



**THE CIVIC COALITION FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS
PROMO-LEX**

REPORT No 3

Monitoring of the General Local Elections of 14 (28) June 2015

Monitoring period: 21 May - 10 June 2015

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the Coalition for Free and Fair Elections, Promo-LEX is performing the long-term monitoring of the election period related to the general local elections of 14 June 2015. This report covers the election period between 30 April and 20 May 2015 and reflects the findings of electoral nature together with the corresponding legal framework, which were reported by Promo-LEX observers. Regarding the financial statements of the election contestants, these were compared against the observers' field findings for 8 May - 5 June 2015, determining the differences between the data.

During the monitored period the Central Electoral Commission (CEC) had an ordinary working regime. CEC worked on the voters lists, has accredited 878 more national observers, among which 687 on behalf of Promo-LEX and 80 international observers, and has also analyzed / made a statement regarding 12 litigations. During the reference period, with some minor delays, the management of the electoral offices of the polling stations (EOPS) was elected. The logistics of the polling stations (PS) remains a major issue. The observers have reported the organization of 33 trainings for the electoral officials. However, the large number of the electoral officials, in particular of those delegated by the political parties, which did not attend the trainings remains a concern.

The Promo-LEX observers have determined several cases of increasing the number of voters registered on the lists of voters in at least 8 level I ECC, including the registration of several persons at the residence of the electoral candidates. This fact represents a major concern regarding the fairness of the local elections in the respective constituencies.

Promo-LEX Observation Mission concluded that 10 parties, 1 electoral block and 10 independent candidates have organized various electioneering activities. Compared to the previous reporting period, Promo-LEX determined a considerable growth in the number of electioneering activities. The election candidates used the traditional launching of election campaigns, meetings with voters, electoral concerts, distribution of electoral advertising, outdoor and media advertising, organization of sports activities, electoral tents, etc.

Another concern are the instances when administrative resources were used, as reported by Promo-LEX observers, during the reference period, being identified 39 cases. From the beginning of the observation mission, Promo-LEX determined the existence of a total number of 61 cases of administrative resources use, which is by 19 cases more compared to the 2011 elections. According to the observers, at least 42 cases when the election candidates used electoral presents were reported. From the launching of the Mission, a total number of 51 cases of offering electoral presents were observed, compared to 2011, when Promo-LEX identified 99 cases.

The civil society's involvement became more visible during this period. At least 8 organizations organized public debates, civic and electoral education campaigns, thematic workshops.

The local and regional mass-media performance was moderate; the observers reported that only 9 newspapers and 4 local and regional TV stations were involved in the promotion campaign of some electoral candidates.

Regarding the financial statements of the election candidates, Promo-LEX found that compared to the Parliamentary Elections of 30 November 2014, the non-reported expenses were lower in the electoral campaign for the general local elections of 14 (28) June 2015.

Regarding the financial statements, 16 election candidates submitted their statements to CEC, and 15 of them reported revenues and expenses. Only 1554 citizens contributed with MDL 36,881,143.06 to the electoral campaign funds of the parties and electoral blocks. The financial sources marked as "membership fees" are still not clear. The election candidates - political parties and electoral blocks -

reported to CEC a total amount of MDL 51,555,645.25. According to Promo-LEX, 388 independent candidates submitted notifications that they didn't use any financial, 78 submitted financial statements, and 42 declared the total revenues of MDL 358.323 to the electoral councils of the 2nd level electoral constituencies (ECEC II). The political parties and the electoral blocks reported most of their expenses - 76% for electoral advertising. At the same time, no political party or electoral block reported any rewards as expenses. The largest expenses were reported by PDM - MDL 17,304,667.32, accounting for 29.21% of the threshold set by CEC. In the Orhei constituency, during the reference period, the electoral candidate representing MSPR Ravnopravie spent the reported amount of MDL 2,488,559.39. Comparatively, this amount is 4.56 times larger than the regular amount that can be spent by an independent candidate (IC) for the entire electoral campaign in the Orhei constituency.

FINDINGS

1. ELECTORAL BODIES

CEC Decisions

During the reporting period, CEC adopted 2 decisions on the regulation of the electoral process.

Thus, CEC approved the sample ballot paper for the councilor's election in the Comrat Municipal Council, the Territorial-Administrative Unit Gagauzia (TAUG), determining the format/type/colour of the ballot papers.

CEC decided that the voters from Chitcani com. (Merenesti v. and Zahorna v.), Cremenciug v. and Gasca v., Causeni d., where balloting stations electoral offices have not been established due to the absence of Local Public Administration (LPA), to participate at least in the election of the District Council. Thus, the voters from the Chitcani com. and from Cremenciug v. will vote at the polling station No 23 from Copanca v., and voters from Gasca v. will vote at the polling station No 27 from Farladeni v. At the same time, CEC decided to relocate polling station No 3 from Corjova com., Dubasari d. inside the Family Doctors Office from Cocieri v., Dubăsari d.

Temporary Suspension of the Websites Administered by CEC

On 29 May 2015, the National Center for the Protection of Personal Data (NCPPD), based on a complaint submitted by a citizen back in 2013, decided to start an unannounced control at CEC in order to investigate some alleged actions of illegal processing of personal data. According to the electoral legislation, CEC is the only public authority responsible for the drafting of the lists of voters, which contain data that are classified as personal data. Likewise, starting with 2013, CEC submitted to the Parliament a request to clarify the legislation on the use of personal data in the electoral process. The CEC requests have been never examined. As a result of this, on 30 May 2015, CEC was forced to suspend indeterminably the websites it manages (www.cec.md, www.voteaza.md, www.alegator.md). On the same day, the websites managed by CEC were activated back.

Complaints reviewed by CEC

According to the official website, during the reporting period, CEC reviewed 12 complaints from the election candidates, of which 2 were fully admitted, 3 were partially admitted, 3 were rejected as unfounded and 4 were returned for further examination.

CEC makes sure that the complaints are reviewed according to the adversarial principle. Hence, both the party that submitted the complaint, and the party concerned may submit references and evidence against the complaints.

Complaints were submitted by PDM – 1 case, BE PPEM - 1 case, PPCNM – 2 cases, SPRM - 4 cases, PLDM – 4 cases.

Complaints regarding the annulment of decisions issued by ECC II were submitted as well (Chisinau mun. – 6 cases, Anenii Noi – 1 case, Hincesti - 2 cases, Ungheni - 1 case, Cantemir - 1 case), of which some were annulled fully (Chisinau – 1 case, Anenii Noi - 1 case) or partially (Chisinau - 2 cases). A complaint was submitted concerning the annulment of the decision of ECC I (Saiti v., Causeni d.), which was returned without being examined, because it was submitted to the inappropriate body.

The object of complaints was the infringement of the legal provisions concerning the placement of the electoral posters – 2 cases (Chisinau), registration of candidates – 5 cases (Saiti v., Causeni d., Anenii Noi, Ungheni – 1 case each, Hincesti – 2 cases), the organization of meetings - 1 case (Chisinau), the use of administrative resources - 1 case (Chisinau), failure to suspend from the office - 2 cases (Soroca, Cantemir), the consent to penal prosecution - 1 case (Chisinau).

Existing Gaps regarding Voting Based on the Voting Right Certificate

According to Article 39(7) of the Electoral Code, if the voter changes his/her domicile or residence in the period between the date when the lists of voters were prepared and the election day, the electoral bureau of the respective polling station, at the voter's request and upon presentation of his/her passport or some other form of identification, shall issue a voting right certificate. This legal provision represents an obligation or an additional filter to prevent the “migration” of voters from one constituency to another, in the immediate period close to the election day. So far neither the Parliament, nor CEC have offered explanations regarding the implementation of the respective norm.

