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[FBIS Translated Text] Section 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. The basic fundamentals and principles of the election of the president of Ukraine

1. The president of Ukraine shall be elected by the citizens of Ukraine on the basis of universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot for a term of five years.
2. The electoral process shall be conducted based on the principles of a multiple-party system, free and equal nomination of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, publicity and openness, freedom to campaign, equal opportunities for all candidates to conduct an election campaign, and the absence of prejudice against candidates on the part of state government bodies, local self-government bodies, and officials and employees of these bodies.
3. Participation by citizens of Ukraine in the election of the president of Ukraine shall be voluntary. No one may be forced to take part or not to take part in the election.

Article 2. Universal suffrage

1. The election of the president of Ukraine is universal: all citizens of Ukraine who have attained the age of eighteen years by the day of the election shall have the right to vote.
2. Any citizen of Ukraine, who has attained the age of thirty-five years by the day of the election, has the right to vote, has resided in Ukraine for ten years prior to the day of the election, and is fluent in the state language may be elected president of Ukraine.

The same person may not serve as president of Ukraine for more than two consecutive terms.

3. Any direct or indirect privileges or restrictions of the right to vote of citizens of Ukraine based on race, color of skin, political, religious, or other convictions, sex, ethnic or social origin, ownership of assets, place of residence, or linguistic or other characteristics, except those provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Law, are prohibited.

4. Citizens declared incompetent by a court shall not have the right to vote.

5. Citizens who are being held in places of deprivation of freedom or who have been convicted of committing a deliberate crime, if this conviction has not been cleared and expunged in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law, may not be nominated to stand as candidates for the office of president of Ukraine.

Article 3. Equal suffrage The election of the president of Ukraine shall be equal: citizens of Ukraine shall take part in the election on an equal basis, each voter shall have one vote. Article 4. Direct suffrage. Secret ballot

1. The president of Ukraine shall be elected directly by the voters.

2. Voting in the election of the president of Ukraine shall be by secret ballot: any form of control over the electorate's expression of will is prohibited.

Article 5. The right to nominate a contender to stand as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine

1. The right to nominate a contender to stand as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine (hereinafter&mdash;candidate) shall belong to citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote. They shall exercise this right in accordance with the procedure specified by this Law through political parties and electoral blocs of parties (parties [blocs]), as well as through assemblies of voters, and also through self-nomination.

2. A party (bloc) or an assembly of voters may nominate only one contender to stand as candidate for the office of president of Ukraine.

Article 6. Organization and conduct of the election of the president of Ukraine by electoral commissions

The election of the president of Ukraine shall be organized and conducted by electoral commissions, which shall be formed and act in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this and other laws of Ukraine.

Article 7. Publicity and openness of the election of the president of Ukraine

1. The preparations and conduct of the election of the president of Ukraine shall be carried out openly and with publicity.

2. Citizens shall be publicly informed of the decisions adopted by state government bodies, local self-government bodies, and electoral commissions pertaining to the election of the president of Ukraine through the mass media, and in certain cases, through other means, within five days of the adoption of such decisions, unless otherwise provided for by law.

3. Electoral commissions shall inform the citizens about each commission's membership, location, and office hours; about the formation of territorial electoral districts and election precincts; they shall ensure that voters have an opportunity to familiarize themselves with

voter rolls, biographical information about the candidates, their election platforms, the form and procedure for filling in signature sheets and election ballots; they shall notify the population of the balloting results and the results of the election of the president of Ukraine; and they shall provide other information in instances provided for by this Law.

4. The mass media shall be obliged to provide objective coverage of the preparation and conduct of elections; the representatives of the media shall be guaranteed unimpeded access to all meetings and gatherings connected with the election. Electoral commissions, state government bodies, and local self-government bodies shall be obliged to provide the media with information about the preparation and conduct of the election.

Article 8. The legal basis for the organization and conduct of the election of the president of Ukraine

The organization and conduct of the election of the president of Ukraine shall be regulated by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Law, the Law of Ukraine On the Central Electoral Commission, and other laws of Ukraine.

## Section 2. PROCEDURE AND TERMS OF SCHEDULING AND CONDUCTING ELECTIONS

Article 9. Forms of elections and the procedure of scheduling them

1. Elections of the president of Ukraine may be regular, special, or repeat elections.

2. The election of the president of Ukraine shall be scheduled by the Supreme Council of Ukraine.

3. The election of the president of Ukraine shall be scheduled on a Sunday. The date of the election shall be announced by the Supreme Council through the mass media.

Article 10. Terms for scheduling elections

1. Regular elections of the president of Ukraine shall be held on the last Sunday of October in the fifth year of the term of the sitting president of Ukraine. The decree of the Supreme Council of Ukraine on scheduling a regular election shall be adopted not later than 180 days before the day of the election.

2. In the event that the powers of the president of Ukraine are terminated before his term of office expires, a special election of the president of Ukraine shall be held within 90 days of the date of the expiration of his powers. The decision on scheduling a special election shall be adopted not later than on the fifth day after the expiration of the powers of the president of Ukraine.

3. Repeat elections of the president of Ukraine shall be scheduled by the Supreme Council of Ukraine within one month of the Supreme Council's receipt of an application to that effect from the Central Electoral Commission.

## Section 3. ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS

Article 11. The national and territorial electoral districts

1. The election of the president of Ukraine shall be conducted in one national single-seat electoral district, which shall encompass the entire territory of Ukraine.

2. For the purposes of conducting the election, the territory of the one national, single-seat electoral district shall be divided into 225 territorial electoral districts. The number of such districts in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, in the oblasts, and in the cities of Kiev and Sevastopol shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission, taking into account their administrative-territorial systems and population size. A territorial electoral district shall include one or

several rayons, cities, city districts, or parts of such districts.

3. The decision on creating territorial electoral districts shall be adopted by the Central Electoral Commission not later than 160 days before the day of the election, based on the recommendations submitted by the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the oblast councils, and the Kiev and Sevastopol city councils, respectively. Territorial electoral districts shall be formed with an approximately equal number of voters in each such district.

4. The list of territorial electoral districts, indicating the number, territorial boundaries, and district center of each, shall be published by the Central Electoral Commission in the press within three days of the adoption of the relevant decision by the Commission.

#### Article 12. Formation of election precincts

1. For the purpose of conducting the balloting and tallying the votes in the election of the president of Ukraine, the territory of villages, towns, cities, and city districts that are part of each territorial electoral district shall be divided into election precincts.

2. Election precincts shall be formed by the territorial electoral commissions based on the recommendations of village, town, city (cities in which there are no city district councils), and city district councils, and in the absence of such recommendations, based on the recommendations of, respectively, the chairmen of village, town, city, or city district councils, or officials performing the duties of such in accordance with the law. Each territorial electoral commission shall establish a single numbering system for its election precincts, designate the boundaries of each election precinct within its territory, and make this information known to the public.

3. At in-patient and sanatorium institutions and other places of temporary stay by voters with restricted ability to move, on ships that are at sea on the day of the election under the state flag of Ukraine, election precincts shall be formed by the local territorial electoral commission where such institutions are located or at the ship's home port.

4. Military servicemen shall vote at general election precincts, located outside their military units. In exceptional cases, election precincts may be created on the territory of military units, located outside population centers, with the permission of the Central Electoral Commission.

5. Election precincts at Ukraine's representations abroad shall be formed by the Central Electoral Commission on the recommendation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

6. Election precincts shall be formed for 20 to 3,000 voters, and in exceptional cases, for a smaller or larger number of voters.

7. Election precincts shall be formed not later than 60 days before the day of the election, and in exceptional cases, which shall be defined by the Central Electoral Commission, not later than five days before the day of the election.

#### Article 13. The system of electoral commissions

The election of the president of Ukraine shall be organized and conducted by:

- 1) the Central Electoral Commission;
- 2) territorial electoral commissions;
- 3) precinct electoral commissions.

#### Article 14. The formation of electoral commissions

1. The Central Electoral Commission shall be formed in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine and the Law of Ukraine On the Central Electoral Commission.
2. Territorial electoral commissions shall be formed not later than 70 days before the day of the election of the president of Ukraine by the decisions of, respectively, the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the oblast councils, and the Kiev and Sevastopol city councils. They shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, and members of the commission, nominated by the governing bodies of the republican (Autonomous Republic of Crimea), oblast, and Kiev and Sevastopol city organizations of political parties or the central bodies of these parties. The indicated nominations shall be submitted to the relevant council not later than 60 days before the day of the election. If the recommendations from the parties are not received by the prescribed deadline, the relevant council shall form a territorial electoral commission based on the recommendations of the chairman of the relevant council (city chairman) or official who is performing the duties of council chairman (city chairman) in accordance with the law.
3. A territorial electoral commission must include (if the necessary nominations have been submitted) two representatives from each party (bloc) represented in the election by registered candidates. The representatives of these parties (blocs) may be members of these parties or persons with no party affiliation.
4. The total number of members of a territorial electoral commission shall be determined by the relevant council, taking into account the requirements of paragraph three of this article, but a commission may not consist of fewer than 10 members. The chairman, deputy chairman, and secretary of a territorial electoral commission may not all be members of one party (representatives of one bloc of parties).
5. In the event that a council fails to form a territorial electoral commission by the deadline established by this Law, the territorial electoral commission shall be formed by the Central Electoral Commission not later than 65 days before the day of the election, based on the recommendations submitted for consideration to the relevant council. These recommendations shall be submitted to the Central Electoral Commission by the chairman of the relevant council (city chairman) or official who is performing the duties of such in accordance with the law. In the event that such recommendations are not submitted by the prescribed deadline, the Central Electoral Commission shall form the territorial electoral commission on its own initiative, based on the recommendation of the chairman of the Central Electoral Commission.
6. Precinct electoral commissions shall be formed by village, town, city (in cities that have no city district councils), and city district councils not later than 45 days before the day of the election. They shall consist of a chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, and commission members. In exceptional cases, which shall be defined by the Central Electoral Commission, precinct electoral commissions shall be formed five days before the day of the election by the executive committees of the relevant councils. The chairman, deputy chairman, and secretary of a commission may not all be members of one party (representatives of one bloc of parties).
7. The number of members of a precinct electoral commission shall be established by the bodies that create them, depending on the number of nominations submitted in accordance with paragraph eight of this article, but may not consist of fewer than eight members. A

precinct electoral commission must include (if the necessary nominations have been submitted) two representatives from each rayon or city center or a higher-ranking organization of the parties (blocs) that are represented in the election process. The representatives of the parties (blocs) may be members of these parties or persons with no party affiliation. At election precincts where the number of voters does not exceed 50 people, precinct electoral commissions may be formed consisting of a chairman, secretary, and one to three commission members, taking into account the nominations submitted by the parties (blocs) represented in the election by registered candidates. 8. Nominations to precinct electoral commissions shall be submitted for consideration by the council by, respectively the chairman of the village, town, or city (in cities where there are no city district councils) council, the chairman of the city district council, or the official performing the duties of such in accordance with the law, based on the proposals of legally registered rayon or city centers of political parties (blocs), by candidates, as well as by citizens' self-organized bodies that exist on the relevant territory. 9. The nominations of candidates to the precinct electoral commissions shall be submitted to the relevant councils not later than 60 days before the day of the election. If the nominations are not received by the prescribed deadline, the council shall form the precinct electoral commission based on the recommendations of the chairman of the village, town, or city (in cities where there are no city district councils) council, the chairman of the city district council, or the official performing the duties of such in accordance with the law. 10. In the event that a council fails to create precinct electoral commissions by the deadline set by this Law, such a commission shall be created not later than 40 days before the day of the election by the respective territorial electoral commission based on the recommendations submitted for consideration by the relevant council. These nominations shall be submitted to the territorial electoral commission by, respectively, the chairman of the village, town, or city (in cities where there are no city district councils) chairman, or the chairman of a city district council. 11. At in-patient and sanatorium institutions and other places of temporary stay by voters with restricted ability to move, on ships that are at sea on the day of the election, precinct electoral commissions shall be formed in accordance with the procedure specified by this article.

