidates are nominated in the election constituency, and none of them is elected, DEC shall decide on repeat voting with two candidates with highest number of votes and inform the relevant election commissions and voters. Repeat voting shall be conducted within a period of two weeks⁷⁴.



A candidate who receives more votes than the other candidate is considered elected in re-voting. The percentage of voters participating in the repeat voting is not taken into account.

⁷⁴ Article 59 of the Election Code.



On January 5, 2020, a repeat voting was held at **1,730 polling stations in 25 constituencies** for elections to the Legislative Chamber. At these polling stations, **3,147,079 citizens** were included in the SEVR, and **1,978,048 voters, or 62.8%**, participated in the re-voting.



PROBLEM: THE FOLLOWING LEGAL GAPS OF THE ELECTION CODE WERE IDENTIFIED:



no legal consequences are prescribed if, during re-voting, one of the candidate applies to withdraw his or her candidacy;



the electoral rights of citizens who have not reached 18 on election day, but who have reached this age on the day of re-voting, are not specified.

PROPOSALS:






to prescribe in detail the process of re-voting and introduce a rule according to which citizens who have reached 18 on election day (who participated in the polls) can participate in re-voting



Chapter 19

Repeat election

Repeat election shall be held no later than one month after the main election in the following cases:

-  – if the election in the election constituency is declared not conducted or invalid;
-  – if the re-voting did not elect a candidate;
-  – if no more than two candidates ran in a district election constituency and none of them have been elected⁷⁵.

⁷⁵ Article 60 of the Election Code.



For the first time in the national electoral practice the repeat election was held. In particular, in the election constituencies Lutfy No 4 to the Chilanzar district Kengash of people's deputies and Visol No.18 to the Bektemir district Kengash of people's deputies were declared invalid. The repeat elections were held on January 19, 2020.

PROBLEM:



Some legal gaps of the Election Code related to the organization of re-elections were identified. Despite the Election Code stipulation about formation of election commissions, registration of candidates and other measures shall be carried out under the procedures established by the Code, in practice, a month is not enough to create DEC and PEC, register candidates, conduct pre-election agitation nor other events.

PROPOSAL:



to fill the existing legal gaps related to holding of re-election.



Chapter 20

Announcement of final election results

The CEC resolution on the results of the elections to the Oliy Majlis of the RU is adopted no later than 10 days after the election and is published (promulgated) on the official website of the CEC and other sources.

10
days

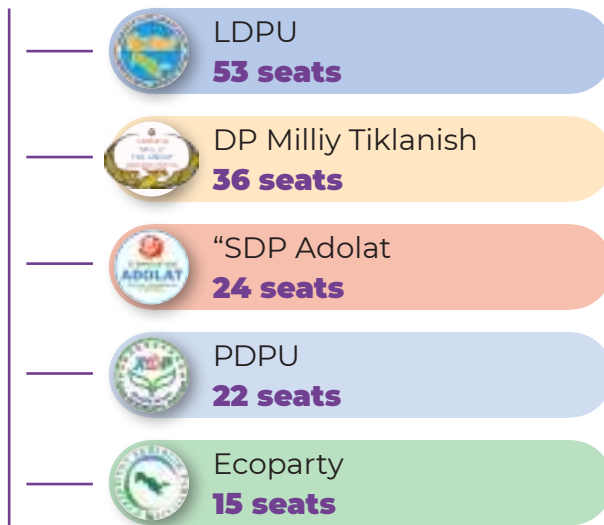
The resolution on the results of the elections to local Kengashes shall be adopted by the relevant election commission not later than ten days after the election and shall be published in the press, as well as publicly promulgated in the mass media⁷⁶.

⁷⁶ Article 97 of the Election Code.



Three days after the elections, on December 25, the CEC considered the results of the elections to the Legislative Chamber and registered deputies from 125 election constituencies. Also, on January 6, 2020, the results of re-voting in 25 election constituencies were summarized and published by the adoption of a corresponding resolution of the CEC⁷⁷.

According to the results of elections on December 22, 2019 and re-voting January 5, 2020, held and the political parties won the following seats in the Legislative Chamber:



The lists of newly elected deputies were published on the official website of the CEC and in the media (see Appendix No. 8).

⁷⁷. In the elections of December 21, 2014 in 22 constituencies, none of the candidates was able to get the required number of votes to be elected, and on January 4, 2015, a repeat vote was held in these constituencies. 2 642 063 voters (76.9%) took part in the re-voting.