The current situation enables the electoral frauds of influencing the elections results by intentionally increasing the voter’s number on the lists of voters. According to the Promo-LEX observers’ findings, in some constituencies from Chisinau mun. Cases when several persons were registered under the same address in a period close to the elections were identified. In particular, on the date when the lists of voters were prepared, the lists of voters from ECEC 1/7 from Bacioi included 9862 voters. On 8 June 2015 the lists of voters from Bacioi v. included already 10.089 voters; by 227 persons more than before. Of these persons, at least 117 were temporarily registered at the residence of some PDM electoral candidates. This fact was confirmed by the Population Evidence and Documentation Bureau from Botanica sector, Chisinau mun. On the hand, according to Article 30(b) of the Electoral Code, the Electoral Office of the Polling Station (EOPS) issues voting right certificates to the voters, who are not present at their residence address on the elections day. According to point 29 of the CEC Regulation on the preparation, management, transmission and updating of the lists of voters for local elections, only the EOPS members, based on the voting right certificate, will be able to vote in the respective PS.

Thus, on one side the voting right of the voters, who have changed their residence during the period between the preparation of the lists of voters and the elections date (at least 22 days before the elections day) is not regulated accordingly, and on the other side it is not regulated for those voters, who on the elections day will work (doctors, police officers, fire workers, etc.) outside of the polling station, but who have their residence in the respective constituency.

Election of the Managing Bodies of EOPS

According to Article 29(12) of the Electoral Code, within 2 days since the EOPS establishment date, its members shall elect the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Secretary of the bureau. According to the legal provisions and the CEC program, the management bodies of EOPS had to be elected until 21 May 2015, inclusively.

According to the reports of the Promo-LEX observers, the EOPS management bodies were elected as follows:

- 1 day delay - in at least 73 cases of 9 ECC II (Cantemir - 7 EOPS, Chisinau mun. - 35 EOPS, Criuleni - 8 EOPS, Dubasari – 2 EOPS, Edinet – 8 EOPS, Falesti - 2 EOPS, Hincesti – 1 EOPS, Nisporeni – 2 EOPS, Singerei – 8 EOPS);
- 2 days delay - at least 7 cases from 3 ECC II (Cahul and Causeni – 1 EOPS each, Chisinau – 5 EOPS);
- 4 days delay - at least 64 cases from 10 ECC II (Causeni, Ialoveni, Rezina, Telenesti and UTAG - 1 EOPS each, Chisinau – 42 EOPS, Drochia - 3 EOPS, Leova – 4 EOPS, Singerei – 7 EOPS, Taraclia – 3 EOPS);
- 5 and more days delay - at least 12 cases from 2 ECC II (Chisinau – 10 EOPS, Stefan Voda – 2 EOPS).

Changes/Completion to the Nominal Structure of Level-Two ECCs

The nominal structure of the electoral councils was changed in 9 ECC II. These changes were requested by CEC (Riscani), the political parties (PL- Riscani, PDM - Chisinau, Causeni, Drochia, PSRM-Edinet, Causeni, Cahul, Rezina, PLDM-Criuleni and Causeni).

Changes to the Nominal Structure of Level-One ECCs

Promo-LEX observers found that the nominal structure of at least 35 level-one ECCs was changed.

These changes were made due to the refusal of the electoral officials to continue their activity (5 cases), kinship relations with the candidates (6 cases), certain connections with the candidates (7 cases), incompatibility due to holding office in both ECC and EOPS (1 case), due to the registration of the electoral official as a candidate (5 cases), due to the failure to perform the work duties (1 case), at the initiative of political parties (13 cases: PLDM - 1 case, PCRM - 4 cases, RFE - 2 cases, PDM - 3 cases, PSRM - 2 cases, Partidul Nostru - 1 case).

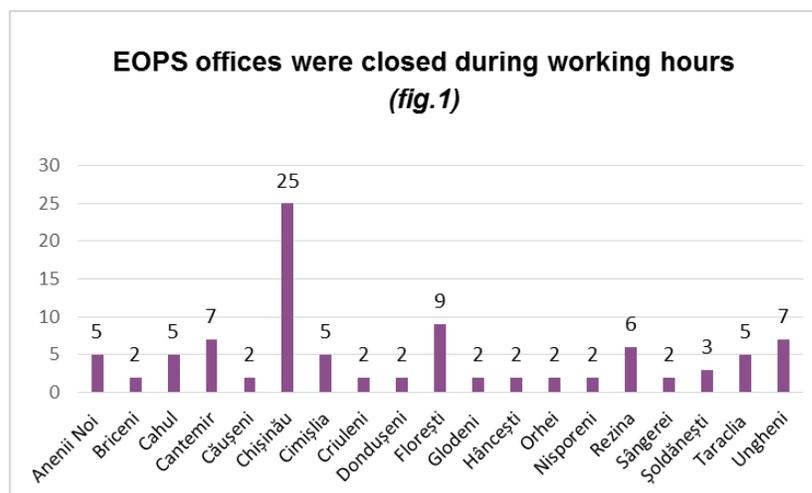
Changes to the Nominal Structure of EOPS

Promo-LEX observers found that the nominal structure of at least 30 EOPS from 13 district constituencies was changed. These changes were made due to the refusal of the electoral officials to continue their activity (3 cases), kinship relations with the candidates (10 cases), certain connections with the candidates (5 cases), registration of the electoral official as a candidate (1 case), at the initiative of CEC (5 cases), at the initiative of local public administration (LPA), at the initiative of political parties (17 cases: PLDM - 2 cases, PCRM - 6 cases, RFE - 2 cases, PDM - 1 case, PSRM - 1 case, PL - 7 cases).

Working Hours of the Lower Levels Electoral Bodies

According to p. 29 of the CEC Regulation on the Activity of EOPS, the office hours of the EOPS members are determined by the bureau by approving a schedule which takes into account the free time of the voters.

During the visits at the EOPS offices, between 09.00 - 19.00, the Promo-LEX observers registered in 19 electoral constituencies at least 95 cases when the EOPS offices were closed (*Figure 1*).



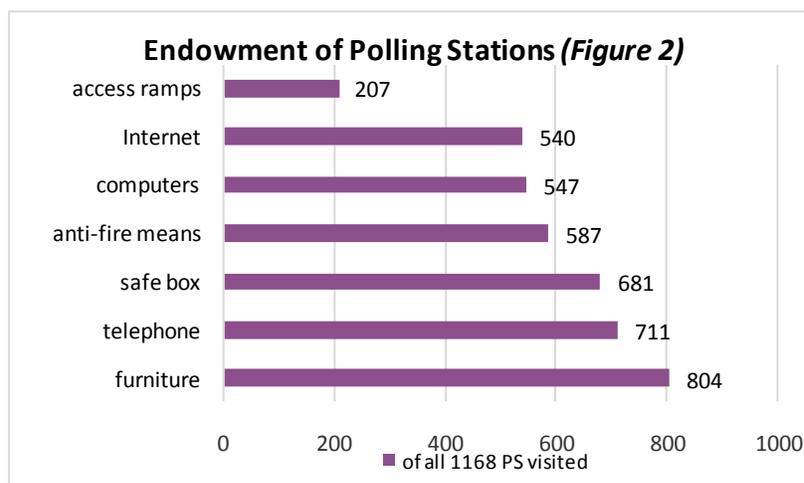
In addition, on 10 June 2015, between 3.00 pm and 5.00 pm, the Promo-LEX observers contacted by telephone 212 polling stations sampled throughout the whole territory of the Republic of Moldova. The polling stations were selected, starting with PS No 1, by applying the counting step of 10. During the telephone verification, 136 PS did not answer the phone, which accounts for 64 % of the total number of PS included in the verification. In spite of reporting similar errors during the parliamentary elections of 30 November 2014 (63 % or 133 cases) and in the previous report, Promo-LEX Association found that the same error was repeated at the general local elections of 14 (28) June 2015.