12. Precinct electoral commissions at Ukraine's representations abroad shall be created by the Central Electoral Commission based on the recommendations of the heads of the representations.

13. Territorial and precinct electoral commissions shall within five days of their formation notify the public through the mass media or by other means of their location, postal address, and office hours.

14. The powers of territorial and precinct electoral commissions shall become effective on the day that the decision is approved to form the respective commission and shall terminate ten days after the publication by the Central Electoral Commission of the results of the election of the president of Ukraine.

Article 15. The powers of electoral commissions

1. The powers of the Central Electoral Commission with respect to organizing the preparations and conduct of the election of the president of Ukraine shall be defined by the Law of Ukraine On the Central Electoral Commission and by this Law.

2. The Central Electoral Commission, in addition to the powers defined by the Law of Ukraine On the Central Electoral Commission, shall:

- 1) adopt interpretations on matters pertaining to this Law that are binding on electoral commissions; provide organizational and methodological support for the activity of electoral commissions;
- 2) monitor the use by electoral commissions of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine, enlisting officials from the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine and the State Tax Administration of Ukraine to conduct audits;
- 3) establish the standards and list of equipment, supplies, and services required by electoral commissions and election precincts, the requirements for this equipment, and the procedure for storing it;
- 4) freeze the funds in the accounts of electoral commissions in banking institutions after the powers of a commission expire or, in the event of a violation of financial discipline, adopt a decision to transfer the remaining funds into the account of the Central Electoral Commission for subsequent reallocation for the needs of the election campaign;
- 5) register the authorized representatives of the candidates;
- 6) establish in accordance with this and other laws of Ukraine the procedure for using the mass media for conducting election campaigns;
- 7) arrange for the manufacture of the candidates' election posters;
- 8) monitor the receipt and use of money in the candidates' personal election funds, enlist officials from the State Tax Administration of Ukraine, as well as the banking institution in which the relevant accounts have been opened, to conduct the necessary audits;
- 9) arrange for the centralized production of election ballots of the established form;
- 10) within three months of the date of the official publication of the results of the election, submit to the Accounting Office a report on expenditures made from the State Budget of Ukraine of funds allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election of the president of Ukraine;
- 11) exercise other powers in accordance with this and other laws of Ukraine.

3. The territorial electoral commission shall:

- 1) monitor compliance with the legislation on the election of the president of Ukraine on the territory of the respective electoral district;
- 2) create election precincts, in instances provided for by this Law, establish a single numbering system of election precincts, establish the boundaries of each election precinct in the respective territorial electoral district, and make this information known to the public;
- 3) create precinct electoral commissions in instances provided for by this Law;
- 4) direct the activity of precinct electoral commissions;
- 5) in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Electoral Commission, act as a juridical person to decide matters pertaining to the allocation of funds among precinct electoral commissions, oversee the provision of precinct electoral commissions with premises, transportation and communications, and within the limits of its jurisdiction, consider and decide other matters involving the material and technical support of the election on the respective territory;
- 6) oversee the compiling of the lists of voters and their publication to the public;
- 7) together with the relevant executive-branch bodies and local self-government bodies, organize meetings of candidates with voters;



- 8) ensure the delivery to electoral commissions of election ballots of established form, the preparation and supply of other document forms prescribed by this Law;
- 9) establish the results of the balloting in the respective territorial electoral district, draw up a report on the results of the balloting and submit it to the Central Electoral Commission;
- 10) organize the conduct of a runoff in accordance with the decision of the Central Electoral Commission on scheduling a runoff in the election of the president of Ukraine, as well as organize the conduct of repeat elections in accordance with this Law;
- 11) consider within the limits of its jurisdiction appeals, statements, and complaints regarding the organization and conduct of the election on the territory of the respective commission, as well as appeals, statements, and complaints regarding the decisions, actions, or inaction of precinct electoral commissions, and adopt decisions on these issues;
- 12) hear the reports of precinct electoral commissions, local executive-branch bodies, and local self-government bodies on matters pertaining to the preparation and conduct of the election of the president of Ukraine;
- 13) exercise other powers in accordance with this and other laws of Ukraine.

4. The precinct electoral commission shall:

- 1) verify the accuracy of the list of voters of the respective election precinct;
- 2) ensure that voters have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the list of voters, consider appeals regarding errors and inaccuracies in the list of voters, and make the appropriate changes in this list;
- 3) create conditions that enable voters to familiarize themselves with the personal details of registered candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, their election platforms, as well as the decisions and announcements published by the Central Electoral Commission, the respective territorial electoral commission, and its own decisions and announcements;
- 4) hand or send voters personal invitations in timely fashion informing them of the date of the election, the address of the polling station, and the time of the opening and the closing of the polls;
- 5) ensure the preparation of the polling premises and the manufacture of the ballot boxes;
- 6) in instances provided for by this Law, in accordance with the decision of the Central Electoral Commission, make changes in the ballot;
- 7) organize the voting at the election precinct;
- 8) count the votes cast at the election precinct, prepare a report on the results of the balloting and submit it to the relevant territorial electoral commission;
- 9) consider, within the limits of its jurisdiction, appeals, statements, and complaints on matters pertaining to the preparation of the election and the organization of the voting at the election precinct and adopt appropriate decisions;
- 10) exercise other powers in accordance with this and other laws of Ukraine.

Article 16. The legal status of persons who are members of electoral commissions

1. The status of members of the Central Electoral Commission shall be

defined by the Law of Ukraine On the Central Electoral Commission and by this Law.

2. Members of territorial and precinct electoral commissions formed for the election of the president of Ukraine must be citizens of Ukraine, who have the right to vote and who reside or work within the boundaries of the relevant territorial electoral district. The secretary of the electoral commission must be fluent in the state language.

The following may not be members of electoral commissions: candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, their close relatives (husband, wife, children, parents, brothers, or sisters), persons who are direct subordinates of candidates at their place of employment (in office), the authorized representatives of candidates, as well as citizens convicted of a premeditated crime, unless this conviction has been cleared or expunged in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law. An individual may be a member of only one electoral commission.

3. In the event that a person who is a member of an electoral commission registers as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine or as an authorized representative of a candidate, his or her powers in the commission shall terminate as of the date of registration.

4. A territorial or precinct electoral commission may ask the body that formed it to replace the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, or a member of the commission, based on the grounds specified in paragraph seven of this article, if at least two-thirds of the members of the respective commission vote in favor of this request at a meeting of the commission.

The request of the electoral commission shall be considered, and an appropriate decision shall be adopted.5. In the event of the early termination of the powers of an electoral commission or if the number of members of an electoral commission drops below the number prescribed in Article 14 of this Law, the relevant body shall approve a new membership roster of the electoral commission or add new members to the commission not later than on the seventh day after a commission's powers have been terminated or its membership has fallen below the prescribed number.6. By a decision of an electoral commission, which must be approved by an electoral commission at a higher level, the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, or other members of a territorial electoral commission (not more than a total of three persons) or of a precinct electoral commission (not more than a total to two persons) may be released from the performance of their production or office duties at their primary place of employment for the duration of the election campaign.7. The powers of a territorial or precinct electoral commission or of individual members of a commission may be terminated prior to their expiration by the body that formed the commission only in cases of violation by a commission or its individual members of the constitution or this and other laws of Ukraine. The powers of members of the indicated commissions shall also be terminated on the basis of a submission of a personal statement by a member relinquishing his powers on the commission, the termination of a member's Ukrainian citizenship, a finding of guilt by a court against a member, as well as in the event of a member's death. The powers of persons who are members of an electoral commission shall also be terminated if they are nominated candidates for the office of people's deputy of Ukraine, candidates for the office of a villate, town, or city chairman, or candidates for the office of deputy to a local council. The termination of the powers of an electoral commission or individual

members of a commission, as well as changes in a commission's membership, shall be effected in accordance with the procedure established by this Law.

Article 17. Remuneration of electoral commission members

1. Members of electoral commissions who have been released from the performance of their production or office duties at their primary place of employment, as well as pensioners and persons who are temporarily unemployed, shall be remunerated for their work on the commission in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

2. The amount paid in wages to members of electoral commissions who have been released from the performance of their production or office duties at their primary place of employment, may not be lower than the average wage at their primary place of employment.

Article 18. Organizing the work of electoral commissions

1. The principal form of activity of electoral commissions shall be open meetings, which shall be convened by the chairman of the commission, or, in his absence, by the deputy chairman, or, in cases where pursuant to this Law a commission does not have a deputy chairman, by the secretary of the commission. Candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, their authorized representatives, not more than two official observers from each party (bloc) represented in the election by registered candidates, as well as official observers of the actions of candidates, official observers from other countries and international organizations, and representatives of the mass media shall have the right to attend the meetings of electoral commissions. By the decision of a commission, other persons may also attend its meetings.

2. In the event of the absence of the chairman and deputy chairman of an electoral commission, or of their inability to convene a meeting of the commission, or of their refusal to convene a meeting, a meeting may be convened at the request of not less than one-third of the members of the commission, who must notify all the members of the commission of the time and place of the meeting and of the matters that will be considered.

3. The first meeting of an electoral commission shall be convened not later than on the third working day after the commission's formation, with subsequent meetings to be convened as necessary.