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION

of Deputies of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis

150

100%

Total number of deputies of
Legislative Chamber

48

32,0%

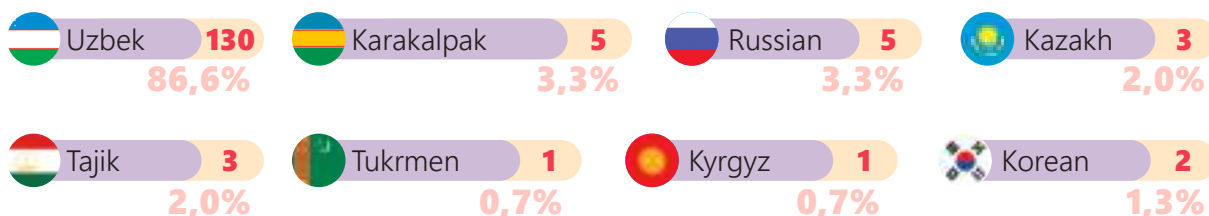
women

40

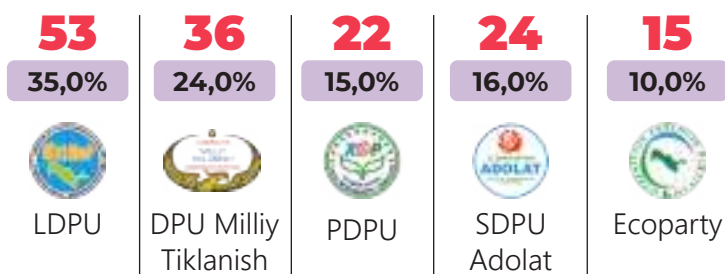
27,0%

re-elected
deputies

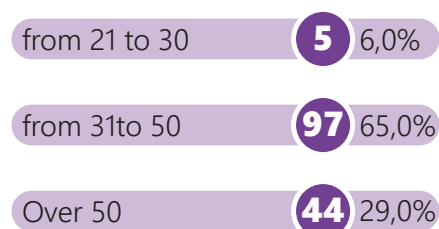
NATIONALITY



BY PARTY:



AGE





Chapter 21

Elections to local Kengashes

As a result of the elections to local kengashes, political parties received the following seats:

Political party	Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, regional and Tashkent city Kengashes		District and city Kengashes	
	Number of deputies	%	Number of deputies	%
LDPU	295	35%	1 972	34%
PDPU	201	24%	1 368	24%
DP Milliy Tiklanish	147	18%	1 124	20%
SDP Adolat	104	13%	750	13%
Ecoparty	84	10%	522	9%
Total	831		5 736	

According to the results of the elections to the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, regional and Tashkent city Kengashes candidates from LDPU received the highest number of seats in 13 kengashes, candidates from the PDPU won the largest number of seats in the Tashkent regional Kengash of people's deputies.



THE PARTIES WITH THE MOST SEATS IN THE KENGASHES



LDPU
150



PDPU
30



DPU Milliy Tiklanish
17



SDPU Adolat
4



Ecoparty
1



At the same time, Ecoparty did not receive a single seat in 11 kengashes, SDP Adolat - in 6, PDPU - in 1.

The qualitative composition of deputies elected to local kengashes is given in Annexes 9a and 9b.

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION

of deputies elected to the Jogarkhy Kenes of the Republic of Kazakhstan, regional and Tashkent city Kenghashes of People's Deputies