Logistical Arrangements for the Lower Electoral Bodies

According to points 5, 7 of the CEC Guidelines on Enabling the Polling Station Infrastructure, when deciding on the venue of the polling station, the ground floor spaces will be preferred, placed in publicly accessible places, in a way which would facilitate the access of elderly people and of those with disabilities; the buildings where voting spaces are set up must have telecommunication, electronic, and electricity networks, lavatories, fire safety measures, and evacuation mark guides.

Promo-LEX observers visited 1168 polling stations during the reporting period and concluded that the equipment of the polling stations represented a major issue (*Figure 2*).

The main causes of insufficient equipment of the polling stations during the reporting period were the impossibility of the LPA to secure the security of the polling stations in other days than on the elections day, as well as the use of the polling stations spaces according to their primary usage. An exceptional case was identified in Etulia v., UTAG, where after the rainfall in June the polling station has lost the roof.



At the same time, during the telephone verification mentioned above, of the 76 polling stations that answered the calls (of a total of contacted 212 polling stations), 64 confirmed having Internet connection.

Lists of Voters

In accordance with the CEC Regulation on the Preparation, Management, Dissemination and Updating of the Lists Of Voters, the lists of voters, prepared according to the State Register of Voters (SRV) must contain the information about the name and surname and year of birth of the voter, the residence of the voter, the personal identification number, series and number of the identification document. In the case of communes, the lists of voters are prepared for each v. and, upon need, for each street; and in the case of cities and municipalities - by streets and apartment blocks. The lists, which are sealed and also ensured with some other signs of protection, are submitted to the LPA.

According to the Promo-LEX observers, in 17 cases (2 EOPS from Anenii Noi d., 1 EOPS from Basarabasca d., 11 EOPS from Chisinau mun., 1 EOPS from Falesti d., 2 EOPS from UTAG) the lists of voters did not contain information about the domicile/residence of the voters. In at least 25 cases the lists of voters contained irregularities linked to the introduction on the lists of voters of persons with the domicile/residence in a different locality, the lack from the lists of the persons domiciled in the respective locality, the erroneous indication of the streets, and the double registration of the voters names. In 2 cases (EOSP 49 and 66 from Chisinau) one page from the voters lists was not sealed.

These findings, viewed from the perspective of the presumed “migration” of the persons on the lists of voters on the eve of the elections, raise important concerns about the fairness of the upcoming elections in the respective constituencies. Thus, Promo-LEX identified an increase in the number of voters on the lists of voters in at least 8 level-one ECC from Chisinau mun. compared to the Parliamentary Elections of 30 November 2014 (see the table below).

Table 1. Lists of Voters in the Parliamentary Elections of 30 November 2015 and 14 June 2015

	Level-one ECC	Codru	Cricova	Durlesti	Vadul lui Voda	Bacioi	Bubuieci	Truseni	Ghidighici
Lists of voters	14.06.2015	12506	7046	18018	4720	10089	7068	7440	6775
	30.11.2014	11150	6986	17805	4501	9993	6869	7234	4370
the difference		1356	60	213	219	96	199	206	2405

Also, the observers found at least 10 cases when the lists of voters were kept either at the residence of the EOPS presidents, or in poorly secured places (EOPS 49 Cahul, EOPS 15 Causeni, EOPS 40 Cimislia, EOPS 34 Criuleni, EOPS 38 Falesti, EOPS 13, 15, 21, 41 and 42, Taraclia).

The timetable approved by CEC for the organization and implementation of the general local elections of 14 June 2015 does not stipulate the dates of SRV testing. However, as revealed by the telephone verification of the EOPS activity of 10 June 2015, the Promo-LEX observers determined that in 54 of the 76 polling stations that answered the phone (of the 212 contacted polling stations), the SRV testing has been carried out.

Voters’ Access to the Lists of Voters

According to Article 40(1) of the Electoral Code, the lists of voters shall be made available in the PS premises 20 days before the election day. According to the CEC Timetable, on 25 May 2015, EOPS were supposed to make the lists of voters available to the public, at the request of citizens who have this right, on the basis of his/her ID card. As the lists of voters have personal data, they should be processed taking into account the requirements for personal data protection.

During the reporting period, Promo-LEX observers found that at least 19 EOPS made the lists of voters available to the public with a delay of 1 day, 11 EOPS - with a delay of 2 days, 15 EOPS - with a delay of 3 or more days. At least 2 EOPS did not ensure protection of personal data (EOPS 15 of Hincesti and EOPS 41 of Leova), displaying the lists of voters on information panels.

On the other hand, by virtue of conflictual interpretation of the legislation by CEC and NCPPD, immediate legislative interventions are necessary in order to clarify the boundaries for personal data protection and ensure the transparency of and access to lists of voters.

Complaints Reviewed by Level-One ECCs, Level-Two ECCs, and EOPS

During the reporting period, Promo-LEX observers found that 17 complaints were filed to/reviewed by 9 ECC II (Basarabasca, Chisinau, Hincesti, Drochia, Glodeni, Donduseni, Cantemir, Rezina, Balti), of which 2 were admitted fully, 2 were admitted partially, 9 were rejected as not justified, 3 were returned without any review, and 1 was submitted to the relevant competent body.

Thus, complaints were submitted by PDM – 1 case, PSRM - 5 cases, PCRM – 1 case, PL- 2 cases, PPPVE - 1 case, independent candidates - 5 cases, PLDM - 1 case, as well as a complaint was submitted jointly by 7 electoral candidates (PSRM, BE PPEM, PP PN, and three independent candidates). Complaints were submitted against PL (4 cases), PLDM – (4 cases), PCRM (1 case), PSRM – (2 cases), PDM (3 cases).

The object of the complaints consisted in the violation of the legal provisions regarding the electoral advertising without appropriate insignia - 3 cases (Chisinau, Glodeni); use of state symbols for the electoral advertising - 1 case (Chisinau), placement of electoral posters - 3 cases (Chisinau, Glodeni, Balti), candidate registration - 5 cases (Chisinau, Donduseni, Cantemir, Rezina), use of administrative resources - 4 cases (Basarabasca, Hincesti, Cantemir), failure to suspend from office - 1 case (Hincesti).

Promo-LEX observers found that at least 19 complaints were filed to/reviewed by 13 ECC I (Cirpesti v., Toceni v., Visnioanca v. Cantemir d.; Petresti v. Ungheni d.; Lipoveni v. Cimislia d.; Dubasarii Vechi v. Dubasari d.; Piscaresti v. Rezina d.; Bulboaca v. Anenii Noi d.; Sarata Noua v. Leova d.; Ungheni; Codru t. Chisinau mun.; Elizaveta v., Sadovoe v. Balti mun.; Izvoare v. Falesti d.), of which 4 were admitted, 14 were rejected as unjustified, and 1 was under examination. Thus, complaints were submitted by the BE PPEM (1 case), IC (1 case), PPRM (1 case), PLDM (2 cases), PL (2 cases), PDM (4 cases), PSRM (3 cases), PCRM (5 cases).