4. The meetings of an electoral commission shall be presided over by its chairman or his deputy, and in the event of a failure by these officers to perform this function for any reason, the commission shall designate one of its members to preside over a specific meeting. The minutes of the meeting shall be signed by the person presiding over the meeting and the secretary of the commission, or by the member of the commission performing the duties of the secretary.

5. A meeting of an electoral commission shall be deemed legally competent to transact business if not less than two-thirds of its members are present. The commission shall adopt its decisions in the form of rulings [postanovy] by an open majority vote of the total number of members of the commission. In the event of a tie in the votes cast by the members of a commission, that decision shall be deemed as adopted for which the chairman of the meeting casts a vote. The decisions of an electoral commission must contain reasons for its conclusions and must cite specific provisions of legislative acts. Any member of an electoral commission who takes part in a meeting of the commission but does not agree with a decision adopted by the commission may express his

individual view in writing, which shall be added to the minutes of the meeting of the commission. The decisions of the commission shall be signed by the person presiding over its meeting and the secretary of the commission.

6. A commission may adopt a decision citing reasons to deprive persons specified in paragraph one of this article and paragraph four of Article 7 of this Law of the right to participate in its meeting if such persons obstruct the conduct of a meeting.

7. The decisions of electoral commission, adopted within the limits of their jurisdiction, shall be binding on all participants in the election process. No person shall have the right to interfere in the work of electoral commissions, except in instances provided for by law.

8. The chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, or a member of an electoral commission shall have the right to accept all documents, appeals, statements, and complaints that are submitted to the electoral commission, and in the case of the Central Electoral Commission, also employees of the commission's Secretariat. All documents, appeals, statements, and complaints shall be registered in accordance with the procedure established by the Central Electoral Commission. Each member of an electoral commission shall have the right to familiarize himself with all documents, appeals, statements, and complaints that are in the possession of the commission.

9. In order to provide for the organizational, legal, and technical needs of an electoral commission in the performance of the functions provided for by this Law, an electoral commission may enlist the necessary specialists and technical staff and pay them for their services within the limits of the funds allocated to the commission for the preparation and conduct of the election.

10. While performing their duties as members of a commission, members of electoral commissions shall be prohibited from campaigning for or against candidates for the office of president of Ukraine and to express opinions regarding the work of political parties or election blocs of parties that have nominated candidates for the office of president of Ukraine.

11. State government bodies, local self-government bodies, their officials and employees, as well as state enterprises, institutions, and organizations shall be obligated to create the appropriate conditions for electoral commissions for the exercise of their powers.

#### Article 19. Contesting the decisions, acts, or inaction of electoral commissions

1. The decisions, acts, or inaction of territorial or precinct electoral commissions may be appealed by candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, their authorized representatives, the authorized representatives of parties (blocs), as well as voters, within seven days of the adoption of a decision, commission of an act, or failure to act, to a higher-ranking electoral commission, or directly to a court with jurisdiction over the location of the relevant precinct electoral commission, and in the case of a territorial electoral commission to, respectively, the Supreme Court of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the relevant oblast court, or the city court of Kiev or Sevastopol.

2. The decisions, acts, or inaction of the Central Electoral Commission may be appealed to the Supreme Court of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law.

3. Complaints (appeals) received by the relevant electoral commission or court shall be considered within three days, and in the case of a

complaint concerning a decision, act, or failure to act by an electoral commission occurring less than three days before the day of the election or on the day of the election, immediately.

4. In cases that require additional verification, complaints must be considered within ten days, but not later than on the day of the election.

5. Complaints (appeals) that are submitted in violation of the deadlines prescribed by this Law shall not be subject to consideration (shall remain unconsidered).

6. Complaints (appeals) concerning violations of this Law that occurred before the day of the election but were submitted to the relevant electoral commission or court after midnight [2400] of the day preceding the day of the election, as well as complaints (appeals) concerning violations of this Law that occurred on the day of the election but were submitted to the relevant electoral commission after midnight [2400] of the day of the election, shall not be considered.

7. The courts shall organize their work during the election campaign, including on weekends and holidays, in such a way so as to be able to ensure the timely consideration of the complaints of all entities participating in the election process. The courts shall also ensure that complaints can be considered on the day of the election of the president of Ukraine.

Article 20. Voter lists, the procedure for compiling them and ensuring their accuracy

1. In order to conduct the election of the president of Ukraine, the executive committees of village, town, city (in cities with no city district councils), and city district councils, or bodies that are performing their functions in accordance with the law, shall compile lists of voters in each election precinct (except in those indicated in paragraph two of this article). Military servicemen who will vote at election precincts located outside their military units shall be included in the voter rolls of the relevant election precincts on the basis of information submitted not later than five days before the day of the election by the commanders of their military units to the bodies responsible for compiling the lists of voters. To ensure the free expression of will by term servicemen, they shall be granted leave for not less than four hours on the day of the election.

2. At election precincts created at in-patient and sanatorium institutions and other places of temporary stay by voters with restricted ability to move, on ships that are at sea on the day of the election, at election precincts at Ukraine's representations abroad, as well as in military units located outside population centers, the lists of voters shall be compiled in the same form by the relevant precinct electoral commissions on the basis of information submitted by the heads of the indicated institutions, ship captains, commanders of military units, etc.

3. The lists of voters shall include all the citizens of Ukraine who on the day of the election have attained (will attain) eighteen years of age, have the right to vote, and at the time that the list is compiled, reside on the territory of the relevant election precinct. In the absence of information about the month and day of birth of a citizen, he shall be considered as having been born on 1 January of the respective year.

4. The lists of voters at election precincts created at Ukraine's representations abroad shall include the staff of these representations and members of their families, as well as other citizens of Ukraine

residing or visiting on the territory of the respective foreign country.  
5. Entered on the lists of voters shall be each voter's surname, first name, patronymic, year of birth (in the case of voters who have attained or will attain the age of eighteen in the year of the election&mdash;the day, month, and year of birth), and address (place of residence). The names of voters shall be entered on the lists of voters in an order convenient for conducting the voting. A citizen may be entered on the list of voters of only one election precinct.

6. The lists of voters, signed by the heads of the bodies that compiled them, shall be submitted to the precinct electoral commissions not later than 40 days before the day of the election. The officials who have signed the lists of voters shall be responsible for their accuracy, completeness, and timely submission to precinct electoral commissions.

7. The precinct electoral commission shall check the accuracy of the lists of voters, after which they shall be signed by the chairman and secretary of the commission and published not later than 15 days before the day of the election.

8. Voters who arrive on the territory of an election precinct after the lists of voters have been checked for accuracy shall be entered on the voter roll by the relevant precinct electoral commission on the basis of documents that confirm the voter's identity and place of residence and a certificate stating that the voter has not been included on the list of voters at his or her previous place of residence. The precinct electoral commission shall notify the territorial electoral commission with jurisdiction over the voter's previous place of residence that he or she has been entered on the current precinct electoral commission's voter roll.

9. Voters who have left the territory of the election precinct after the lists of voters have been published shall be removed from the voter roll by the precinct electoral commission on the basis of the appropriate documents.

Such persons shall be issued a certificate in the form approved by the Central Electoral Commission, based on which such persons shall be entered in the voter roll at the election precinct at their new place of residence. The indicated certificates shall be included with the list of voters.

10. In exceptional circumstances, at election precincts created at places of the temporary residence of voters, the lists of voters may be compiled and published not later than three days before the day of the election.

11. A citizen shall have the right to appeal within three days to the precinct electoral commission, territorial electoral commission, or directly to the court any errors made in the compilation of the list of voters, including the failure to enter, the incorrect entry, or the exclusion of a voter from the list of voters. A citizen's complaint, submitted to the precinct or territorial electoral commission, shall be considered by the commission within three days, or, if received on the day before the day of the election or on the day of the election, immediately. The precinct electoral commission is obliged to make the necessary changes in the list of voters and, in the event that his appeal is rejected, issue the applicant a copy of the decision citing the reasons for the rejection.

Article 21. Ensuring the financing and the supply of materials and equipment to meet the needs of the election

1. The preparation and conduct of the election of the president of Ukraine shall be financed by the Central Electoral Commission in accordance with the statement of costs approved by the Central Electoral Commission within the limits of the funds allocated for the election in the State Budget of Ukraine.
2. In the event of the late disbursement of budget funds to finance the election, the National Bank of Ukraine shall, at the request of the Central Electoral Commission, grant it within three days interest-free credit within the limits of the funds allocated by the State Budget of Ukraine for conducting the election and in the amount requested by the Central Electoral Commission. The guarantor of the repayment of this loan shall be the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine.
3. These loans shall be repaid to the National Bank of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine not later than three months after their receipt.
4. The financing and the supply of materials and equipment to meet the needs of the election shall be ensured by the Central Electoral Commission.
5. In addition to the financing of the election of the president of Ukraine provided by the state, candidates for the office of president of Ukraine may use the funds in their personal election funds, which shall be formed in accordance with the procedure provided for by this Law, to finance their election campaigns.
6. Citizens of Ukraine, citizens' associations, juridical persons registered in Ukraine, with the exception of enterprises with foreign investments, as well as state bodies and local self-government bodies financed from the State Budget of Ukraine or the budgets of local self-government bodies, may make contributions to the personal elections funds of the candidates for the office of president of Ukraine in accordance with established procedure.

#### Section 4. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

Article 22. Nomination of contenders to stand as candidates for the office of president of Ukraine by parties and election blocs of parties

1. The right to nominate a contender to stand as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine shall belong to parties that have been registered by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine. A party shall exercise this right either directly or by uniting with several parties into an election bloc.
2. An election bloc of parties may be formed by two or more parties on the basis of the decisions of the parties that have united into an election bloc to take part in the election of the president of Ukraine. The decision to form an election bloc shall be signed by the leaders of the parties that have united into the election bloc and shall be sealed by the stamps of the said parties. The decision shall be accompanied by an agreement to form an election bloc, which shall include: the procedure of conducting the interparty congress (conference) of the bloc, the provisions governing the delegation of delegates from the parties that have united into a bloc at such congresses (conferences), the provisions governing the work of the governing bodies of the bloc, the obligations assumed to finance and conduct the bloc's election campaign, and other matters that regulate the activity of the bloc.

3. The nomination of contenders to stand as candidates for the office of president of Ukraine (hereinafter&mdash;contenders) shall begin 170 days before the day of the election and shall end 140 days before the day of the election.

4. The contender from a party shall be nominated at a congress or conference that is the highest statutory body of the party. The procedure for conducting the congress (conference, general meeting) of a party shall be established by the party's statutes.

5. A contender from an election bloc of parties shall be nominated at an interparty congress (conference), the delegates to which shall be elected by the members of the parties that have united into an election bloc in accordance with the representation quota specified by the agreement on forming the election bloc.