№	Territories	Number of deputies	Including		Nationality						Age					by party				
			re-elected deputies	women	Uzbek	Karakalpak	Russian	Kazakh	Tajik	representatives of other nationalities	from 21 to 30	from 31 to 40	from 41 to 50	from 51 to 60	Over 60	LDPU	DPU Milliy Tiklanish	PDPU	SDPU Adolat	Ecoparty
1	The Republic of Karakalpakstan	65	15	20	30	28	0	5	0	2	2	5	23	26	9	19	14	16	6	10
2	Andijan region	60	16	19	57	0	1	0	0	2	2	10	18	18	12	28	8	15	4	5
3	Bukhara region	60	18	19	58	0	0	1	0	1	1	12	19	17	11	20	10	15	7	8
4	Jizzakh region	57	20	20	54	0	0	0	1	2	0	7	12	18	20	27	10	12	6	2
5	Navoi region	60	14	23	53	1	1	3	1	1	2	7	25	24	2	19	14	12	7	8
6	Namangan region	60	15	11	50	1	4	0	2	3	10	20	15	10	5	20	7	19	5	9
7	Samarkand region	60	5	21	59	0	0	0	0	1	3	8	21	16	12	16	14	10	11	9
8	Sirdarya region	50	21	12	47	0	0	0	2	1	0	6	10	23	11	15	8	14	8	5
9	Surkhondarya region	60	12	17	57	0	0	0	3	0	2	9	20	17	12	27	10	15	4	4
10	Tashkent region	60	10	15	55	0	1	1	1	2	0	8	20	32	0	18	8	19	11	4
11	Ferghana region	60	12	17	57	0	1	0	2	0	0	12	17	13	18	23	13	11	7	6
12	Khorezm region	60	43	17	57	0	0	1	0	2	2	8	16	23	11	21	12	18	6	3
13	Kashkadarya region	59	21	19	57	0	0	0	1	1	0	8	19	17	15	20	8	14	10	7
14	Tashkent city	60	14	17	57	0	2	1	0	0	2	12	18	21	7	22	11	11	12	4
	Total	831	236	247	748	30	10	12	13	18	26	132	253	275	145	295	147	201	104	84
	%	100%	28%	30%	90%	4%	1%	1%	2%	2%	3%	16%	30%	33%	17%	35%	18%	24%	13%	10%

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION

of deputies elected to the district and city Kenghashes of People's Deputies

№	Territories	Number of deputies	Including		Nationality						Age					by party				
			re-elected deputies	women	Uzbek	Karakalpak	Russian	Kazakh	Tajik	representatives of other nationalities	from 21 to 30	from 31 to 40	from 41 to 50	from 51 to 60	Over 60	LDPU	DPU Milliy Tiklanish	PDPU	SDPU Adolat	Ecoparty
1	The Republic of Karakalpakstan	425	100	134	152	222	0	35	0	16	14	103	131	144	33	140	96	89	61	39
2	Andijan region	451	106	102	439	0	0	0	2	10	25	123	114	143	46	171	93	116	41	30
3	Bukhara region	364	78	100	356	0	1	1	3	3	25	106	94	110	29	121	74	77	51	41
4	Jizzakh region	339	71	72	313	0	1	1	16	8	11	91	84	102	51	122	72	90	26	29
5	Navoi region	285	70	92	233	12	0	34	2	4	11	90	89	81	14	87	65	56	46	31
6	Namangan region	357	76	66	321	2	1	1	27	5	29	92	94	116	26	100	76	115	37	29
7	Samarkand region	480	96	132	473	0	2	0	5	0	17	155	137	135	36	138	85	109	79	69
8	Sirdarya region	320	68	95	291	0	1	0	19	9	13	79	97	95	36	128	51	75	47	19
9	Surkhondarya region	409	82	90	369	0	1	1	36	2	20	110	120	120	39	152	76	78	58	45
10	Tashkent region	626	69	143	547	0	4	41	18	16	25	148	178	241	34	208	105	182	72	59
11	Ferghana region	567	95	99	513	0	1	0	47	6	43	163	167	150	44	202	118	126	91	30
12	Khorezm region	360	100	112	346	0	2	4	0	8	20	93	95	106	46	122	79	95	41	23
13	Kashkadarya region	429	90	101	401	0	0	0	18	10	16	105	145	130	33	141	77	106	59	46
14	Tashkent city	327	102	84	305	1	6	1	6	8	22	97	106	78	24	142	57	55	41	32
Total		5 739	1 203	1 422	5 059	237	20	119	199	105	291	1 555	1 651	1 751	491	1 974	1 124	1 369	750	522
%		100%	21%	25%	88%	4%	0,3%	2%	3%	2%	5%	27%	29%	31%	9%	34%	20%	24%	13%	9%



Chapter 22

Formation of the Senate

On January 16-17, 2020, joint sessions of deputies of the Zhokarghy Kenes of the RK, regional, district, and city representative bodies of state authority on the election of Senate members took place.

- ✔ At joint sessions, 84 senators were elected by secret ballot from among the deputies of local kengashes, in equal numbers – 6 persons each – from the RK, regions and Tashkent city.
- ✔ Also, the CEC registered 14 senators according to the Decrees of the President of the RU dated January 17, 2020 No. 5918 and January 22, 2020 No. 5921.