The complaints were referring to the following election candidates: PL (1 case), PCRM (1 case), PP PN (1 case), PSRM (1 case), IC (2 cases), PDM (3 cases), PLDM (8 cases).

The object of the complaints consisted in the violation of the legal provisions regarding the placement of electoral posters (7 cases), distribution of calumnious electoral advertising, including without the appropriate insignia (1 case), candidate registration (1 case), organization of meetings (1 case), use of administrative resources (3 cases), failure to suspend from office (3 cases), electoral presents (1 case), use of personal data (1 case), kinship relations of EOPS members with the candidates (1 case).

Involvement of Election Bodies Members in Political Activities

According to Article 32(7) of the Electoral Code, council members cannot engage in political activities to support any of the election candidates; cannot be affiliated with any of them; cannot provide financial support by any other means, directly or indirectly, to any election candidate.

During the reporting period, Promo-LEX identified 3 cases of electoral officials' involvement in political activities. Thus, one ECC I member from Tabani v., Briceni d. organized electioneering activities in support of a candidate running for mayor's office and distributed electoral flyers. The president of the EOPS No 13 from Basarabasca distributed monetary donations of MDL 1000 to various persons that were supposed to organize electioneering activities in favour of PDM, and the meetings of ECC I Baurci Moldoveni Cahul d. are organized in the mayor's office, where a PDM flag and a calendar bearing the symbols of the party are present.

Electoral Training

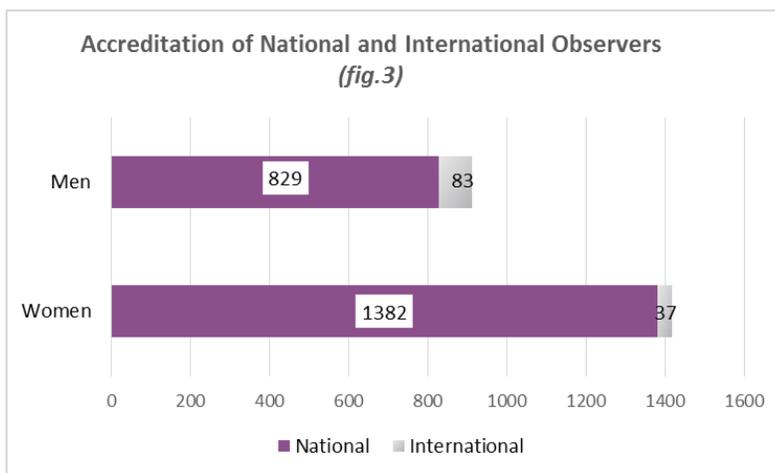
The Promo-LEX observers reported about 33 trainings organized by the Ongoing Training Centre on Electoral Matters (OTCEM), attended by 1400 electoral officials in 17 ECC II (Ialoveni, Stefan Voda, Cimislia, Hincesti, Basarabasca, Causeni, Ungheni, Cahul, Rezina, Soroca, Straseni, Chisinau, Comrat, Drochia, Briceni, Dubasari, Calarasi). At the same time, during 26-29 May 2015, OTCEM organized a number of trainings for the representatives of election candidates that have the right to consultative vote.

During the telephone verification explained above, in 2 of the 76 polling stations that answered the calls (of a total of 212 contacted polling stations) OTCEM did not train any of the EOPS members. In the other 74 cases, at least 2 members of the EOPS participated in the OTCEM trainings.

Accreditation of National and International Observers

During 20 May - 10 June 2015, 958 observers were accredited, among which:

- 878 national observers, of which 687 are from Promo-LEX, 10 from the East Europe Foundation of Moldova, 21 from the Legal Support for Persons with Disabilities NGO, 6 from the US Embassy in Moldova, 20 from the Ongoing Training Centre on Electoral Matters of CEC, 92 from "The Institute for the Protection of Fundamental Human Rights and Liberties" NGO, 36 from "Motivation" NGO from Moldova, 3 from United Nations Development Program (UNDP), 3 from the EU Delegation in the Republic of Moldova;
- 80 international observers: 5 from the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), 1 from the Georgian Electoral Systems Development, Reforms and Training Center, 5 from the Pro Democracy Association Club from Tirgu Neamt, 23 from the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, 1 from the Belarus Embassy in the Republic of Moldova, 10 from the US Embassy in the Republic of Moldova, 5 from the Russian Federation Embassy in the



Republic of Moldova, 3 from the EU Delegation in the Republic of Moldova, 21 from the “International Elections Study Center” from Lithuania, 6 from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Out of the total number of 2211 CEC accredited national observers, 829 (37.5%) are men and 1382 (62.5%) are women. Out of the total number of accredited international observers (120 persons), 83 (69%) are men and 37 (31%) are women.

Awareness Raising Campaigns

For the local elections of 14 June 2015, CEC developed educational advertising spots in order to educate the civic responsibility of the voters, including 10 video spots with the caption “I vote therefore I am”. Since 5 June 2015, the OTCEM team has organized the campaign “I vote therefore I am”. In Calarasi, Hincesti, Chisinau, Balti, Cahul, CEC placed the banner “I vote therefore I am”. Also, CEC issued the voters’ guide and the observer’s guide.

2. CIVIL SOCIETY

According to the Promo-LEX observers, during the reporting period 17 public debates of the election candidates, 2 civic education campaigns and 1 thematic workshop were organized. 13 debates were organized by Promo-LEX Association, 1 - by the Independent Press Association, 5 - by the Pilgrim Demo Association, 1 - by the Alliance of Access to Information and Training Community Centres of Moldova, 1 - by “Pro-Europa” NGO, 1- by the independent newspapers “Observatorul de Nord”, 3 - by the Hanns Seidel Foundation. Civic education campaigns were organized by the Alliance of Access to Information and Training Community Centres of Moldova in Basarabeasca t. and by IDIS “VIITORUL” in 11 settlements from the Northern region of the country and in 3 towns from ATUG.

As part of the “GO TO VOTE” campaign Promo-LEX Association launched three video spots with the caption “Everyone looks good during the electoral campaign” in order to promote and encourage informed and conscientious voting at the local elections of the Moldovan voters.

Criminal Case

On 21.05.2015, the General Prosecutor’s Office initiated a criminal case on the offence of corrupting voters by the guilty persons from the electronic platform www.alegerimoldova.com, for the committed offence of promotion and buying of the citizens’ votes, an offence envisaged in Article 181¹ of the Criminal Code.

3. LOCAL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Polling Stations Location

According to Article 35(6) of the Electoral Code, the public authorities shall provide to electoral councils and offices the premises and equipment they need in order to organize, conduct and summarize the results of elections.

According to Promo-LEX observers, in 43 cases from 18 ECC II the EOPS offices will have a different location than at the Parliamentary Elections 2014 (Anenii Noi - 2 PS, Cahul - 5 PS, Criuleni - 2 PS, Ialoveny city - 1 PS, Leova - 5 PS, Chisinau - 3 PS, Nisporeni - 1 PS, Singerei - 3 PS, Soroca - 2 PS, Taraclia - 2 PS, ATUG - 3 PS, Rezina - 2 PS, Ungheni - 4 PS, Ocnita - 2 PS,

Florești - 3 PS, Cantemir - 1 PS, Hincesti - 1 PS, Cimișlia - 1 PS). One of the reasons for this change was the unavailability of the locations because exams are organized in the respective educational institutions on the elections day, as well as due to the fact that some of the previously used locations are currently used by ECC I

Provision of Minimum Space for Electoral Posters and Venues for Meetings with Voters

According to Article 47(7) of the Electoral Code, local public authorities must establish, within 3 days since the initiation of the election period, the minimum number of places for electoral posters, these decisions being made public and displayed immediately at the office of these authorities.