6. A contender for the office of president of Ukraine from a party or an election bloc of parties may be a member of the respective party or a citizen with no party affiliation.

7. A congress (conference, general meeting) shall have the right to nominate a contender if more than two-thirds of the elected delegates are present, but not less than 200 persons. A contender shall be deemed as nominated if more than half of those participating in the congress (conference, general meeting) have voted in his favor.

8. In the event that a contender is nominated, the party or election bloc of parties shall notify the person nominated as a contender to stand as a candidate in the election of the president of Ukraine, and, after receiving his or her consent to run in the election, shall submit a formal notice to the Central Electoral Commission. The notice shall provide the contender's surname, first name, and patronymic; day, month, and year of birth; citizenship; particulars about his or her place of residence in Ukraine during the past ten years prior to the day of the election; and fluency in the state language. It shall also provide the surname, first name, patronymic, and address and telephone number of the authorized representative of the party or election bloc of parties. The notice shall be signed by the leader of the relevant party (leaders of the parties that have united into the relevant election bloc).

The formal notice shall be accompanied by:

- 1) a copy of the certificate of registration of the party (parties that have united into an election bloc), confirmed by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine;
- 2) the agreement to form an election bloc of parties, signed by the leaders of the relevant parties and sealed by the stamps of the parties;
- 3) the excerpt from the record (decision) of the congress (conference, general meeting) of the party or election bloc of parties concerning the nomination of the contender to stand as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine;
- 4) the contender's statement of consent to run in the election of the president of Ukraine from the respective party or election bloc of parties;
- 5) the contender's election platform;
- 6) a declaration of the contender's assets and income for the preceding year, compiled in the form established by the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine;
- 7) an application from the contender in the form established by the Central Electoral Commission (to be filled in by the contender personally).



9. The Central Electoral Commission shall issue to the authorized representative of the party or election bloc of parties that submitted the documents indicated in paragraph eight of this article a certificate that these documents have been received. The certificate must include a list of the received documents, the day, month, and year, as well as the time that they were received, and the office and name of the person that accepted the documents.

**Article 23. Assemblies of voters**

1. Assemblies of voters shall have the right to nominate a contender to stand as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine within the period of time specified by paragraph three of Article 22 of this Law, provided not less than 500 citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote attend such an assembly. Assemblies of voters may be conducted by place of residence or at enterprises, institutions and, organizations. The initiators of the assemblies shall be obliged to notify the executive committee of the relevant council about the date and place of the meeting not later than three days before the assembly is held. The executive committee of the council may send its representative to monitor compliance with the requirements of this Law in conducting such an assembly.

2. At the beginning of the assembly, a list of those taking part shall be compiled, noting the surname, first name, patronymic, date of birth, and address of each participant. Minutes of the assembly shall be recorded, which shall note information about the compilation of the list of the participants in the assembly and their number, the election of the presidium of the assembly and its membership. The list of participants in the assembly shall be added to the minutes.

No person may be a participant in more than one assembly of voters for the purpose of nominating a contender to stand as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine.

3. An initiatory group of voters, consisting of 10-20 participants in the assembly, shall be approved by a decision adopted by a majority of the participants. The members of the initiatory group shall be indicated in the minutes of the assembly.

**Article 24. Nomination of contenders to stand as candidates for the office of president of Ukraine by assemblies of voters**

1. An assembly of voters may discuss one or several nominations of contenders. Each participant in the assembly may propose any candidate for discussion, including himself. The person who has received not less than two-thirds of the votes of the participants in the assembly of voters shall be deemed to be the contender nominated by the assembly.

2. The initiatory group of voters shall submit to the Central Electoral Commission an application to register the contender and an application to register the initiatory group. The application to register a contender shall contain information about the contender specified in paragraph eight of Article 22 of this Law.

The application shall be accompanied by:

- 1) the minutes of the assembly of voters concerning the nomination of a contender;
- 2) a list of participants in the assembly;
- 3) the contender's statement of consent to run in the election of the president of Ukraine, as well as the documents specified in points five, six, and seven of paragraph eight of Article 22 of this Law.

The application to register the initiatory group of voters shall

indicate the surname, first name, and patronymic, and the address and telephone number of the authorized representative of the initiatory group.

3. In the event that the same person is nominated as a contender by more than one assembly of voters, the Central Electoral Commission shall register the contender on the basis of the documents it received first. At the same time, the Central Electoral Commission shall register the initiatory group of voters named in these documents as having the status of the entity that has nominated the given contender. In that case, the minutes of other assemblies with materials regarding the nomination of the same contender shall be considered by the commission and shall be added to the decision on the registration of the given contender, and the decision shall list the names of all the assemblies that have nominated the given contender. The members of the initiatory groups of voters named in these minutes may create groups of support for the given contender.

Article 25. Registration of contenders to stand as candidates for the office of president of Ukraine

1. Contenders for the office of president of Ukraine shall be registered by the Central Electoral Commission. Any person who meets the requirements specified in Article 2 of this Law may be registered as a contender.

2. The Central Electoral Commission shall adopt a decision on the registration of a contender within five days of the submission of the application to register a contender and the documents specified in Article 22 of this Law, and within 48 hours of registering the contender shall issue a certificate of registration of the contender to the authorized representative of the party (bloc) or initiatory group of voters and the necessary number of signature sheets of established form for the collection of the signatures of voters in support of the contender. Demanding documents or particulars other than those specified in Articles 22 and 24 of this Law is prohibited.

3. Contenders shall have equal rights regardless of which entity nominated them.

4. The Central Electoral Commission shall reject an application for the registration of a contender to stand for the office of president of Ukraine if:

- 1) the documents required for registration are submitted after the deadline specified by paragraph three of Article 22 of this Law;
- 2) all the documents necessary for registration have not been submitted, or documents have been submitted that do not meet the requirements of this Law;
- 3) the procedure for nominating the contender, established by this Law, the statute of the relevant political party, or the agreement to form an election bloc, has not been adhered to.

5. The refusal to register a contender on the grounds specified in points two and three of paragraph four of this article shall not deprive a contender of the right to resubmit documents for registration before the deadline established for the nomination of contenders to stand as candidates for the office of the president of Ukraine after the detected faults have been eliminated.

6. The Central Electoral Commission shall revoke its decision to register a contender for the office of president of Ukraine if it receives documented evidence that a contender has a conviction or evidence of other circumstances that deprive a person of the right to be

elected president of Ukraine in accordance with this Law.

Article 26. The signature sheet

The form of the signature sheet in support of a contender to stand as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine shall be approved by the Central Commission of Ukraine not sooner than 170 days before the day of the election. The signature sheet must contain the following information about a contender: surname, first name, patronymic, year of birth, citizenship, party affiliation, education, profession, place of employment, place of residence, and by whom nominated. It must have columns for entering the number and date of each voter's signature; the surname, first name, and patronymic of the voter; the voter's day, month, and year of birth; the voter's home address; the number and series of the voter's passport or other document certifying his identify; and the personal signature of the voter. The day and month of birth shall be entered only for those voters who attain the age of eighteen in the year of the election. The signature sheet must also contain information about the person who collects the signatures (surname, first name, patronymic, home address, and, if such exists, telephone number).

Article 27. Procedure for collecting signatures in support of contenders

1. By the authority of the contender for the office of president of Ukraine, or of the authorized representative of the party (bloc) or initiatory group of voters that has nominated the contender, signatures in his or her support may be collected by citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote.
2. Prior to beginning the collection of signatures, the person responsible for collecting signatures must enter on the signature sheets the personal information specified by Article 26 of this Law.
3. The columns on the signature sheet that apply to the voter shall be filled in personally by the voter, and in the event of a voter's inability for reasons of health to fill in the necessary information personally, it shall be filled in at the voter's request by the person responsible for collecting the signatures. The accuracy of the information about the voter entered on the signature sheet shall be confirmed by the voter's personal signature.
4. No person shall have the right to compel a voter to support a contender, pay for signatures with money, goods, or services, or hinder a voter from supporting a contender.
5. A signature sheet may contain the signatures of the residents of one population center only.
6. The filled-in signature sheet shall be signed by the person who collected the signatures. That individual shall be personally responsible for the accuracy of the information contained on the signature sheet.
7. The Central Electoral Commission shall monitor compliance with the requirements of this Law in the collection of signatures.
8. The filled-in signature sheets shall be submitted directly to the Central Electoral Commission for registration not later than 110 days before the day of the election of the president of Ukraine. The Central Electoral Commission shall issue a certificate of established form confirming the receipt of the signature sheets to the authorized individuals who submitted them.
9. When establishing the number of voters who have supported the contender for the office of the president of Ukraine on the basis of the signature sheets, the signatures of voters about whom all or part of the required information is missing on the signature sheet shall not be

counted. Signature sheets that contain the signatures of residents of more than one population center, sheets on which the information about the person responsible for collecting the signatures is missing, or sheets that have not been signed by the person collecting the signatures shall not be counted. Signature sheets that are not of the established form, forged sheets, as well as sheets with signatures collected under duress or by paying bribes shall be deemed invalid. Signature sheets may be deemed invalid by a decision of the Central Electoral Commission.

10. In the event that the submitted signature sheets do not meet the requirements of this Law, the Central Electoral Commission shall notify the persons who submitted such sheets of this defect not later than on the fifth day after it receipt of the sheets. Corrected or additional signature sheets shall be submitted to the Central Electoral Commission not later than 100 days before the day of the election of the president of Ukraine.

11. The Central Electoral Commission shall draw up a report on the results of the collection of signatures in support of each contender for the office of the president of Ukraine and shall familiarize the contender or the authorized representative of the party (bloc) or initiatory group of voters with this report within three days.

12. Only members of the Central Electoral Commission and, by the authority of the leadership of the Commission, the employees of the Commission's secretariat shall have the right to familiarize themselves with the signature sheets submitted to the Commission.

13. Organizing the collection of signatures at enterprises, institutions, and organizations is prohibited.

Article 28. Registration of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine

1. A contender shall be registered as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine if his candidacy is supported by the signatures of no fewer than one million citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote, including no fewer than 30,000 citizens in each of two-thirds of the regions of Ukraine (the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the oblasts, and the cities of Kiev and Sevastopol).

2. The Central Electoral Commission shall register the contender as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine within five days after the Commission draws up a report of the results of the collection of signatures in support of the contender.

3. The Central Electoral Commission shall adopt a decision to register a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine if the documents specified by Articles 22 and 24 of this Law and the report of the Central Electoral Commission on the results of the collection of voters' signatures in support of the candidate have been submitted.

The registration of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine shall be completed not later than 90 days before the day of the election of the president of Ukraine.

