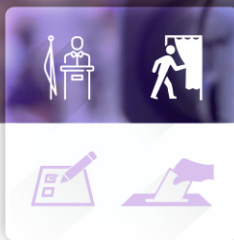




CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN



MEMO

FOR LOCAL AND FOREIGN MEDIA
REPRESENTATIVES

**CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN**

MEMO
**for local and foreign media
representatives**

**National Legal Information Center
«Adolat»
Tashkent – 2021**

УЎК: 366.636(0.072)
КБК: 76
М 37

Memo for local and foreign mass media representatives. –
T.: National Legal Information Center «Adolat», 2021. – 16 p.

ISBN 978-9943-7295-4-4

УЎК: 366.636(0.072)
КБК: 76

This memo is intended for local and foreign media, and covers issues such as the legal framework for activities related to impartial and full coverage of the election processes, the responsibilities, rights and obligations, as well as powers of journalists.

ISBN 978-9943-7295-4-4

© Central Election Commission of the
Republic of Uzbekistan, 2021

© National Legal Information Center
«Adolat» 2021

CONTENT

- » 1. What is the procedure for accreditation of local and foreign media?
- » 2. What are the rights and obligations of media representatives?
- » 3. How to detect fake messages, misinformation and political attacks on social networks during elections?
- » 4. What are the stages of the election process (calendar plan)?



The Central Election Commission shall announce in the mass media the beginning of the election campaign for the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, deputies of the Legislative Chamber and deputies of local Kengashes at least three months before the expiration of their terms.

Electoral Code, Article 36.

PROCEDURE FOR ACCREDITATION OF LOCAL MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives of the mass media may apply to the Central Election Commission (CEC) for accreditation from the date of the official announcement of the start of the election campaign until at least ten days before election.

In accordance with Article 14 of the Electoral Code, the Central Election Commission shall establish a sample mandate for observers from political parties, citizens' self-governance bodies, representatives of the media, observers from other states and international organizations.

DOCUMENTS, WHICH ARE TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE LOCAL MEDIA:

The submitted document must indicate the following:



- Last name, first name, patronymic, position of the employee.



- Copy of identity document.



- Two photographs of 3x4 cm size.

The application for accreditation of a media representative shall be submitted on an official letter of media and confirmed by the signature of the Head.

PROCEDURE FOR ACCREDITATION OF FOREIGN MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

1. In the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Legislative Chamber, representatives of foreign media shall be accredited by the CEC.

2. For accreditation by the CEC of foreign media representatives which are accredited in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the head of the relevant media correspondent point (bureau, office) shall apply to the CEC .

DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE TO BE SUBMITTED BY FOREIGN MEDIA:

The submitted document must indicate the following:



- Last name, first name, patronymic, position of the employee;



- Copy of identity document;



- two photographs of 3x4 sm size.

Accredited foreign correspondents shall have the right to travel in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan without restrictions.

When traveling in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, a foreign correspondent must carry an accreditation certificate.



In order to prevent the spread of coronavirus infection (COVID-19) during the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the participants of the election process shall be recommended to:

- use protective masks;
- avoid shaking hands or other forms of direct contact;
- adhere to social distance.

REMEMBER!

Adherence to sanitary rules in the election is important in maintaining your health.

REMEMBER!

The time limit of powers of media representatives shall begin on the day of issue of the certificate of accreditation and end on the day of official announcement of the election results.

Accredited media representatives must carry the certificate issued to him/her and identity document, and present them upon demand of election commissions when visiting election-related premises.

Non-accredited media outlets must obtain the written consent of the editors when copying, distributing and using in other form the materials published on Internet sites, as well as indicate the source of the site, page when using materials published on the official website of the Central Election Commission and its pages on social networks.

Distribution of a part of the context of the officially announced message and video, that is, a message that changes the main meaning of the sentence in the text, shall be prohibited.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT:



- to carry out coverage of all activities related to the preparation and conduct of elections;



- to be present at meetings of election commissions;



- to participate in meetings dedicated to the nomination of candidates, meetings of candidates with voters;



- to be informed about the time and place of early ballot (voting) and to observe this process;



- to be present in the polling stations on election day, including during the counting of votes;



- to make photographs, videos and audio recordings without violating the secrecy of the electoral process and voting (except for places of detention and imprisonment, military units, medical institutions);



- to be present during the voting at the place of the residence of the voter with the permission of the voter;



- to be present during determination of the election results.

Article 35 of the Electoral Code

THE FOLLOWING SHALL BE PROHIBITED FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES:



- influencing voters, illegally distributing any campaign material or literature;



- to be present in the voting booth or room when a voter puts his mark on the ballot paper;



- to ask voters who they voted for or to provide any assistance to voters in marking the ballot;



- to interfere in the activities of the precinct election commission, including during the sealing, opening of ballot boxes and counting votes;



- to publish the results of public opinion polls, forecasts of election results, and other research related to the forthcoming elections on election day and the day before the start of voting.

Article 33 of the Electoral Code

REMEMBER!

If a media representative does not comply with the requirements of the Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan and rules of the Regulations on the Procedure for Accreditation of Media Representatives during the Election Campaign, the Central Election Commission may terminate his / her powers ahead of schedule.

RULES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PHOTOS AND VIDEOS



The process of taking photos and videos must not violate the secrecy of the ballot and not allow controlling the will of voters. In this regard, it is prohibited to photograph and (or) shoot video in the secret voting booth at the places where ballots are filled out.