Promo-LEX observers found that until 22 May 2015, at least 5 LPAs (Cainari t., Causeni d.; Cimiseni v., Criuleni d.; Ciocilteni v., Orhei d.; Cusnirca v., Soldanesti d.; Nimoreni v., Ialoveni d.) have not adopted the decisions regarding the set up of places for electoral posters and the locations of the meetings with the voters. Until 22 May 2015 at least 9 LPAs (Cainari t., Causeni d.; Cimiseni v., Criuleni d.; Ciocilteni v., Orhei d.; Cusnirca v., Soldanesti d.; Nimoreni v., Ialoveni d.; Rosita v., Taraclia d.; Mălcăuți v., Soroaca d.; Craciun v., Cantemir d.; Petresti v., Ungheni d.) did not arrange any places for posters.

According to Promo-LEX observers, 16 LPAs took the decision to offer the venues for meetings with voters for a fee. The lowest fees for the rental of venues were set by the PLA from Petresti v., Ungheni d. - 13 MDL per hour. The highest fees, as reported by the observers, were set by the PLA from Carpineni v., Hincesti d. - 800 MDL per hour.

Limitations of the Candidates' Right to Organize Meetings

Upon the request of PP PN to organize on 31 May 2015 a concert in the Central Square from Drochia, LPA issued an order to prohibit organizing the concert and rented the same venue to an economic operator for installing entertainment devices for children. PP PN brought the case to the court of law, which annulled the PLA order and acknowledged the right of the election candidate to organize the concert.

4. ELECTIONS CANDIDATES

Use of Administrative Resources

According to Article 47(6) of the Electoral Code, candidates cannot use public means and property (administrative resources) during election campaigns, and public authorities/institutions and those similar to them cannot give to election contestants any public property or other support unless they conclude contracts in this regard, on an equal basis for all election candidates.

Use of the Government Means of Transport

During the reporting period, Promo-LEX observers identified at least 12 cases of using Government means of transport for electoral purposes. In the electoral campaign the following election candidates used the Government vehicle: BE PPEM - in at least 4 cases (Sirma v., Leova d., Causeni t. and Cainari t. from Causeni d.); PSRM - in at least 4 cases (Cahul t., Otaci t., Taraclia t., Stoianovca v. from Cantemir d.); PCRМ at least in 1 case (Tarigrad v., Drochia d.) and PLDM - 1 case (Rascaieti com., Stefan Voda d.).

Use of Public Positions

According to Article 5 (2) of the Civil Servant's Code of Conduct, the civil servant is prohibited to use the administrative resources to support election contestants, to post symbols or objects on which

the logo or name of political parties or of their candidates are written on, or to engage in propaganda for any of the candidates.

Promo-LEX observers identified at least 16 cases of public position misuse by at least 4 election candidates.

During the reporting period signs of the administrative resources use were detected, in particular the representation of PLDM at CEC during office hours by Sergiu Gurduza - Deputy Minister of Justice. On 29 May 2015 in Cahul t., Loreta Handrabura - Deputy Minister of Education, under the pretext of a business trip, had a meeting with teachers, electioneering for the PLDM candidates.

During the reporting period, in Chisinau 4 cases of organizing electioneering actions in favour of PSRM were noticed, during the working hours of the employees/ public servants of the following institutions: State University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Nicolae Testemitanu”, Theoretical High School N.M. Spataru, Neurology Institute, Kindergarten No 38.

In two cases from Chisinau the employees/public servants organized electioneering actions during office hours in favour of PL in the following institutions: kindergarten No 199, the Public Medical - Sanitary Institute “the Clinical Traumatology and Orthopedic Hospital”.

In 7 cases the employees/public servants organized electioneering actions during office hours in favour of PLDM in the following institutions: Hospital No 3 Chisinau mun., Grammar School from Hulboaca v., Râșcani d., the kindergarten from Slobozia Mare v., Cahul d., the High School from Scoreni v., Straseni d., Pelinei com. from Cahul d., Crasnoarmeiscoe v. from Hincesti d., Criuleni.

In one case the employees/public servants organized electioneering actions in favour of PDM during classes at the “Perspectiva INT” University from Chisinau mun.

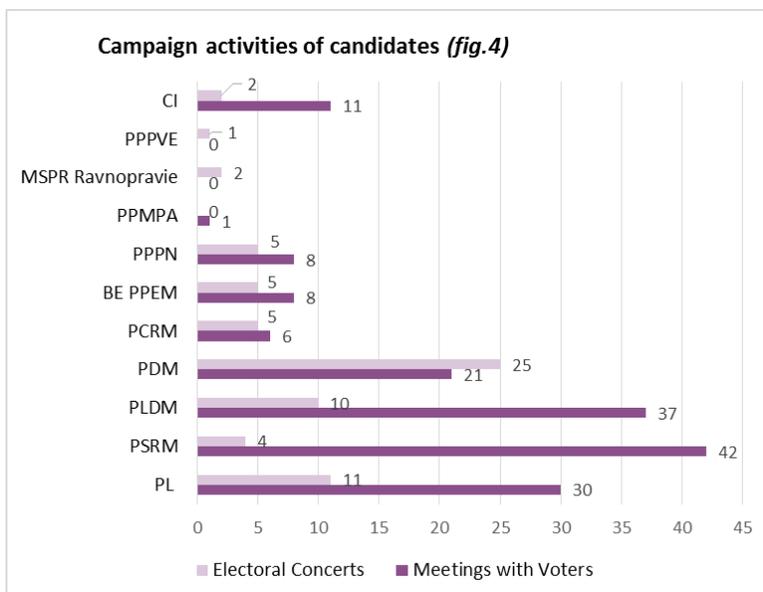
Performance of Job Duties by Candidates Suspended from their Positions

In 10 constituencies Promo-LEX observers found at least 11 cases when the suspended candidates continued performing their duties. During the reporting period, being suspended from office, PDM candidates continued to perform their duties in 4 cases (Slobozia Dusca com., Criuleni d., Albota de Sus com., Taraclia d., Farladeni v., Hincesti d., Cuizauca v., Rezina d., the PLDM candidates - in 2 cases (Criuleni t., Rascaietii com. from Stefan Voda d.), PCRPM candidates - in 2 cases (Donduseni t., Ocnita), independent candidates - 3 cases (Cotelea v., Briceni d., Lebedenco v., Cahul d., Comrat t.).

Electioneering

Meetings with Voters

According to the Promo-LEX observers, the following candidates organized at least 164 electoral meetings: PL - in 14 settlements, SPRM - in 20 settlements, PPMPA - 1 settlement, PLDM in 18 settlements, PDM - in 21 settlements, PCRPM - in 6 settlements, BE PPEM - in 8 settlements, PPPN - in 3 settlements. In addition, in 8 settlements 9 independent candidates for the mayors function have organized meetings with the voters, and 1 independent candidate for the municipal councillor



- 1 meeting.

Electoral Concerts

Promo-LEX observers found that at least 70 electoral concerts had been organized by the following candidates: PL - 11 concerts in 10 settlements, PSRM - 4 concerts in 4 settlements, PPPN - 5 concerts in 4 settlements, PLDM - 10 concerts in 10 settlements, PDM - 25 concerts in 24 settlements, PCRM - 5 concerts in 5 settlements, BE PPEM - 5 concerts in 5 settlements, MSPR Ravnopravie - 2 concerts in 1 settlement, PPPVE - 1 concert, 2 independent candidates for the mayor's function - in 2 settlements.