4. Within two days after registration, the Central Electoral Commission shall issue the candidate for the office of the president of Ukraine a certificate of established form, and in the case of contenders denied registration, a decision to that effect.

5. Not later than on the fifth day after the registration of all candidates has been completed, the Central Electoral Commission shall publish in the press and in other mass media a list of the candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, noting in alphabetical order the

surname, first name, patronymic, year of birth, party affiliation, education, job (occupation), place of employment and place of residence of each candidate, and by whom the candidate has been nominated.

6. The decision of the Central Electoral Commission to grant registration or to deny registration may be appealed by a contender with respect to whom such a decision has been adopted, or by the authorized representative of the party (bloc) or initiatory group of voters, which nominated the given contender, to the Supreme Court of Ukraine within five days of the adoption of the decision. The Supreme Court of Ukraine shall consider the complaint within seven days. The decision of the Supreme Court of Ukraine shall be final and shall enter into force immediately.

Article 29. The declaration of income by a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine<sup>1</sup>. A declaration of assets and income for the preceding year by a candidate for the office of the president of Ukraine shall be prepared personally by the candidate in the form established by the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine. The candidate shall be responsible for the accuracy of the information submitted in the declaration.

2. The accuracy of the information submitted in the declaration shall be verified by the State Tax Administration of Ukraine at the request of the Central Electoral Commission. If the declaration is found to contain knowingly submitted false information or other substantial violations of legislation in the preparation and submission of the declaration, this shall result in the denial to grant registration of the contender as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine. If such facts are discovered after the candidate has been registered as a candidate for the office of the president of Ukraine, the Central Electoral Commission shall, within five days, submit a formal notice to the Supreme Court of Ukraine revoking the registration of the given person as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine. In the event that the court adopts a decision to revoke the registration of the given person as a candidate on the grounds specified in the formal notice, the court is obligated to bring criminal charges on these facts.

3. The Central Electoral Commission shall, within three days of receiving them, publish the declarations of all candidates for the office of the president of Ukraine in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uryadovyy Kuryer.

Article 30. Withdrawal of a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine from the race

1. A candidate for the office of president of Ukraine may withdraw his nomination not later than three days before the day of the election by submitting the appropriate written notification of his withdrawal to the Central Electoral Commission. In that case, his name shall be removed from the list of candidates, and the candidate shall not run for office in the presidential election.

2. In the event of a candidate's death, the Central Electoral Commission shall announce that the candidate is no longer running for office in the election, and his name shall be removed from the list of candidates.

3. The Central Electoral Commission shall notify the electoral commissions about the withdrawal of a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine from the election race, and this decision shall be published in the mass media not later than on the day after the adoption of the decision, but not later than one day before the day of election.

## Section 5. THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN

### Article 31. Conducting the election campaign by candidates for the office of president of Ukraine

1. The election campaign shall begin after the registration of the contender as a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine by the Central Electoral Commission and shall end one day before the day of the election. The election campaign may be conducted in any form and by any means that do not contravene the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine.

2. Citizens of Ukraine, political parties, other associations of citizens, and the collectives of enterprises, institutions, and organizations shall have the right to discuss freely and comprehensively the election platforms of candidates, their political, professional, and personal qualities, and to campaign for or against candidates at meetings, rallies, in conversations, in the press, and on radio and television.

3. Candidates for the office of president of Ukraine may meet with voters at meetings or in any other form convenient to voters. The territorial electoral commission shall take part in organizing meetings of candidates with voters. At the request of candidates or of electoral commissions, executive-branch bodies and local self-government bodies shall assist in the organization of such meetings.

4. Local executive-branch bodies, local self-government bodies, communally or state-owned enterprises, institutions, and organizations, as well as those with a mixed form of ownership in which the state's share exceeds 25 percent, shall provide premises appropriate for the conduct of mass events as part of the election campaign without charge at a time determined by the relevant territorial electoral commission. In addition, territorial electoral commissions are obligated to ensure equal opportunities for all candidates for the office of president of Ukraine.

5. The Central Electoral Commission, using funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the conduct of the election campaign, shall arrange for the production of the election posters of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine not later than 50 days before the day of the election. The form, size, and printing of the election posters, and the number printed in accordance with the requirements specified in paragraph seven of this article, shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission and must be identical for all candidates.

6. To ensure the timely production of election posters, a candidate personally or his authorized representative shall submit to the Central Electoral Commission, not later than within one week of the candidate's registration, the candidate's election platform (planks of his election platform) and his personal biography comprising not more than four pages of typewritten text typed with a space and a half between the lines (7800 characters) and two photographs of a format established by the Central Electoral Commission.

7. The election posters, produced in 10 copies for each electoral commission in accordance with the procedure specified by the Central Electoral Commission, shall be given directly to the candidate for the office of president of Ukraine, or the candidate's authorized representative, or with the consent of the candidate, to the territorial electoral commissions.

8. Each candidate may at his own discretion arrange for the production of other election campaign materials at the expense of and within the

limits of the funds in his personal election fund. The information provided in the indicated materials must comply with the requirements of the law. Each candidate or his authorized representative shall submit three copies of the published materials produced at the expense of his personal election fund within three days of their manufacture to the Central Electoral Commission and to the territorial electoral commission with jurisdiction over the location where such materials shall be disseminated.

9. All printed election campaign materials must contain information about the organization, institution, or persons responsible for their publication, basic information about the institution that performed the printing, and information about the total number of copies printed.

10. Local self-government bodies shall allocate space and equip stands and boards in public places for displaying election campaign materials produced by the relevant electoral commissions, as well as ensure the displaying of announcements concerning the election campaign and the candidates published by these commissions as provided for by this Law. Such materials may not be placed on buildings designated as architectural landmarks or in places where they pose a traffic hazard.

Article 32. The use of mass media in the election campaign

1. Candidates for the office of president of Ukraine shall have the right to use without charge state-owned mass media, which shall grant them airtime of equal worth and duration on national networks and in individual electoral districts.

The specific amount of airtime on radio and television allocated for election campaigning by candidates on the national level shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission, and in territorial electoral districts, by the territorial electoral commissions in coordination with the directors of the relevant mass media. Television and radio companies are prohibited from interrupting election campaign programs, including with advertising for goods, jobs, or services.

2. Candidates for the office of president of Ukraine shall have the right to publish without charge the texts of their election platforms not to exceed four typewritten pages (7,800 characters) printed in identical style in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uryadovyy Kuryer. The sequence of publishing the election platforms of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission by means of a drawing of lots.

3. The Central Electoral Commission and the territorial electoral commissions, using funds from the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the conduct of the election campaign, shall pay for the following in accordance with this Law: airtime on state radio and television, the printing of election posters, and the publication of the candidates' election platforms in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uryadovyy Kuryer, and in oblast publications.

4. Candidates for the office of president of Ukraine shall have the right, at the expense of and within the limits of the funds in their personal election funds, to additionally publish their election campaign materials in both state-owned and nonstate periodicals on terms of equal payment for the same amount of newspaper space, as well as to conduct their election campaigns on both state-owned and nonstate television and radio channels on terms of equal payment for the same amount of airtime.

5. In the event that the mass media publishes information about a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine that is inaccurate in

that candidate's opinion, the media organization concerned shall be obligated, within seven days but not later than two days before the day of the election, to grant the candidate for the office of president of Ukraine about whom inaccurate information has been disseminated equal time on radio or television or an equal amount of newspaper space to refute the inaccurate materials.

Article 33. Restrictions on election campaigning

1. The following shall be prohibited from taking part in the election campaign:

state government bodies, including judicial bodies and procuracy bodies, and self-government bodies, their officials and employees; members of electoral commissions; persons who are not citizens of Ukraine.

2. State television and radio companies, mass print media with state or local government participation, their officials, and members of the editorial staffs of mass media are prohibited during the election campaign to support or give any form of preference to any one candidate for the office of president of Ukraine or his or her election platform in their reports, articles, or broadcasts.

3. It is prohibited to conduct an election campaign that involves giving voters goods, services, securities, money, credits, lottery tickets, or other material valuables free of charge or on a preferential basis.

4. The Central Electoral Commission shall ensure that the prohibition with respect to giving voters goods, securities, credits, lottery tickets, money, or services free of charge or on a preferential basis is made clear to the public in the state mass media. The text of this information shall be approved by the Central Electoral Commission and shall be published on the first page of each issue of the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uryadovyy Kuryer, starting 30 days before the day of the election. The text of this information shall be broadcast twice a day by television and radio companies, starting 30 days before the day of the election.

5. Election campaign television and radio programs by local companies must not be broadcast at the same time as analogous programs are being broadcast on national channels.

6. It is prohibited to include campaign materials of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine or political advertising in television and radio news programs.

7. It is prohibited to interrupt the election campaign programs of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine with commercials for goods, jobs, and services, or other announcements.

8. Campaigning in nonstate media is restricted only to the amount available in a candidate's personal election fund, provided all candidates for the office of the president of Ukraine are charged the same amount for airtime and newspaper space.

9. State and nonstate mass media operating on the territory of Ukraine shall be prohibited from publishing the results of sociological surveys and public opinion polls concerning the ratings of candidates for the office of president 15 days before the election.

10. It is prohibited to conduct election campaigning in foreign mass media operating on the territory of Ukraine.

11. Candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, who hold jobs, including those who hold two jobs simultaneously, in state government



bodies, local self-government bodies, at state enterprises, institutions, organizations, or in military formations created in accordance with the laws of Ukraine, are prohibited to enlist their subordinates (during working hours) or to use official transport, communications, equipment, premises, or other facilities and resources at their place of employment for any kind of work connected with conducting their election campaigns.

12. The dissemination of anonymous campaign materials that discredit a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine is prohibited.

13. The dissemination in any form of materials calling for the violent overthrow of the constitutional order, the violation of the territorial integrity of the state, or ethnic, linguistic, racial, or religious intolerance is prohibited.

14. The use of printed election materials that do not contain basic information about the institution that printed the materials, as well as fails to indicate the total number of copies printed, shall be prohibited.

15. Campaigning in any form on the day immediately preceding the day of the election and on day of the election is prohibited.

16. Any interference in the exercise of the right to conduct an election campaign, as well as abuse of the right to conduct such a campaign, shall incur liability as established by the laws of Ukraine.

17. In the event that an electoral commission receives a statement or complaint about the violations indicated in paragraphs three, ten, and twelve to sixteen of this article, the relevant electoral commission shall immediately forward such statements or complaints to internal affairs agencies for investigation and a response in accordance with the acting legislation of Ukraine.

#### Article 34. Financing the election campaign

1. The election campaign shall be financed with funds from the State Budget of Ukraine and funds from the personal election funds of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine.

