

**MEASURES TO ENSURE FREE AND FAIR
ELECTIONS ACCORDING TO THE
PROVISIONS OF THE BULGARIAN
LEGISLATION. BEST PRACTICES.**

THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

I. Ensuring transparency and accountability of the work of election management bodies – CEC, Constituency EC / Municipal EC, Section EC

1. Transparency in the appointment of CEC. Procedure.



2. Transparency in the work of CEC:

- ▶ Meetings broadcast online
- ▶ Publication of video archive
- ▶ Publication of full verbatim
- ▶ Possibility for media, observers, election agents, representatives to attend the meetings of CEC
- ▶ Publication of the decisions of CEC
- ▶ Publication of the telephone numbers of the members of CEC
- ▶ Possibility for media, observers, election agents, representatives to be present at the reporting of the election results by CEC



3. Best practices. Feedback.

I. Ensuring transparency and accountability of the work of election management bodies – CEC, Constituency EC / Municipal EC, Section EC

4. Transparency in the work of Constituency EC / Municipal EC

- ▶ Possibility for media, observers, election agents, representatives to attend the meetings of Constituency EC / Municipal EC;
- ▶ Publication of the decisions of Constituency EC, of communications, contacts, public registers in the website of Constituency EC / Municipal EC;
- ▶ Possibility for media, observers, candidates, election agents, representatives to be present at the reporting of the election results.



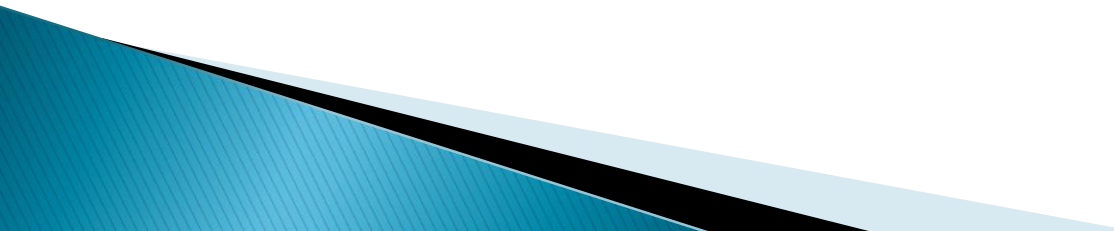
5. Transparency in the work of Section EC

- ▶ Participants at the opening and throughout the election day and at the reporting of the results



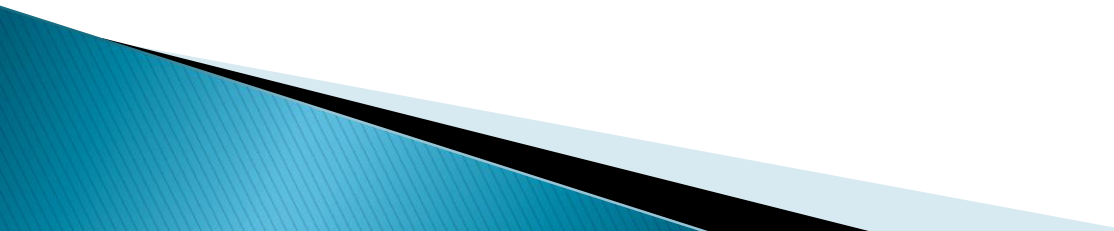
6. Public Council at CEC

II. Division of functions between the bodies at the national, the regional and the local level. Coordination procedures. Checks and balances

- 1.Election commissions and other national, regional and local bodies. Functions.**
 - 2.Coordination procedures, coordination and checks and balances.**
 - 3.Training of Constituency EC/Municipal EC and Section EC.**
 - 4.Joint activities – seminars and meetings.**
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III. Challenging.

Judicial review of the decisions of CEC.

- 1. Challenging the decisions of Section EC, Constituency EC/Municipal EC.**
 - 2. Appealability of the decisions of CEC.**
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IV. Enabling every voter to vote

1. Common rules for setting up polling stations



2. Polling stations in remote settlements, at medical treatment facilities, assisted-living facilities..., prisons and detention centres, on board navigation vessels flying the Bulgarian flag



3. Voting by school and university students



4. Mobile polling station and other voting options for people with disabilities

5. Voting abroad



6. Non-resident voting certificates



V. Awareness-raising campaign regarding citizens' rights

1. Campaign in the electronic media – audio, audio-visual clips



2. Brochures and leaflets. Distribution



3. Addressing first-time voters



4. Campaign for people with disabilities



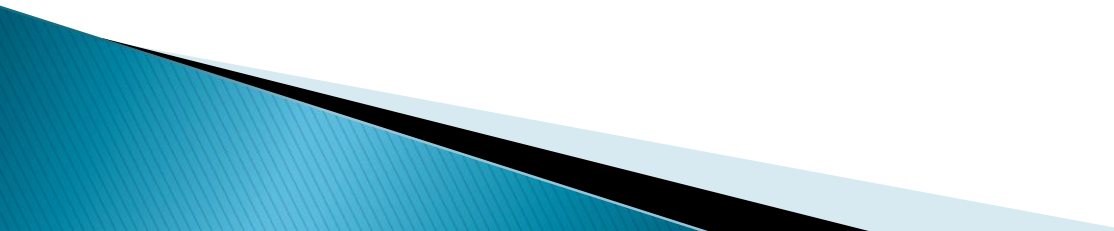
5. Campaign for voters abroad



6. Briefings and interviews



7. CEC website



VI. Legislation streamlining mechanism

The legislator has provided that after the elections CEC shall make an analysis thereof and file with the National Assembly proposals for streamlining the election legislation based on the accumulated experience. The previous experience shows that the parliament takes account of the proposals which CEC makes in this field.