Performances

According to Promo-LEX observers, during the reporting period electoral performances were organized by the following candidates: PDM - 7 Performances in 7 settlements; PLDM - 2 Performances in 2 settlements; PCRM - 1 performance, MSPR Ravnopravie - 1 performance, PL - 6 performances in 4 settlements, SPRM - 1 performance.

Dancing parties

During the reporting period, PDM organized dancing parties in Medveja com., Briceni d. and in Pervomaiscoe com., Hincesti d., PLDM - in Costaglia v., Cantemir d.

Entertainment for Children

Promo-LEX observers reported that PDM had organized entertainment activities for children in Causeni t. and in Falesti t., while PLDM in Criuleni t. and in Hulboaca v., Chisinau mun.

Launches of Electoral Campaigns

According to Promo-LEX observers, during the reporting period, 8 election campaigns launchings took place in 7 settlements. The electoral campaigns of the following election candidates were launched: PLDM (Chisinau mun., Cocieri com., Dubasari d., BE PPEM (Stauceni com., Chisinau mun., Cahul t.), PDM (2 events in Nisporeni t.), MSPR Ravnopraavie (Orhei t.), IC Toma Iurie (Ungheni t.).

Free Legal Support and Health Care

PDM launched the program "The Mayoralty of your family" in Chisinau mun. Under the program 2 lawyers offer free legal support upon request. The support is provided by telephone and face to face. In Cricova, Chisinau mun., during the event "The Sight Caravan", PDM offered free medical diagnostic to 520 persons.

Sports Activities of Electoral Nature

The following election candidates carried out sports activities of electoral nature in at least 10 settlements during the reporting period: PLDM organized sports competitions in Tataresti v., Straseni d., a cycling competition in Stăuceni com., Chisinau mun., a football game in Pelinei v., Cahul d., a free wrestling competition in Causeni t. During the same period, PP PN organized a football game in Riscani t.; PDM organized a free wrestling competition in Darcauti v., Soroca d. and sports competitions in Rublenita v., Soroca d.; PSRM organized a football game in Cucoara v., Cahul d.; PCRM organized the opening of the spots season in Dubasarii Vechi v., Criuleni d., and the independent candidate Cebotari Alexandru organized the opening of the sports season in Coteala v., Briceni d.

Installation of Topographic Designations Panels

On 1 June 2015, a metal panel with the name of the locality “HULB OACA”, painted in the PP PN colours, was installed at the entrance into the Hulboaca com., Chisinau mun.

Anti-Smoking Campaigns

On 30 May 2015, BE PPEM organized in Chisinau the campaign “I exchange an apple for cigarettes”.

Inauguration of Objects for Social Purposes

During the reporting period, at least 3 election candidates participated in the inauguration of objects serving social purposes in at least 3 settlements. In Inserlia com., Basarabeasca d., PDM participated in the event of installing protection pillars on a playground, PLDM - in the launching of the Health Center from Cioara v., Hincesti d., PL - at the inauguration of the monument built in memoriam for the communist totalitarian regime victims in Bujor v., Hincesti d.

“Door-to-door” Activities

PDM organized “door-to-door” actions in 10 settlements from Drochia, Donduseni, Vulcănești, Ialoveni, Chisinau, Leova, Hincesti, Cahul, Cantemir constituencies, SPRM - in 3 settlements, PL - 4 settlements, PLDM in 12 settlements, PCRPM - in 5 settlements, BE PPEM - in 1 settlement, PPPN - in 3 settlements.

Sanitation Activities

PLDM organized sanitation activities in Stauceni com., PPPVE in Truseni com., Chisinau mun., and 2 independent candidates - in Cotelea v. Briceni d.

Protests

In Chisinau mun., the PPDA representatives organized a protest in front of the CMC secretary’s house.

Electoral Marches

During the reporting period, 7 election candidates (PPPN, PDM, PLDM, PL, PPPVE, PNL, PSRM) organized car, pedestrian and cycling electoral marches in 10 settlements: Chisinau mun., Ialoveni t., Cahul t., Riscani t., Causeni t., Truseni com., Chisinau mun.; Singerei d. (Vranesti, Iezarenii Vechi, and Ciuciuieni v.), Glodeni t.

Electoral Tents

Promo-LEX observers identified that electoral tents with electoral advertising were set up in at least 11 settlements, belonging to the following election candidates: PL - Chisinau city and Ialoveni t.; PSRM - Chisinau city, Vulcanesti city, Cahul t., Riscani t., Leova t., Cimislia; BE PPEM - Chisinau city and Gratiesti com., Chisinau city; PDM - Chisinau city and Drochia t.; PLDM - Stauceni com.; Chisinau mun., Chisinau city, Riscani t.; PCRPM - Chisinau mun.

Distribution of Promotion Materials

Promo-LEX observers reported that the election candidates had distributed promotional materials (11 political parties and 7 independent candidates). Thus, in 41 settlements PSRM distributed the “Socialistul” (“The Socialists”) newspapers, electoral posters and brochures of the electoral candidates running for mayor, and in 20 settlements - of the candidates running for council. PL distributed flyers in 9 settlements, PDM – newspapers, flyers in 15 settlements and in Chisinau mun. they distributed bags containing newspapers / brochures and a letter from the candidate, PLDM - the „Stejarul” (“Oak”) newspaper, flyers - in 12 settlements and brochures - in 2 settlements, PP PN – the newspaper „Puterea e în adevăr” (“Truth is the Strength”) and flyers in 20 settlements, PPRM -

the newspaper „Mărul” (“The Apple”) and flyers in 5 settlements, PCRМ - the newspaper “Comunistul” (“The communist”), calendars and flyers in 15 settlements and brochures in one locality, BE PPEM - flyers and brochures - in 7 settlements, PPMPA flyers in one locality, PPPVE - flyers in one locality, PPCNM flyers in one locality. In 7 settlements flyers and posters of independent candidates were distributed.

Outdoor Advertising

Promo-LEX observers identified outdoor advertising supporting the election candidates and the findings are presented below:

Table 2. Outdoor Advertising

Election candidates	Number of LED boards - Number	Number of street posters - Number of settlements	Number of banners - Number of settlements	Number of City-Lights - Number of settlements	Posters - Number of settlements	Advertising in unauthorized places - No. of settlements
PDM	1-1	38-8	9-6	6-1	12	25
PLDM		58-13	23-8	1-1	11	3
PCRМ		11-5	10-2	8-1	9	8
PSRM		13-7	12-6	12-1	5	20
PL	1-1	37-6	16-9		7	3
PPPН	1-1	41-12	4-4	32 -1	3	10
BE PPEM	2-2	30-9	13-6	2-1		2
PP PN		5-1		4-1		
MSPRR		6-1			1	
PPRM			1-1		2	2
PPP Renaştere					1	
PPMPA			1-1		1	1
PNL		3-1			3	1
PPPVE			2-1		1	
PPM					1	
IC in Cahul N. Dandes		4	10			
IC for the Local		1				

Council of Causeni - A. Repesciuc						
IC local council Causeni - V. Repesciuc Veaceaslav		1				
IC for mayor of Drochia - V. Calaras		1				1
IC for mayor of Drochia - V. Josanu			1		1	
IC for the local council of Durlesti, Chisinau - M. Olari			3			
IC for mayor/local council of Durlesti - D. Gudu		1				
IC for the Local Council of Donduseni - I. Răilean			1			
IC for the Municipal Council of Chisinau - M. Severovan		5				
IC for the municipal council of Chişinău - I. Dron					4	

In Riscani t., Truseni com., Chisinau mun., Chisinau city, and Cahul t. 13 cases of using public transportation for posting electoral posters of an electoral candidate were identified, as follows: PSRM - 1 case, PCRM - 2 cases, PPRM – 3 cases, PPPN - 3 cases, PL - 2 cases, PLDM - 1 case, PDM - 1 case.