2. The use of other funds to conduct election campaigns is prohibited.

#### Article 35. The personal election fund of a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine

1. Each candidate for the office of president of Ukraine may have a personal election fund.

A candidate's personal election fund shall be formed from the candidate's own funds, the funds of political parties, contributions from citizens of Ukraine, and juridical persons registered in Ukraine, with the exception of state enterprises, state bodies, institutions, and organizations, local self-government bodies, as well as foreign citizens and stateless persons, foreign juridical persons, enterprises with foreign investment, charitable organizations and religious associations, and enterprises, organizations, and institutions that owe money to budgets at any level.

2. Any conditions, agreements, or contracts between a contributor and a candidate or party (bloc) regarding funds transferred into a candidate's election fund shall be invalid.

3. The procedure for opening and closing bank accounts and for the receipt and use of money in a candidate's personal election fund, as well as the procedure for monitoring such accounts shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission together with the National Bank of Ukraine and the State Tax Administration of Ukraine in accordance with the laws of Ukraine.

4. The amount of a candidate's personal election fund may not exceed 100,000 nontaxable minimum incomes of a citizen, and the donations of a juridical person or a natural person may not exceed 100 nontaxable minimum incomes of a citizen.

5. Upon written application by a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine, the Savings Bank of Ukraine at the location of the Central Electoral Commission is obligated to open an account labeled "Election Fund" in the candidate's name.

6. Control over the receipt and use of money in a candidate's personal election fund shall be exercised by the Central Electoral Commission and the State Tax Administration of Ukraine. Upon the request of a candidate, the bank shall provide him or her with full information about the amounts and sources of contributions received into the candidate's personal election fund.

7. Information about the amounts and sources of revenues into the fund and financial reports on the use of the funds shall be published by the Central Electoral Commission in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uryadovyy Kuryer not later than on the seventh day after the day of the election.

8. The use by candidates of any funds for their election campaigns other than the funds provided for by this Law is prohibited.

9. Participation by citizens in the election campaign in the form of work, including the use of their own means outside work or office hours on a volunteer basis, shall not be regarded as remunerated.

10. Money received into a candidate's personal election fund from natural or juridical persons who under this Law do not have the right to make such contributions, or contributions received from anonymous or fictitious donors, or from donors whose address is unknown or such that the donor cannot be found, shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine by a decision of the Central Electoral Commission.

11. Money (or a portion thereof) received into a candidate's personal election fund in excess of the maximum amount allowable under this Law shall be returned to the donor at his own expense.

12. A candidate shall have the right to decline an offer of funds from a contributor by submitting a statement to that effect to the institution in which his personal election fund has been opened. These funds shall be returned by the said institution to the donor at the donor's expense and shall not be included in calculating the maximum allowable amount of a candidate's personal election fund.

13. Money in a candidate's personal election fund that was not used during the election campaign shall be compulsorily transferred after the election of the president of Ukraine by the relevant Savings Bank institutions to the State Budget of Ukraine within three days after the publication by the Central Electoral Commission of the results of the election. In the event that a candidate resigns or withdraws from the election race in accordance with established procedure, the funds remaining in the account of the candidate's personal election fund shall be transferred to the State Budget of Ukraine by a decision of the Central Electoral Commission.

14. A candidate for the office of president of Ukraine shall appoint a manager of his or her personal election fund from among his or her authorized representatives.

15. On the day after the day of the election, the banking institution in which the personal election fund accounts of the candidates have been

opened shall inform the Central Electoral Commission about the amounts and sources of revenues into these funds and shall submit a financial report about how they were used.

16. The money in the personal election funds shall be used exclusively for campaign needs. Remuneration for work and services from the personal election funds of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine may be made only in noncash form.

17. The use of money from the personal election funds of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine shall terminate one day before the day of the election.

18. The form of the financial report and the procedure for accounting revenues and expenditures in personal election funds shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission.

#### Section 6. GUARANTEES OF THE ACTIVITY OF CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE ELECTION

Article 36. The rights of a candidate for the office of president of Ukraine in conducting his or her election campaign

1. From the time that they are registered by the Central Electoral Commission, candidates for the office of president of Ukraine shall take part in the election campaign on equal terms. The candidates shall have equal rights to make use of state mass media on the territory of Ukraine.

2. Each candidate for the office of the president of Ukraine shall have the right to delegate one representative to the Central Electoral Commission with the right to participate in an advisory capacity only.

3. A representative of a candidate for the office of the president of Ukraine to the Central Electoral Commission shall have the right to:

1) attend all meetings of the Central Electoral Commission when any issues related to the election of the president of Ukraine are considered;

2) provide information and put forward proposals with respect to matters that are considered at the meetings of the Commission;

3) familiarize himself or herself with the content of the minutes of the meetings of the Commission and the decisions adopted by it, and to receive copies of such;

4) immediately receive copies of reports (faxes) and telegrams received by the Central Electoral Commission from territorial electoral commissions on the results of the voting in the relevant administrative-territorial unit;

5) be present in the premises of the Central Electoral Commission during the period of balloting and when the results of the election are determined;

6) exercise other rights provided for by this Law.

4. Candidates shall be guaranteed equal conditions and opportunities in the use of state mass media on the territory of Ukraine and in the financing and supply of materials and equipment needed for their participation in the election campaign.

5. Candidates shall have the right to be relieved of their production or official duties for the duration of the election campaign.

6. Candidates shall have the right to travel charge-free on all forms of passenger transport (except taxis) within the territory of Ukraine.

7. During the period of the election campaign, candidates may not be dismissed from their jobs, transferred to another job or office without their consent, or be called up for military service or training.

8. The state shall provide protection for the candidate for the period

of the election campaign in accordance with the Law of Ukraine On State Protection of State Government Bodies and Officials.

Article 37. Authorized representatives of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine

1. A candidate for the office of president of Ukraine may have one authorized representative in each territorial electoral district and five authorized representatives to assist him in conducting his election campaign on the territory of the national single-seat electoral district. They shall campaign for the candidate's election as president of Ukraine, represent the candidate's interests in relations with state government bodies, local self-government bodies, associations of citizens, as well as in electoral commissions.

2. A candidate for the office of president of Ukraine shall designate his authorized representatives and submit an application to the Central Electoral Commission requesting their registration. The application shall contain the surname, first name, patronymic, work and home address, and the telephone number of each authorized representative, as well as include a written consent from each such person. The following may not be registered as authorized representatives: the heads of state government bodies and local self-government bodies, their deputies, judges and procurators, commanders of military units of the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Internal Affairs, the National Guard, the Border Troops, and the Security Service of Ukraine.

Within three days of receiving the application, the Central Electoral Commission shall register the candidate's authorized representatives and issue them credentials in the established form.

3. Registered authorized representatives of candidates for the office of the president of Ukraine shall have the right to be relieved of their production and official duties from the time that they are registered until the conclusion of the election campaign.

4. A candidate for the office of the president of Ukraine shall have the right at any time before the day of the election to ask the Central Electoral Commission to terminate the powers of his authorized representative and to register a different person in his place. An authorized representative may at any time resign his powers of his own accord by submitting an appropriate statement to the Central Electoral Commission and returning the credentials issued to him.

Article 38. Official observers at the election of the president of Ukraine  
Official observers from candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, from parties (blocs), and from assemblies of voters that are entities in the election process, and official observers from foreign states and international organizations may take part in the election campaign of the president of Ukraine. The procedure of registering official observers and their status shall be established by a statute that shall be approved by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 39. Participation by authorized representatives and other participants in the election in the work of electoral commissions

1. The authorized representatives of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine and official observers may attend meetings of electoral commissions during the registration of presidential candidates, the balloting, the tallying of votes at election precincts, determining the results of the voting in the district, and the summation of the results of the election of the president of Ukraine. The powers of the authorized representatives and official observers shall be defined in

accordance with the procedure established by this Law and shall be confirmed by a relevant document. Interference in the work of electoral commissions by the indicated representatives is prohibited.

2. In the event that the persons listed in paragraph one of this article discover any violations of legislation on the election of the president of Ukraine, they shall have the right to draw up an official act concerning the violation(s), which shall be signed by the person (persons) who discovered the violation(s) and by those voters who were witnesses to the violation, and to request that the relevant electoral commission eliminate the violation(s).

## Section 7. CONDUCTING THE VOTING, DETERMINING THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

### Article 40. The election ballot

1. The form and text of the election ballot to be used in the election of the president of Ukraine shall be approved by the Central Electoral Commission.

2. Election ballots are documents that must be strictly accounted for.

3. The election ballot shall contain the name and date of the election, the number of the territorial electoral district, the number of the election precinct, except in the case of election precincts created in special circumstances in accordance with paragraph seven of Article 12 of this Law, and a designated place for the signature of the member of the precinct electoral commission who will be issuing the election ballots, as well as a place for the stamp of the precinct electoral commission.

4. The election ballot shall list all the candidates for the office of president of Ukraine in alphabetical order, indicating each candidate's surname, first name, patronymic, year of birth, job (occupation), place of employment and place of residence, party affiliation, as well as the body that nominated him or her. If the candidate has been nominated by a party (bloc), the full name of the party (bloc) shall be listed. To the right of each candidate's name shall be an empty box.

5. The following shall be written on the election ballot below the list of candidates: "I do not support any of the candidates for the office of president of Ukraine," with an empty box to the right of this statement.

6. The election ballot shall have a detachable stub separated from the ballot with a perforated line. The detachable stub shall contain the name and date of the election, the number of the territorial electoral district, the number of the election precinct, except in the case of election precincts created in accordance with paragraph seven of Article 12 of this Law, as well as designated places for entering the number of the voter on the voter roll, for the signature of the voter, and for the signature of the member of the precinct electoral commission who issued the election ballot.

7. The election ballot may not contain any information about candidates who have withdrawn from the race. In the event that a candidate has withdrawn from the race after the election ballots have been printed, the Central Electoral Commission shall adopt a decision to amend the election ballot and, if necessary, to reprint it. If changes in the election ballot are made by crossing out information about the person who was a candidate, the precinct electoral commission shall notify each voter of this at the time that it issues him or her the election ballot.

8. All election ballots must be printed on the same paper, be identical in size, color, and content, and conform to the sample established by the Central Electoral Commission. The election ballot shall be printed on a

single sheet with the text portion on only one side of the sheet.