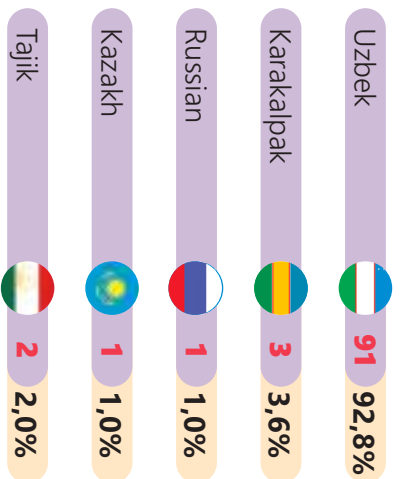
(The qualitative composition of senators is given in Annex No. 10).

QUALITATIVE COMPOSITION

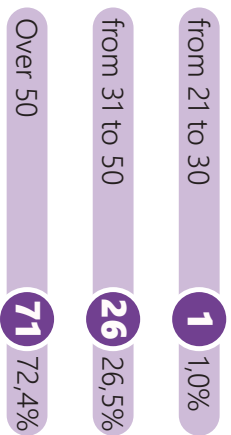
of members of Senate of the Olyy Majlis

№ In the republic	Number of Senate members		by speciality																											
	Total	%	Including	re-elected Senate members	women	Representatives of industrial enterprises	Businesspeople	Representatives of the agricultural sector	Representatives of sphere finance, economics and bank	Lawyers, representatives of law enforcement and regulatory agencies	Representatives of science and education sphere	Representatives of the medical sphere	Representatives of culture, sports, art	Representatives of public and non-governmental non-profit organizations	Representatives of the Youth Union and the Women's Committee	Representatives of media	Representatives of construction, transport and communications													
	98	100%	32	32,7%	24	24,5%	19	19,4%	11	11,2%	5	5,1%	4	4,1%	8	8,2%	13	13,3%	6	6,1%	6	6,1%	13	13,3%	8	8,2%	4	4,1%	1	1,0%

NATIONALITY



AGE





Chapter 23

Electoral appeals and complaints

During the election campaign, the CEC, the Supreme Court, and the Prosecutor General's Office received a total of 1,360 appeals related to the elections, including 1,052 received by the CEC.



In particular, 357 electronic appeals were received through the official website of the CEC on inaccuracy in the SEVR, which were resolved positively, 452 appeals related to elections to local kengashes were sent respectively to the CEC of the RK, regional, district and city election commissions and other state bodies. Of the remaining 243 appeals, 19 were resolved, legal explanations were given on 94 and 124 were transferred to respective political parties, law enforcement agencies and other organizations, and 6 were withdrawn by the applicants⁷⁸.

⁷⁸. In accordance with Article 19 of the LRU "On Appeals of individuals and legal entities", during considering appeals, the disclosure by officials of state bodies of information about the private lives of individuals and the activities of legal entities without their consent is not permitted.

During the election campaign, there were no appeals related to the duties of the CEC that needed to be considered at its sessions, such as repeal of DEC decisions and recognition of the results of parliamentary elections in the election constituency invalid.



From the beginning of the election campaign until January 7, 2020, a free Call center operated at the IPC with a short number 1197 for residents in Uzbekistan and (998) 55-502-44-44 for citizens abroad.

Timely and qualified explanations were given on **1021 appeals**⁷⁹ received at the Call Center.

The highest number of calls were received from

210

Tashkent city

120

Kashkadarya region

117

Tashkent region

During the election campaign, the prosecutor's office received 255 appeals⁸⁰, of which 230 were given legal explanations, 5 were transferred to other organizations by affiliation and relevant legal measures were taken on 20 of them. In particular, 3 motions were made to eliminate unlawful actions, reasons, and conditions of their origin, and in 3 cases the accused were brought to disciplinary, in 11 – administrative and 3 – criminal liability.

⁷⁹ Of the appeals: 233 – on the application of provisions of the Election Code, 198 – on objections to the preparation and conduct of elections, 172 – on request of relevant information about the election processes and its participants, 165 – on the payment of salaries to members of DEC and PECs, 118 – on the pre-election agitation of political parties and candidates, 54 – on the procedures of nomination of candidates and their exclusion from the lists of candidates, 17 – on provision of polling stations with necessary equipment and 64 – have no relation to the elections.