Printed Advertising Materials without Appropriate Signs

According to Article 64¹ (6) of the Electoral Code, each and every advertising material must include the name of the electoral candidate, date of printing, number of copies and name of the printing

house that printed it.

In 14 settlements the Promo-LEX observers identified 20 cases of advertising materials distribution without containing the mandatory signs on behalf of 11 election candidates, as follows: PL in the constituencies of Chisinau, Cahul, Dochia; PLDM – Chisinau; PPRM – Criuleni, Chisinau; PDM – Chisinau, Ialoveni; PCRМ – Drochia, Ialoveni, Făleşti; PPPN – Chisinau; BEPPEM – Ialoveni; PPPVE – Chisinau; IC running for the district council, Vladimir Calaras – Drochia; IC running for mayor’s office A.Todoseiciuc – Hincesti, IC running for mayor’s office, I. Axentii - Cantemir.

Use of Prohibited Symbols

According to Article 47 (6¹) of the Electoral Code, the use for electoral purposes of images that represent state institutions or public authorities both in the Republic of Moldova and abroad, as well as international organization, is prohibited. The combinations of colors and/or sounds that invoke national symbols of the Republic of Moldova or any other state, use of materials with historical personalities of the Republic of Moldova or from abroad, symbols of other foreign countries or international organizations, or the image of some foreign officials is prohibited. To this end, 4 cases of prohibited symbols use were identified. In Causeni t., during a meeting of the BE PPEM candidate with voters 100 EU flags were given away. In Orhei t. during the concert organized by MSPR Ravnopravie the flags of the State of Israel were used. On 2 street panels the PNL candidate, running for mayor’s office in Hincesti t., can be seen with the national flag in the background. During the PPPN march from Chisinau, RM flags were used.

Involvement of the Church in the Election Campaign

Promo-LEX observers reported 5 cases of involvement of the church in the election campaign. Icons, with a congratulatory message from PLDM on the reverse side, were distributed as electioneering materials in Donduseni d. The PDM candidate, A. Mereanu, organized the transportation of several inhabitants of Iordanovca v., Basarabasca d. to the Sadaclia monastery. In Truseni com., Chisinau mun., several posters of the PLDM candidate running for mayor’s office, Lilian Andries, were placed showing him next to the priest Andrei Secrii, with the latter’s comments about the PLDM team. In the Crasnoarmeiskoe com., Hincesti d., the IC running for mayor’s office, Alexandru Todoseiciuc, organized meetings with the voters on the premises of the local baptist church. An article in which the Chisinau and Moldovan Metropolitan, Vladimir, is electioneering in support of the PLDM candidate running for mayor’s office in Chisinau, Serafim Urecheanu.

Electoral Presents

According to Article 38(7) of the Electoral Code, electoral candidates shall not offer voters money or presents, shall not distribute goods free of charge, including from humanitarian aid or other charity acts. According to article 181¹ of the Criminal Code, “offering or giving money, goods, services or other benefits in order to determine the voters to exert their voting rights in a certain way under the parliament and local elections or referendums shall be punished. Goods are also considered alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and food products.”

According to the information provided by Promo-LEX observers, during the monitoring period, 42 cases that can be qualified as electoral presents were registered:

- MSPR Ravnopravie - 5 reported cases, all in Orhei t. (a lottery where 10 football balls, 1 bicycle and 3 TV-sets were offered; ice cream, juice and refreshments were offered free of charge; packages containing washing powder, shampoo, tooth paste, soap were offered; unauthorized

construction works on a sports field with artificial grass; furniture, carpets, mattresses and candies were offered to kindergarten No 5 Ghiocel, and school No 3 received computers.

- PDM - 15 cases, Darcauti v., Soroca d., Causeni t. (sports prizes, a rooster and a buck), Tocuz v., Causeni d. (a dinner for 500 persons + alcohol beverages) Cricova city, Chisinau mun. (offering 450 pairs of sunglasses, 10 hearing aid devices), Medveja com., Briceni d. (monetary prizes of MDL 300, 200 and 100), Chisinau mun. (free tickets to the Zoo and Botanical Garden), Larga com., Briceni d. (candy and juices for children), Abaclia com., Basarabeasca d. (material aid for 41 citizens), Iserlia com., Basarabeasca d. (health insurance policy for one citizen), Rezina t., Causeni t., Nisporeni t., Cantemir t. (ice cream, sweets, refreshments for children), Horodiste v., Rezina d. and Cruzești v., Chisinau mun. (donation of MDL 10,000 to the local churches).
- BE PPEM in 2 cases - Stauceni com., Chisinau mun. (the organization of a lottery where 2 vacuum cleaners, 4 irons, 8 water heaters were offered), in Cahul t. (icecream for children).
- PL in 3 cases - Telenești t. (books), Durlești t., Chisinau mun. (installing 3 metal benches in the courtyards of the apartment blocks), Dubasarii Vechi v., Criuleni t. (ice cream for children).
- PCRM in 4 cases - Otaci t., Ocnita t. (monetary prizes ranging of MDL 50 to 200 - to pupils from Mihai Eminescu High School), Chisinau mun. (beauty products from Viorica Cosmetic; a lottery - the prize was a photo camera; the refurbishment of the "Valea Morilor" lake beach by bringing new sand), Dubasarii Vechi v., Criuleni d. (sports prizes - rooster, turkey and buck, a lottery where a notebook was the prize).
- PLDM in 7 cases - Tataresti v., Straseni d. (sports prizes - rooster, buck, the winners of the football and volleyball competitions received MDL 600 each), Stauceni com., Chisinau mun., Opaci v., Causeni d., Costaglia v., Cantemir d., Ocnita t., Criuleni t. (juices and ice cream for children), Hincesti t. (juice for the children of kindergarten No 3 and corn puffs bags „Cristinuța" for each child from kindergarten No 6).
- PSRM in 3 cases - Parlita v., Soroca d. (candy and biscuits for children), Gribova v., Drochia d., Larga com., Briceni d. (ice cream for children).
- IC running for mayor's office in Coteala v., Briceni d., A. Cebotari, – 1 case (monetary sports prizes ranging from MDL 50 to 100, amounting to a total sum of MDL 1.500).
- IC running for local council in Coteala v., Briceni d., V. Cebotari - 1 case (alcoholic beverages).
- IC running for mayor's office in Dubasarii Vechi v., Criuleni d., A. Antoci - 1 case (icecream, chocolate and juices for children).

Vandalism

According to Promo-LEX observers, 6 cases of election candidates' street panels vandalism were registered: in Chisinau mun. - 2 panels of PLDM, 1 panel of PPPN and 2 panels of PPCNM, in Drochia t. - 2 panels of PDM, in Riscani t. - 1 panel of PDM and in Cahul t. - 1 panel of PPPN. In Hincesti t. the panel of PNL was stolen. On 8 June 2015 a PPMPA's banner of 1.5 x 1.5 m, installed on private property on 1 V. Alecsandri St. from Gratiest com., was torn apart during the night. The case was reported to the police office. On 26 May 2015, in the Hasnasenii Mari com., Drochia d. the posters displayed by EOPS were set on fire. The case is under police investigation.