Article 41. Procedure for issuing election ballots

1. The territorial electoral commission shall receive the election ballots from the Central Electoral Commission at a meeting. The territorial electoral commission shall draw up a report about the number of election ballots received, and the report shall be signed by all members of the commission. The report shall be prepared in three copies, the first of which shall be submitted to the Central Electoral Commission, the second shall be kept by the relevant territorial electoral commission, and the third shall be immediately posted in the premises of the commission to make this information known to the public. At the request of a candidate or of the candidate's authorized representative, a copy of the report shall be given to the candidate.
2. The territorial electoral commission shall issue election ballots to the precinct electoral commissions at a meeting. In order to count the ballots, the territorial electoral commission may, with the consent of all its members, divide into not more than two groups, but the issuance of the election ballots with the publication of the number of election ballots issued to each precinct electoral commission shall take place at a meeting of the territorial electoral commission.
3. The precinct electoral commissions shall be issued as many election ballots as there are voters in the precinct, as well as a reserve number, the quantity of which shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission.
4. The territorial electoral commission shall draw up a report about the count and issuance of election ballots to precinct electoral commissions, and this report shall be signed by all members of the commission. The report shall indicate the number of election ballots issued to each precinct electoral commission. The report shall be prepared in two copies, one of which shall be kept by the commission, and the second shall be immediately posted in the premises of the commission to make this information known to the public. At the request of the candidate, or the candidate's authorized representatives, or a person designated by the candidate, a copy of the report shall be immediately given to the candidate.

Article 42. The organization and procedure of voting

1. Voting shall be conducted on the day of the election or on the day of the runoff from eight a.m to eight p.m.
2. The precinct electoral commission shall notify the voters of the time and location of the polling station not later than fifteen days before the day of the election.
3. Voting shall take place in specially allocated premises equipped with a sufficient number of booths or rooms for marking a secret ballot. The place for issuing election ballots shall be determined, and the ballot boxes shall be installed in such a way that voters must approach them by passing through the booths or rooms to be used for marking the secret ballot.
4. The entrance to and the exit from the booth or room where the secret ballot is to be marked, as well as the distance between the booths or room and the ballot boxes must be easily observable by the members of the precinct electoral commission, the candidates, the candidates' authorized representatives, and official observers.
5. Responsibility for the organization of voting, ensuring the secrecy of the voters' expression of will, equipping the premises, and

maintaining proper order shall be vested in the precinct electoral commissions. A voter may stay on the polling premises only for as long as it takes him or her to vote.

6. On the day of the election, before the start of the voting, the chairman of the precinct electoral commission in the presence of the members of the electoral commission and official observers, and of the representatives of the mass media present at the election precinct shall check the ballot boxes and seal or secure them.

7. Each voter shall vote in person. Proxy voting is not permitted.

8. Election ballots shall be issued to voters by the members of the precinct electoral commission on the basis of the list of voters for the given electoral precinct on condition that the voter shall present a document verifying his or her identity. The member of the precinct electoral commission who issues the election ballot shall sign his name in the designated places on the election ballot and on the detachable stub. It is prohibited to mark the election ballot in any way that would make it possible to determine the identity of the voter. The voter shall sign his name in the designated places on the detachable stub and on the list of voters to confirm that he or she has received an election ballot.

9. The detachable stubs shall be kept by the precinct commission and together with the list of voters shall serve as the basis for determining the number of voters who received election ballots.

10. The election ballot shall be filled in by the voter in the booth or room to be used to mark the secret ballot. Other individuals are not allowed to be present while election ballots are being filled in. A voter who is unable to fill in the election ballot by himself shall have the right with the knowledge of the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, or a member of the precinct electoral commission to invite another individual into the secret ballot booth (room) at his own discretion, except members of the electoral commission, candidates for the office of president of Ukraine, their authorized representatives, or official observers.

11. On the election ballot, the voter shall enter a "plus" sign (+) or another mark indicating the expression of his will in the box opposite the name of the candidate from whom he is voting. A voter may vote for only one candidate. If a voter does not support any of the listed candidates, he shall enter a "plus" sign (+) or another mark indicating the expression of his will in the box opposite the statement: "I do not support any of the candidates for the office of president of Ukraine."

12. If certain voters are unable to come to the polling station for reasons of health, the precinct electoral commission, at their written request, shall draw up a list of such voters in the same form as the general list of voters one day before the day of the election. The commission shall appoint not less than three members of the electoral commission to organize voting at the places where these voters are staying at a time designated by the commission. These members of the commission must represent various parties (blocs). The time of departure of these commission members to visit the indicated voters shall be set so as to make certain that the voters are able to vote not later than one hour before polling concludes. The chairman of the precinct electoral commission must announce that the commission members are leaving to organize voting for those who for health reasons are unable to come to the polling station. Only after this announcement has been made shall the relevant members of the commission be issued election ballots and the

list of voters. The election ballots shall be counted in the presence of commission members and official observers who wish to witness the procedure. Official observers shall have the right to be present when such voting is conducted.

13. To enable them to conduct the voting outside the polling station, the chairman of the precinct electoral commission shall give the designated members of the precinct electoral commission the list of voters who shall vote at the place where they are staying, the necessary number of election ballots, and a sealed (secured) ballot box. When voting is conducted at the place where voters are staying, one member of the precinct electoral commission shall sign his name in the designated places on the election ballot and on the detachable stub and then issue the voter the election ballot. The voter shall sign the detachable stub and the list of voters to confirm receipt of the election ballot. No other individuals are allowed to be present while the voter fills in the election ballot, except in instances provided for by paragraph 10 of this article.

14. After the voting is completed outside the polling station, the members of the precinct electoral commission who organized this voting shall mark the general list of voters accordingly. The list on the basis of which the voting was conducted shall be added to the general list.

#### Article 43. Procedure for counting votes at the election precinct

1. Votes shall be counted at the election precinct exclusively by the members of the precinct electoral commission at a meeting of the commission in the same premises in which the voting was conducted. During the tallying of the votes, no one shall have the right to make any marks or entries on the ballots.

2. When the voting has been completed, the precinct electoral commission shall determine the total turnout of voters at the election precinct on the basis of the list of voters. This number shall be announced and entered in the report.

3. Prior to starting the vote tally, the precinct electoral commission shall establish the number of voters who received election ballots on the basis of the number of detachable stubs bearing the signatures of voters and of members of the commission who issued the election ballots, as well as the corresponding signatures on the list of voters. This number shall be announced and entered in the report.

4. Before the ballot boxes are opened, the unused election ballots shall be counted and cancelled by tearing off the left top corner of the ballot. The number of such ballots shall be announced and entered in the report. After that, the detachable stubs and cancelled unused election ballots (together with their detachable stubs) shall be packaged and sealed, and the name of the election ballot [as published], the number of the territorial electoral district, the number of the election precinct, the number of detachable stubs and election ballots in the package, and the date and time shall be indicated on the package, and the chairman and secretary of the precinct electoral commission shall place their signatures on the package.

5. After checking the integrity of the stamps or seals on the ballot boxes, the chairman of the precinct electoral commission shall open them. The ballot boxes shall be opened in sequence. The first to be opened shall be the ballot boxes which were used to conduct voting outside the polling station at the places where voters were staying. The commission shall count the total number of election ballots in the box. Only after



this tally has been made, shall the next ballot box be opened.

6. When tallying the election ballots, a designated member of the commission shall count the ballots aloud. All items that are not election ballots of the established form shall be set aside and not counted. In the event of doubt, the commission shall decide by a vote whether or not an item is an election ballot of the established form. In this process, each member of the commission shall have the right to receive and personally inspect the item; the tallying of the election ballots shall be halted for the time that this takes.

The items shall be packaged. The package shall be marked "Items," and the number of the territorial electoral district, the number of the election precinct, and the date and time shall be indicated on the package, and the chairman and secretary of the precinct electoral commission shall place their signatures on the package and the stamp of the commission.

7. The commission shall count the total number of election ballots and establish the number of voters who took part in the voting. This number shall be announced and entered in the report.

8. After tallying all the election ballots, the commission shall sort the ballots. A designated member of the commission shall sort the election ballots into separate piles, showing each ballot to all the members of the commission and reading aloud the content of the ballot. Depending on the content of the ballots, the ballots shall be sorted into those that are invalid, those cast against all the candidates, and those cast for each candidate. Should a doubt arise regarding the content of a ballot, the commission shall decide the matter by a vote. Each member of the commission shall have the right to receive and personally inspect the ballot. While this is taking place, the sorting of the ballots shall halt. The places for the piles of sorted election ballots shall be marked with cards labeled on both sides: "invalid," "against all candidates," and with the names of the candidates.

9. The following election ballots shall be considered invalid: ballots that do not bear the stamp of the precinct electoral commission, ballots that do not bear the signature of the member of the precinct electoral commission who issued them, ballots on which more than one mark has been made opposite the names of the candidates, as well as ballots on which no mark has been made or on which the expression of the voter's will cannot be clearly determined. In cases where there is doubt about the validity of an election ballot, such a ballot shall be considered invalid exclusively by the decision of the precinct electoral commission. Each member of the commission shall have the right to receive and inspect personally the election ballot in question. While this is taking place, the tallying of the ballots shall halt.

10. The established number of invalid ballots shall be announced and entered in the report, and the invalid ballots shall be packaged. The package shall be marked "Invalid Ballots," and the number of the territorial electoral district, the number of the election precinct, the number of election ballots in the package, and the date and time shall be indicated on the package, and the chairman and secretary of the precinct electoral commission shall place their signatures on the package and the stamp of the commission.

11. While the commission is tallying the votes cast for each candidate, each member of the commission shall have the right to verify, and, if necessary, recount the number of election ballots cast for each

candidate. After this, the election ballots cast "for" each candidate for the office of president of Ukraine shall be packaged separately and sealed, and the surname and initials of the candidate shall be indicated on the package, as well as the number of the territorial electoral district, the number of the election precinct, the number of election ballots in the package, the date and time, and chairman and secretary of the precinct electoral commission shall place their signatures on the package and the stamp of the commission.

12. The election ballots on which voters did not support any candidate shall also be packaged in a separate package bearing the appropriate label, the date, and the number of election ballots contained in the package. The package shall be signed by the chairman and secretary of the precinct electoral commission and sealed with the commission's stamp.

13. The precinct electoral commission shall draw up a report which shall contain:

- 1) the total number of voters included on the list of voters at the election precinct;
- 2) the number of election ballots received for the precinct;
- 3) the number of unused ballots;
- 4) the number of voters who received election ballots;
- 5) the number of voters who voted;
- 6) the number of election ballots declared invalid;
- 7) the number of votes cast for each candidate;
- 8) the number of votes cast by voters that were not in support of any candidate.

14. The tallying of the votes cast by voters shall be conducted by the precinct electoral commission without interruption until the report of the results of the voting is signed.

Writing the report on the results of the voting in pencil or making any corrections in it are prohibited.