⁸⁰ 17 complaints about violations of the electoral rights of citizens, 15 – about irregularities and drawbacks in the SEVR, 120 – about the committed shortcomings in the election process, 14 – about inaccuracies in determining the election results, 17 – about the absence or untimely submission of protocols on the election results, 54 – about refusal to register candidates for deputies, 6 – on providing a conclusion on the legality of acts, 8 – on unilateral change of protocols by PEC members, 2 – on non-payment of wages for participation in the work of election commissions, 2 – on explaining the election legislation.

During the election campaign, there were 53 cases⁸¹ of administrative offenses, of which 22 were partially or fully satisfied, 10 were rejected, one was not reviewed, 12 were ceased, 8 were returned for re-examination due to newly discovered circumstances under Article 324³³ of the CAL.

The Instruction on the registration of cases on offences in the field of elections⁸², adopted by the CEC, contributed to the formation of a unified law enforcement practice on these issues.

For the first time in the national electoral process, during the day of election the Prosecutor General and Chairman of the Supreme court held a live press conference in the IPC for representatives of the media on the proceedings and results of consideration of appeals.

PROBLEM:



Article 280 of the CAL establishes that the protocol on an administrative offense is drawn up by an authorized official of the relevant body, which is legally charged to oversee observance of rules, the violation of which entails administrative liability.



According to Articles 20 and 22 of the Election Code, regional, district and city election commissions and DEC's are authorized in the respective territory to oversee the execution of the Election Code. At the same time, election commissions are not empowered to draw up a protocol on administrative offenses.

PROPOSAL:



to define in the Election Code the power of regional, district and city election commissions, and DEC's to draw up a protocol on administrative offenses for violations of the electoral law.

⁸¹ Of applications filed in court: 31 – on the recognition of all or part of the decisions of election commissions invalid; 4 – on the abolition of decisions of election commissions; 3 – on withdrawal the candidacy of candidates for deputies; 4 – on the restoration of citizens' status of candidates for deputies; 6 – on cancellation of election results; 5 – on disagreement with decisions and actions of DEC's and PEC's.

⁸² Instructions on the registration of cases of violations in the field of organizing and conducting elections and referenda by election commissions and referendum commissions, approved by CEC resolution No. 934 of September 11, 2019.



Chapter 24

Opinions and recommendations of observers

The Final Report, presented by the OSCE / ODIHR mission, concluded that the elections took place under improved legislation and with greater tolerance of independent voices.



The report positively assesses the work of the CEC, which 'made a great effort to prepare the parliamentary elections in an improved manner'. In particular, the work on training members of election commissions, improving their skills in organizing and holding elections, conducting an intensive voter information campaign for voters, ensuring the unhindered participation of a large number of international and local observers, including from political parties and citizens' self-government bodies, representatives of the media, was noted positively.

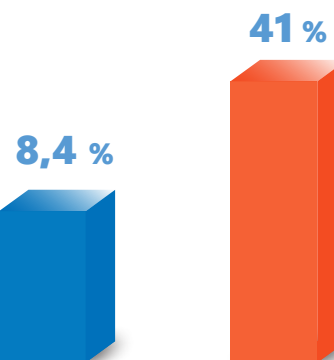


The results of the training of election commissions members were highlighted: 'Election commissions met by the ODIHR EOM had a good understanding of the new Election Code'.

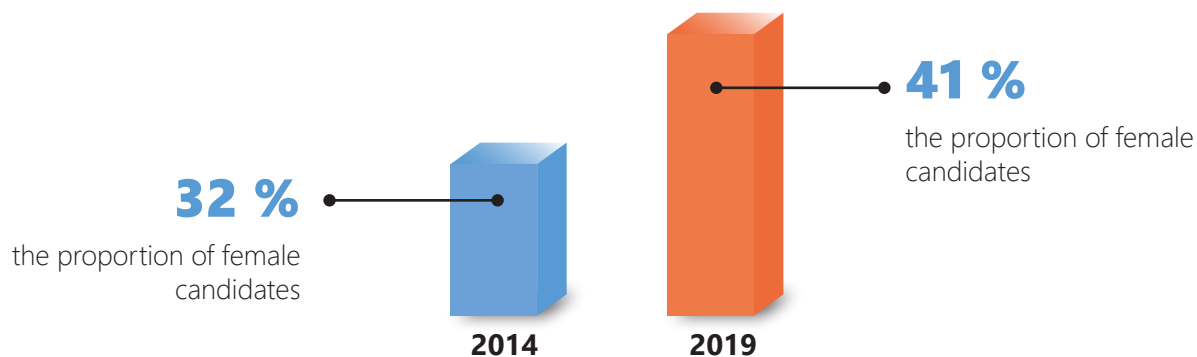


It is emphasized as an important moment of the introduction of information and communication technologies into electoral process, 'the introduction of the SEVR is a significant achievement and an improvement on the previous approach to voter registration'.