In order to take a photo or video, a media representative must notify Precinct Election Commission members, voters, and other participants of the election process.



Photos and videos should be filmed without violating constitutional rights, freedoms, and humiliating the honor and dignity of the participants in the electoral process.

Uzbekistan has the following legislation aimed at regulating the field of Informatization, issues of search, acquisition, dissemination and use of information in other ways.



The Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan.



Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Informatization".



Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Mass Media".



Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the principles and guarantees of freedom of information"



Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On guarantees and freedom of information acquisition".



Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On protection of journalistic activity".



Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

According to Article 12-1 of the Law "On Informatization", a journalist or blogger must verify the accuracy of the information before placing it, as well as immediately delete it if information is found to be inaccurate.

Persons (media representative, blogger or other person) found guilty of defamation and insult of another person through “posting” or comments on the Internet, as well as in other actions that entail liability under the law, can be brought to administrative, criminal and civil liability in accordance with articles 40, 41 and 202-2 of the Code on Administrative Liability, articles 139, 140, 244-1 of the Criminal Code, article 100 of the Civil Code and other legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

HOW TO DETECT FAKE NEWS DURING ELECTIONS?

FAKE PHOTO



Photo fakes are easy to detect through the internet. If you are using the Google Chrome browser, hover over the image and right-click. The item “Find photos on Google” will appear.

FAKE NEWS



Fake news headlines will mostly be attractive. When reading a post or article by an author, pay attention to its source. Because some sites distribute fake news in order to increase the number of visitors for advertising.

DON'T FORGET!

Article 67 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan states: "The media shall be free and shall operate in accordance with the law. **They shall be responsible for the accuracy of the information in the prescribed manner**".

According to article 7 of the Law "On the principles and guarantees of freedom of information", information must be **accessible to all and reliable**. Distortion and falsification of information is prohibited. The mass media is **responsible** for the accuracy of the information disseminated together with the source and the author of the information, **in the manner prescribed by law**.



WHAT ARE THE STAGES OF THE ELECTION PROCESS (CALENDAR PLAN)?

Election Day: 10/24/2021

The main activities of the election campaign are:



3 months before

Announcement of the start of the election campaign
(Article 36 of the Electoral Code).



not less than 75 days before

formation and announcement of constituencies
(Article 9 of the Electoral Code).



not less than 70 days before

formation of constituency election commissions
(article 21 of the Electoral Code).



not less than 70 days before

submission by political parties to the CEC of
documents required to participate in elections
(Article 63 of the Electoral Code).



65 days before

the CEC allows political parties to participate in
elections
(Article 63 of the Electoral Code).

starts 65 days and ends 45 days before



nomination of candidates by political parties (holding party congresses)

(Article 64 of the Electoral Code).

***not less than 60 days before. In some cases,
at least 7 days before the elections***



the formation of polling stations (precincts)

(Article 10 of the Electoral Code).

42 days before



Submission of documents by political parties to the CEC on registration of a candidate for the president

(Article 64 of the Electoral Code).

***not less than 40 days before. In some cases,
at least 7 days before the election,***



the formation of precinct election commissions

(Article 23 of the Electoral Code).

35 days before



completion of registration of candidates by the CEC

(Article 40 of the Electoral Code).

after registration of a candidate for the President



registration of trusted representatives of the candidate and issuance of certificates to them

(Article 43 of the Electoral Code).

starts 34 days before and ends 1 day before



campaigning by political parties and candidates

(Article 44 of the Electoral Code).



starts 10 days before, ends 3 days before

early ballot (voting)

(Article 57 of the Electoral Code).



the first Sunday of the third decade of October

Election Day

*(Article 117 of the Constitution
of the Republic of Uzbekistan).*



within 10 days after the election

determination and announcement of the election results

(Electoral Code, Chapter 16).



*within 2 months latest after
the announcement of the results*

taking the oath at a joint session of the Chambers of the Oliy Majlis and assuming the office of the President

(Article 65 of the Electoral Code).

MEMO FOR LOCAL AND FOREIGN MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

*Edited by the Chairman of the Central Election Commission
of Uzbekistan Z. Nizamkhodzhaev.*

Editorial board: *K.Quranbayev, A.Tulyaganov,
J.Abdullayev, G.Ismoilova.*

Compiler: *B.Kuchkarov, X.Mamatov,
X.Paluaniyazov, D.Tajiboyeva,
R.Burxonov.*

Responsible for publication: *F.Tojiyev,
O.Fayzullayev*

Editor: *Sh.Abdullayev*

Layout designer: *J.Gofurov*

National Legal Information Center «Adolat»
Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

License AI № 032, 29.10.2019.

19, Amir Temur avenue, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Phone: 71-233-28-18, 280-55-47.

Website: www.adolatmarkazi.uz

e-mail: info@adolatmarkazi.uz

Passed for press 28.09.2021.

Paper size 60x84 ¹/₁₆. «Antiqua» scheme.

Offset printing. Press sheet 1. Publisher's signature 0,8.

Circulation – 500. Order № 21-410

**Published in Publishing and Printing Creative House
«Uzbekistan» LLC. 100011, Tashkent, Navoi str., 30.**

-  www.saylov.uz
-  www.saylov2021.uz
-  t.me/electionsuz
-  fb.com/uzelections
-  twitter.com/electionsuz
-  instagram.com/electionsuz

ISBN 978-9943-7295-4-4

