



On approval of the Rules and Conditions for Campaign Debates

Unofficial translation

Resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated August 25, 2018 № 12/198. Registered in the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan on September 26, 2018 № 17434.

Unofficial translation

In compliance with article 28, paragraph 3, of the Constitutional Law of 28 September 1995 On Elections in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan **HEREBY RESOLVES:**

1. That the attached Rules and Conditions for Campaign Debates.
2. The Department of Organizational and Legal Support of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan shall ensure:
 - 1) the state registration of this resolution with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
 - 2) within ten calendar days from the date of the state registration with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan of this resolution, the direction hereof in the Kazakh and Russian languages to Republican State Enterprise on the Right of Economic Management "Republican Center of Legal Information" of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan for official publication and inclusion in the Reference Control Bank of Regulatory Legal Acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
 - 3) Placement of this resolution on the Internet site of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan after its official publication.
3. This resolution shall come into effect from the date of its first official publication.

*Acting Chairman of
the Central Election Commission
of the Republic of Kazakhstan*

K. Petrov

*Acting Secretary of
the Central Election Commission
of the Republic of Kazakhstan*

B. Meldeshov

"AGREED"

Minister of Information and Communication
of the Republic of Kazakhstan

_____ D. Abayev

"__" _____ 2018

Approved
by Resolution of the Central
Election Commission

Rules and conditions for holding pre-election debates

Footnote. The Rules in the wording of the resolution of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated 29.12.2022 No. 139/644 (shall enter into force from 01.01.2023).

Chapter 1. General provisions

1. These Rules and conditions for holding pre-election debates have been developed in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 28 of the Constitutional Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On elections in the Republic of Kazakhstan" (hereinafter referred to as the Constitutional Law) and shall determine the procedure and conditions for holding pre-election debates (hereinafter referred to as debates) of candidates for the President, political parties that nominated party lists of candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhats of the Republic of Kazakhstan, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament, candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis and maslikhats in single-seat territorial constituencies, candidates for akims.

2. Candidates for the President, political parties that have nominated party lists of candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis shall be eligible to participate in pre-election debates organized by the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan (hereinafter referred to as the Central Election Commission).

3. Political parties that have nominated party lists of candidates for deputies of maslikhats, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament, as well as candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis of the Parliament and maslikhats in single-seat territorial constituencies, candidates for akims may participate in pre-election debates, which are entitled in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 28 of the Constitutional Law organize relevant territorial election commissions.

Chapter 2. Conditions for the pre-election debates

4. Within five calendar days from the moment of the decision to hold debates, the Central Election Commission shall determine the format and notify about the date, time and place of holding the debates the candidates for the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, political parties that have nominated party lists of candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis.

5. The Territorial election commission shall, within five calendar days from the date of the decision to hold the debate, determine the format and notify them in writing about the date, time and place of the debate of the political parties that nominated:

- 1) party lists of candidates for deputies of maslikhats;
- 2) candidates in single-seat territorial constituencies for deputies of maslikhats;

3) candidates for akims.

6. The Central Election Commission for territorial election commissions, within three calendar days from the date of the decision to hold debates among candidates in single-seat territorial constituencies for deputies of the Mazhilis of the Parliament, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament, shall determine the general unified format for holding debates and notify them.

Territorial election commissions, within two calendar days from the date of receipt from the Central Election Commission of the format for holding debates for candidates in single-seat territorial constituencies for deputies of the Mazhilis of the Parliament, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament, shall notify political parties in writing of the date, time, place, format of the debates

7. In the format of holding debates on television, TV channels shall provide their airtime on television to registered candidates for the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, for akims, candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhat, nominated on the party lists of political parties, candidates for single-mandate territorial constituencies for deputies of the Mazhilis Parliament and maslikhats, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament, for debates on a contractual basis with the Central Election Commission or the relevant election commission, indicating the date, time, place and rules for holding debates.

8. TV channels, in accordance with the agreement, shall reserve airtime for debates by candidates for the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, for akims, for deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhats, from political parties that have nominated party lists, candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis of the Parliament and maslikhats in single-mandate territorial constituencies, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament. The amount of airtime for candidates' speeches must be the same.

9. The list of participants, persons present during debates on television shall be approved by the Central Election Commission or the relevant territorial election commission.

10. Election commissions, together with local executive bodies and local self-government bodies, shall determine the premises for holding debates.

The premises must be equipped with audio and video devices for broadcasting television and radio programs, as well as connected to the Internet (if available) for online broadcasting of debates.

11. Electoral commissions shall determine the moderator for holding public debates.

12. Electoral commissions shall conduct media coverage of ongoing debates.

Chapter 3. Procedure for holding pre-election debates

13. The order of the candidates' speech shall be set by lot.

14. The host shall ensure compliance with the rules for holding debates agreed with the Central Election Commission or the relevant territorial election commission.

15. Debate Host shall:

not violate the rules for conducting pre-election debates in candidates;

controls the time of speeches of candidates for President, for akims, for deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhats from political parties that nominated party lists of candidates, candidates for single-member territorial constituencies for deputies of the Mazhilis of the Parliament and maslikhats, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament, unless otherwise provided by the regulations their holding, or if this is not due to the end of time;

not favor any of the candidates, political parties or comment on their speeches.

16. Candidates for President, akims, deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhats nominated by political parties, candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis of the Parliament and maslikhats in single-seat territorial constituencies, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament shall:

comply with the rules of the debate;

debate within the framework of ethical standards, abstain and do not allow offensive, knowingly false, degrading statements against other candidates, political parties, their members, as well as discrimination against representatives of other political parties;

not allow propaganda and agitation of a violent change in the constitutional system, violation of the integrity of the Republic of Kazakhstan, undermining the security of the state, inciting social, racial, national, religious, class and family strife, the cult of cruelty and violence, as well as the creation of paramilitary groups not provided for by law;

fulfilling reasonable requirements of the host.

17. During the debates, candidates for President, akims, candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhats nominated by political parties, candidates for single-mandate territorial constituencies for deputies of the Mazhilis of Parliament and maslikhats, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament, as well as other persons present shall not be allowed to interrupt the speeches of candidates, as well as accompany them with any comments.

18. Candidates for President, akims, political parties that have nominated party lists of candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhats, candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis of the Parliament and maslikhats in single-seat territorial constituencies, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament may refuse to participate in debates.

19. In case of non-participation of candidates for President, akims, political parties that nominated party lists of candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhats, candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis of Parliament and maslikhats in single-seat territorial constituencies, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament, time for debates intended for a given candidate, party, shall be distributed equally among the other participants in the debates.

20. The language of the debate: Kazakh and Russian.

21. Recordings of debates of candidates for President, akims, political parties that nominated party lists of candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis and (or) maslikhats,

candidates for deputies of the Mazhilis of Parliament and maslikhats in single-seat territorial constituencies, candidates for deputies of the Senate of the Parliament in accordance with paragraph 2 articles 16 of the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On the Mass Media" shall be stored for at least six months from the date of the last recording on TV channels.

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