



Memorandum of Understanding

between the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Moldova and the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan

The Central Election Commission of the Republic of Moldova and the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan (hereinafter – the Parties),

reaffirming support to democratic process in our countries and generally recognized democratic standards, related to human rights and fundamental freedoms,

being convinced that free elections and referenda based on ensuring of constitutional rights and freedoms of citizens, implementation of norms of election law are the most important elements of democratic reforms,

seeking to deepen and develop cooperation in the field of legislation on elections and referenda, application of modern information systems and technologies as well as on other electoral matters,

realizing that cooperation will facilitate further development of relations between two states,

have agreed on the following:

Article 1

Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be held on the basis of equality of rights and respect of interests, compliance with the national legislation of each Party as well as agreements concluded between them.

Article 2

The Parties shall develop cooperation in the following areas:

exchange of experience on coordination of activities of the bodies, which ensure organization of preparation and conduct of elections and referenda;

improvement of national legislation on elections and referenda;

ensuring the implementation and protection of constitutional electoral rights of citizens;

improvement of financial and logistical support for elections and referenda as well as to candidates and political parties in the electoral process;

ensuring the rights of election process stakeholders during election campaigning via mass media;

improvement of legal culture of stakeholders of the election process and referenda, improvement of training of election and referendum organizers;

application of modern information technologies and voter registration systems during conduct of elections and referenda.

Article 3

The Cooperation of the Parties shall be implemented in the following forms:

exchange of results of research studies and development, legislative acts on elections and referenda;

mutual exchange of information and learning experience of each other;

organization of seminars, scientific practical conferences and other joint activities on topics of mutual interest;

sending the representatives to observe preparation and conduct of elections and referenda.

Article 4

In the field of improving the national legislation on elections and referenda the Parties shall exchange experience in the following issues:

ensuring conduct of free and fair elections and referenda;

improvement of conduct and organization of elections and referenda;
ensuring implementation of rights and duties of election process stakeholders;

improvement of the certain institutes of electoral law;

improvement of legal norms on accountability for violation of legislation on elections and referenda;

compliance with international standards of legislation on elections and referenda as well as the practical activity of election commissions;

exchange of legislative and regulatory materials in the field of elections and referenda, including those published in Russian and English.

Article 5

In the field of implementation and protection of constitutional electoral rights of citizens the Parties shall provide:

exchange of experiences regarding the forms and the methods of implementation and protection of constitutional electoral rights of citizens;

exchange of methodological, analytical and information materials.

Article 6

In the field of financial and logistical support for elections and referenda the Parties shall exchange experiences in the following issues:

ensuring the procedure of planning, allocation and use of the state budget means;

organization of monitoring of the appropriate use of the state budget means;

reporting on the use of state budget means by election commissions and other election process stakeholders;

ensuring control over the sources of funding, accounting and spending of the means from the election funds of candidates and political parties.

Article 7

In the field of ensuring the rights of election process stakeholders during election campaign the Parties shall exchange experience in the following issues:

improvement of forms of election campaigning;

ensuring implementation of rights and responsibilities of election process stakeholders during election campaign;

ensuring control on compliance with the norms of legislation on elections and referenda, determining the order of election campaign and application of sanctions for its violation;

powers and duties of election commissions, bodies of local self-government and executive bodies on the organization and provision of conditions for election campaigning.

Article 8

In the field of improvement of legal culture of stakeholders of elections and referenda, improvement of training for election and referendum organizers the Parties shall provide:

exchange of methodological, analytical, information and reference materials;

exchange of experiences in production and use of printed and audiovisual materials, covering various aspects of election process and referenda.

Article 9

1. The Parties may implement joint developments to improve their activities in the order established by separate agreements concluded between them.

2. Legal information shall be provided free of charge in Russian and English languages via information and communication systems.

Article 10

The Parties shall agree that cooperation can be extended to other areas relating to elections and referendums. In this regard this Memorandum of Understanding can be amended upon consent of both Parties.

Article 11

1. The Parties shall consider exchange of experience in issues of organization and conduct of elections and referendums as necessary and useful. To do this, under this Memorandum of Understanding the Parties shall agree to regularly exchange delegations and specialists.

2. The Party, sending specialists, shall cover the costs associated with their travel and stay. According to this Memorandum of Understanding the persons, who are in the territory of the receiving Party, must be insured for illness and accidents at the expense of and according to the national legislation of the sending Party.

3. The Parties shall agree additionally on the composition of delegations, time and program of each travel to exchange experience.

Article 12

The Parties shall solve by direct negotiations all disputes arising in connection with interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Article 13

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect since the day of its signing and shall be valid for three years. Upon expiration of the above mentioned period and if there is no written objection of any of the Parties, the Memorandum of Understanding shall be automatically extended to the next three years.

2. Each Party shall have the right to terminate in written the validity of this Memorandum of Understanding before expiration of the period, for which it was concluded. In this case the Memorandum of Understanding shall be considered as terminated upon expiration of forty-five days since the day of receipt of such notification.

Signed in the city of Chisinau, Republic of Moldova on 16 May 2013 in two copies, each in the Romanian, Kazakh and English languages, all texts being equally valid.

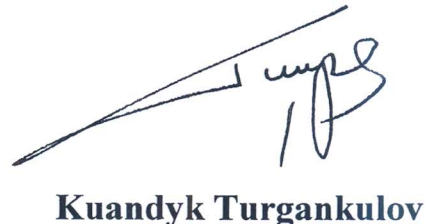
In case of controversy in the interpretation of provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding the English text shall prevail.

**On behalf of the Central Election
Commission of the Republic of
Moldova**



Iurie Ciocan

**On behalf of the Central Election
Commission of the Republic of
Kazakhstan**



Kuandyk Turgankulov