A positive assessment is given to an increase of the number of women among candidates for deputies (41%) and representatives of other nationalities (8.4%).



It is separately noted that parties increased the proportion of women candidates from 32% in the 2014 parliamentary elections to 41% (310 women candidates) in the 2019 parliamentary elections with 48 elected (32%), constituting a significant percentage increase.



In the Final Report the OSCE / ODIHR offered a number of recommendations to further enhance the electoral process. In particular, priority recommendations propose to remove disproportionate or discriminatory legal provisions that impede the formation and functioning of political parties, to review the legal framework on the freedom of political and civic association, assembly and expression, to remove the residency requirement for candidacy (at least five years on the territory of Uzbekistan), to repeal criminal defamation and insult provisions, to grant civic associations and non-governmental organizations the right to independently observe the electoral process, to disallow the registration of voters at polling stations on election day to exclude the risk of multiple voting.

Recommendations on ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and on granting the voting rights to persons deemed by a court to be legally incapable, canceling the authorization and introducing a notification procedure for campaign rallies during the pre-election period, allowing parties and candidates to receive donations from private sources, improving the party financial reporting system.



Also, in statements and reports of the Missions of the CIS and IPA CIS⁸³, the SCO⁸⁴ and the CCTS⁸⁵, observers recognize the observance of generally accepted democratic principles and standards in organizing and conducting free and fair elections, international obligations of the RU on ensuring the rights and freedoms of all participants of the election process.

⁸³ <http://cis.minsk.by>

⁸⁴ <http://rus.sectsc.org/news/20191223/616242.html>

⁸⁵ <http://elections.uz/en/lists/view/2396>

The statements note that ensuring the electoral rights and freedoms of citizens, organizing elections based on universal and equal suffrage, secret balloting, organizing elections by independent electoral bodies, protecting electoral rights and the mechanism for resolving election disputes is reflected in the electoral law of the Republic of Uzbekistan.



- ✔ It also highlighted the creation of conditions for campaigning among electoral specialists and population, the election campaign of political parties, introduction of modern information and communication technologies, creation of conditions for the equal and free exercise of all constitutional rights by voters residing in foreign countries, and with limited opportunities.
- ✔ Observers of foreign states and international organizations participating in the elections stressed that the elections were held considering the interests and aspirations of the people, innovations in the electoral legislation and separately underlined high cohesion, political literacy, openness and transparency with active participation of the society in democratic processes, pre-election agitation and debates of political parties.



The Final information⁸⁶ of the Republican Council for the coordination of citizens' self-government bodies (makhalla)⁸⁷ activities on the results of election observation indicates that elections were conducted in compliance with the democratic principles, international standards and national legislation.

At the same time, for the next elections, it was recommended to take measures to increase the knowledge and skills of makhalla observers, expand the number and scale of meetings of candidates from political parties with the makhalla population, develop rules for ensuring transparency when nominating candidates for DEC and PEC members, and consider the possibility of electronic voting when organizing elections abroad.

The CEC of the Republic of Uzbekistan expresses its readiness to carry out consistent work to further improve the election legislation and electoral practice following the recommendations of observers.

⁸⁶ Published on January 6, 2020 by the Republican Council for the Coordination of Civil Self-Government. The leadership of the Republican Council decided to terminate it. In accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PD-5938 dated February 18, 2020, the Ministry of Mahalla and Family Support of the Republic of Uzbekistan and its branches of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regions, the city of Tashkent and the district (city) were created.

⁸⁷ https://www.mahallakengashi.uz/oz/press_center/news/sovet/fu-arolarning-zini-zi-bosh-arish-organlarining-zbekiston-respublikasi-oliy-mazhlisi-onunchilik-palat/

**ELECTIONS - 2019:
ACHIEVEMENTS, PROBLEMS, PROPOSALS**

Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2020 . – 114 p.

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