15. The report of a precinct electoral commissions shall be drawn up in four copies, which shall be signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, and members of the precinct electoral commission who took part in the meeting, and shall be sealed by a stamp. Entered opposite the names of commission members who were not present shall be the reason for their absence. Appended to the report shall be the dissenting opinions of members of the commission presented in writing, written statements and complaints that were received concerning the vote tally, and the decisions adopted by the commission after considering the latter. The first and second copies of the report, together with the packages of election ballots and detachable stubs, shall immediately be sent to the territorial electoral commission, the third copy shall be kept by the secretary of the precinct electoral commission, and the fourth shall immediately be displayed in the premises of the precinct electoral commission to make this information known to the general public. Official observers and the authorized representatives of the candidates have the right to sign the first copy of the report of the precinct electoral commission.

The first copy of the report of the precinct electoral commissions formed at Ukraine's representations abroad, after being transmitted by fax, shall be sent together with the packages of election ballots and detachable stubs to the Central Electoral Commission.

At the request of candidates or their authorized representatives, or of official observers present at the meeting of the commission, copies of

the report shall be given to them immediately after it has been signed.

16. The documents specified in the paragraph fifteen of this article shall be transported and handed over to the territorial electoral commission by the chairman of the precinct electoral commission or his deputy and two members of the relevant commission accompanied by an internal affairs official. The said chairman and commission members must be representatives of different political parties (blocs).

Opening the packages containing the election ballots during transport is prohibited.

17. The reports and other documents of precinct electoral commissions shall be turned over at a meeting of the relevant territorial electoral commission.

#### Article 44. Establishing the results of the balloting in territorial electoral districts

1. Based on the reports of the precinct electoral commissions, the territorial electoral commission at its meeting shall establish:

- 1) the total number of voters in the electoral district;
- 2) the number of election ballots received by the election precincts in the district;
- 3) the number of unused election ballots in the district;
- 4) the number of voters who received election ballots;
- 5) the number of voters who took part in the voting;
- 6) the number of election ballots declared invalid;
- 7) the number of votes cast for each candidate;
- 8) the number of voters who did not support any candidate.

2. From the moment that polling concludes, the territorial electoral commission shall announce an uninterrupted meeting until the results of the balloting in the territorial electoral district are established, and the report is signed. During this period, the members of the territorial electoral commission may not be required to perform other functions, except take part in the meeting of the commission.

3. The report of a precinct electoral commission shall be announced at the meeting of the territorial electoral commission immediately after the arrival of the representatives of the precinct electoral commission. Only after this has been done, the report shall be submitted, if necessary, for processing by the computerized system. After all the reports have been announced, the members of the territorial electoral commission shall be given a final tally, which after being discussed and approved by the commission, shall be entered into the report.

4. The report of the territorial electoral commission shall be drawn up in three copies, which shall be signed by the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, and members of the territorial electoral commission who took part in the meeting, and shall be sealed by the stamp of the territorial electoral commission. Entered opposite the names of members of the commission who were not present shall be the reason for their absence. The information indicated in paragraph one of this article shall be entered in the report. Appended to the report shall be the dissenting opinions of members of the territorial electoral commission presented in writing, written statements and complaints that were received by the commission, and the decisions adopted by the commission after considering the latter. The first copy of the report, together with the reports of all precinct electoral commissions, shall immediately be sent to the Central Electoral Commission and transmitted by fax, the second copy shall be kept by the secretary of the territorial electoral commission,

and the third copy shall immediately be displayed in the premises of the territorial electoral commission to make this information known to the general public.

5. At the request of the candidates, their authorized representatives, or official observers present at the meeting of the commission, copies of the report shall be given them immediately after it has been signed.

#### Article 45. Establishing the results of the election of the president of Ukraine

1. On the basis of the reports of territorial electoral commissions and the reports of the precinct electoral commissions formed at Ukraine's representations abroad, the Central Electoral Commission shall, not later than within five days after the day of the election, establish the results of the election of the president of Ukraine in the one national single-seat electoral district and draw up the appropriate report. The report shall indicate:

- 1) the total number of voters in the one national single-seat electoral district;
- 2) the number of election ballots printed;
- 3) the number of unused election ballots;
- 4) the number of voters who received election ballots;
- 5) the number of voters who cast ballots in the election;
- 6) the number of election ballots declared invalid;
- 7) the number of votes cast for each candidate;
- 8) the number of votes cast by voters who did not support any candidate;
- 9) the name of the candidate elected president of Ukraine in accordance with this Law.

2. In the event that it is not possible to determine the candidate elected president of Ukraine on the basis of the results of the balloting, the Central Electoral Commission shall adopt a decision to conduct a runoff and shall enter this in the report.

3. In the event that the election of the president of Ukraine is declared invalid in accordance with this Law by the Central Electoral Commission, the Central Electoral Commission shall adopt a decision to request the Supreme Council of Ukraine to schedule a repeat election and shall enter this in the report.

4. An election shall be declared invalid if all the candidates for the office of president of Ukraine have withdrawn.

5. The candidate who receives more than half of the votes cast by the voters who took part in the election shall be elected president of Ukraine.

6. The announcement of the results of the election of the president of Ukraine shall be published by the Central Electoral Commission in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uryadovyy Kuryer not later than on the third day after the report about the results of the election has been signed.

#### Article 46. Runoff

1. If more than two candidates were included on the election ballot and none of them received more than half the votes cast by voters who took part in the election, the Central Electoral Commission shall schedule a runoff in the election of the president of Ukraine between the two candidates who received the largest number of votes, not counting the candidates who withdrew from the race after the first round of voting. In the event that one of the candidates in the runoff has withdrawn

from the race not later than within seven days before the day of the voting, the Central Electoral Commission shall adopt a decision to include on the election ballot the candidate with the next largest number of votes cast in his favor. If the candidate withdrew later than the indicated deadline, or if there are no other candidates, the balloting shall be conducted with one candidate standing.

2. The runoff shall be held in compliance with the requirements of this Law not later than within two weeks after the day of the election of the president of Ukraine. The date of the runoff shall be published in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uryadovyy Kuryer and announced in other mass media.

3. The candidate who in the runoff received more votes cast by voters who take part in the election than the other candidate shall be elected president of Ukraine. If the runoff was held with only one candidate standing, the candidate shall be deemed elected president of Ukraine if he received more than half of the votes cast by the voters who took part in the election.

4. A runoff shall be considered as such that makes it impossible to determine which candidate was elected president of Ukraine, if as the result of the runoff, both candidates who ran for office received the same number of votes, or if only one candidate ran for office and that candidate failed to receive more than half of the votes cast by the voters who took part in the election.

#### Article 47. Repeat election

1. If only two candidates for the office of president of Ukraine ran in the election for the office of president of Ukraine and neither was elected, as well as if all the candidates for the office of president of Ukraine withdrew from the race before the day of the election, the Central Electoral Commission, not later than on the twentieth day after the results of the election have been established, shall apply to the Supreme Council of Ukraine to schedule a repeat election of the president of Ukraine.

2. Nominations and the registration of candidates for the office of president of Ukraine and other measures in conjunction with a repeat election of the president of Ukraine shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure established by this Law. By the decision of the Central Electoral Commission, the election may be conducted by the previously formed territorial and precinct electoral commissions for the election of the president of Ukraine.

3. The announcement regarding the holding of repeat election of the president of Ukraine shall be published in the newspapers Holos Ukrayiny and Uryadovyy Kuryer and in other mass media.

#### Article 48. Special features of conducting early elections of the president of Ukraine

Early elections of the president of Ukraine shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure and the period of time established by this Law, taking into account the following special features:

- 1) the election shall be held in the single national electoral district and in the territorial electoral district and election precincts formed in the preceding election of the president of Ukraine;
- 2) the nominations of candidates to territorial electoral commissions shall be submitted not later than on the fifth day after the scheduling of the election;
- 3) the nomination of contenders to stand as candidates shall begin 85

- days and end 75 days before the day of the election;
- 4) the collection of signatures in support of contenders to stand as candidates shall begin after their registration by the Central Electoral Commission and shall end 40 days before the day of the election;
  - 5) the registration of candidates shall end 30 days before the day of the election;
  - 6) the campaign posters of the candidates shall be printed not later than 15 days before the day of the election.

Article 49. Assuming the powers of the president of Ukraine

1. The newly elected president of Ukraine shall assume office not later than thirty days after the official announcement of the results of the election, from the moment that he or she takes the oath to the people at a ceremonial session of the Supreme Council of Ukraine.
2. After the newly elected president of Ukraine has taken the oath, the Central Electoral Commission shall issue him or her a certificate confirming his or her status as president of Ukraine.

#### Section 8. CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

Article 50. Liability for violating election legislation

1. Persons who through violence, deception, threats, bribes, or other means impeded the free exercise by a citizen of Ukraine of his right to elect and be elected, to conduct an election campaign, as well as the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary, or members of electoral commissions, officials or employees of state government bodies, local self-government bodies, or associations of citizens, who have forged election documents, deliberately gave an incorrect tally of votes, violated the secrecy of the ballot, or committed any other violation of this Law, shall be liable as established by the law.
2. Persons who have published or disseminated by any other means information about a candidate which they have known to be false shall also be held liable.

Article 51. Storage of election documents

1. After the official publication of the results of the voting and the results of the election, the Central Electoral Commission shall turn over the election documentation to the relevant central state archival institution, and the territorial and precinct electoral commissions - to the relevant local state archival institutions.
2. The list of election documents that are subject to safekeeping in state archival institutions shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission.
3. Election ballots and lists of voters shall be stored for five years in local state archival institutions, after which they shall be destroyed in accordance with the prescribed procedure.
4. State archival institutions shall provide access to the election documents from the election of the president of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Ukraine.

#### Section 9. FINAL PROVISIONS

1. This Law shall enter into force on the day of its official publication.
2. As of the day on which this Law enters into force, the Law of Ukraine On the Election of the President of Ukraine (Vidomosti Verkhovnoyi Rady URSR, 1991, No. 33, p. 448; Vidomosti Verkhovnoyi Rady Ukrayiny, 1994, No. 8, p. 40, No. 33, p. 298) and the Decree of the Supreme Council of Ukraine of 13 July 1994 On the Implementation of the Laws of Ukraine On the Election of People's Deputies of Ukraine, On the

Election of the President of Ukraine, On the Election of Deputies and Chairmen of Village, Town, Rayon, City, City District, and Oblast Councils (Vidomosti Verkhovnoyi Rady Ukrayiny, 1994, No. 33, p. 310) shall be declared invalid.

[Signed] President of Ukraine L. Kuchma

Kiev, 5 March 1999

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In accordance with the Rules of the Proceedings of the Supreme Council, laws and other acts published in Holos Ukrayiny are deemed to constitute official publication.

[End Editorial Note]

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