Involvement of Minors in the Election Campaign

During the reporting period, Promo-LEX observers notified at least 1 case of involving minors in the election campaign - 2 minors in Cricova t., Chisinau mun., distributed PDM flyers.

Calumnious Campaign/Messages

Promo-LEX observers identified at least 5 cases of calumnious messages. In Singerei t. some GSM subscribers received web SMS containing the following message: “Singerei, spread the word! Gheorghe Brasovschi has sabotaged the district development projects and is proud of it. And now he wants to become a mayor!”

In the Bozieni com., Hincesti d. flyers containing calumnious messages about the candidates running for mayor’s office and advising to vote for the PPPN candidate were distributed.

In Otaci t., during the meetings with voters, the PSRM representatives have used calumnious messages, while talking about the Romanian language, unionists and sexual minorities.

In Moscovei com., Cahul d. unknown persons distributed calumnious flyers against PCRM candidate running for mayor’s office.

In Cirspeti v., Cantemir d. the PLDM candidate running for mayor’s office distributed flyers containing calumnious messages about the PDM candidates running for the mayor’s office.

Intimidation of Election Candidates

In the Speia v., Anenii Noi d., the PSRM candidate running for mayor’s office, A. Popescu stated in her election program about the limited access to drinking water from the spring well managed by the spouse of the PLDM candidate running for mayor, V. Cotet. Subsequently, A. Popescu was threatened that her access to water would be stopped, unless he removed this issue from her program. On the following day, the PSRM candidate was temporarily disconnected from the water supply network on the grounds of not having paid her bill.

In the Mandac v., Drochia d., a cross and a funeral flower arrangement was placed at the gate of the PSRM candidate running for mayor’s office. The case is being investigated by the law enforcement bodies.

In Marculesti v., Floresti d., the PL election candidate asked for the permission of the interim mayor to organize a meeting with the voters. The interim mayor, T. Ciocan, has redirected him to the ECC I. The PL candidate received a verbal approval regarding the organization of the meeting in the Village Club. At the time of the meeting, the suspended mayor informed the police that the respective election candidate had violently entered the premises of the club, without having the permission to hold a meeting with the voters. All voters were escorted out of the location. The case is being investigated by the law enforcement bodies.

Intimidation of Voters

During the reporting period, 2 cases of voter’s intimidation were identified. In the Cotelea v., Briceni d., during electioneering actions, the IC running for the local council, V. Cebotari, assaulted verbally and physically A. Zaitin. The conflict was solved with the support of tertiary persons.

In the Gotesti v., Cantemir d., during the meeting of PLDM with the voters, D. Iutes accused the candidate running for mayor’s office, P. Chicicov, of illegally cutting down the trees in the Prut river meadow. On the same date, V. Munteanu, the director of the State Ecological Agency from Cahul, paid a visit to D. Iutes home address and physically attacked him. On 30 May 2015, D. Iutes submitted a complaint at the police station regarding this incident.

Criminal Cases against Election Candidates

According to Article 45(5) of the Electoral Code during the election period, the candidates cannot be prosecuted, arrested, detained or put under any other administrative sanctions without the agreement of the election body, which was in charge of their registration, except for flagrant offences. Promo-

LEX observers identified at least 1 case of criminal prosecution related to the election candidates. During the election campaign, the prosecution office of the Riscani sector, Chisinau mun., launched a criminal prosecution case against the PL candidate, A. Vantu, running for mayor's office in Boscana v., Criuleni d. On 23 May 2015, the prosecution office has requested the permission of CEC to start the criminal prosecution.

5. LOCAL AND REGIONAL MASS MEDIA

According to Article 64 (1) of the Electoral Code, in the context of reflecting elections, the radio broadcasters and the written press established by public authorities have the obligation to respect the principles of fairness, responsibility, balance and unbiasedness in all their programs.

At least in 9 regional newspapers from 11 districts contained materials that promote or defame some election candidates. 4 newspapers contained 6 articles promoting PLDM, 4 newspapers contained electoral advertising; 6 newspapers contained 9 articles promoting PDM, 1 newspaper contained a PDM defaming article; 3 newspapers contained 3 article and electoral advertising promoting PL; 2 newspapers contained 3 articles, and 1 newspaper contained electoral advertising promoting BE PPEM; 2 newspapers contained articles, and 1 newspaper contained electoral advertising promoting PSRM; each 2 newspapers contained an article promoting PCRM, and PPPN respectively; each 2 newspapers contained articles promoting 2 IC.

Promo-LEX observers reported the following regional and local broadcasters that broadcast electoral advertising promoting PLDM: CIM TV; PSRM - TV Drochia, CIM TV; PPPN- TV Drochia, Media-TV; PDM - CIM TV, Media TV; PL - CIM TV; PCRM – Media TV.

Bas TV Basarabeasca organized 3 electoral TV debates involving election candidates of PLDM, PDM, PSRM, PPPN, BE PPEM and independent candidates.

FINANCING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN

1. ELECTION FUNDS AND TREASURERS

According to Article 37(a) of the Electoral Code, each election contestant shall open a bank account with the inscription "Electoral Fund" and shall wire on this account his/her own financial means and those received from domestic individuals or legal entities in order to finance the election campaign. According to Article 38(2) (a) of the Electoral Code, the election candidate shall notify CEC about the person in charge of financial matters.

During the reporting period, 5 election candidates (PPRM, PPPVE, MSPR Ravnopravie, PPMPA, PPCNM) opened election funds, 5 election candidates (PPMPA, MSPR Ravnopravies, PPPVE, PPM, PLD) notified CEC about the persons in charge of financial matters (treasurers). According to Promo-LEX observers, out of all independent candidates, only 30 confirmed their treasurers to ECC II.

2. FINANCIAL REPORTING OF ELECTION CANDIDATES

According to Article 38(8), during the election campaign, the electoral contestant must submit bi-weekly financial reports to the electoral bodies, which shall include data on the income and expenses and their sources.

During 08 May - 05 June 2015, 16 election candidates (BE PPEM, PSRM, PCRM, PPPN, PL, PLDM, PDM, PNL, PPRM, PVE, MSPR Ravnopravie, PPMPA, PPCNM, BE LP, PP Regiunilor, PPM) submitted financial statements to CEC. 13 of them submitted financial statements for the 3rd and 4th weeks of the campaign and all 16 submitted financial statements for the 5th and 6th weeks. At the same time, 15 contestants reported the amount of contributions. One election candidate (PP Regiunilor) did not reflected anything at any of the budget lines. All submitted statements reflect the amount of revenue and expenses for the period of 08 May – 05 June 2015. According to the CEC official website, 3 election candidates (PDA, PPPR, PPCD) submitted notifications that they did not earn income and did not perform any expenses.

According to Promo-LEX observers, 338 IC submitted notifications to ECC II, according to which they did not earn income and did not perform expenses till 05 June 2015, and 78 candidates submitted financial statements. IC - D. Gudu and S. Afanasiu (both from Durlesti t., Chisinau mun.), V. Rusu (Dubasari d.), V. Creciun (Briceni d.) submitted financial statements on income and expenses in the form of notifications, which does not comply with election law. At least 2 IC, M. Olan (Durlesti t., Chisinau mun.) and A. Malai (Lebedenco v., Cahul d.) submitted notifications according to which they did not incur any expenses, although Promo-LEX observers reported about the expenses made by these candidates.

Table 3. Notifications and financial statements of independent candidates (according to information provided by Promo-LEX observers)

No	Name	Notifications until 05.06.15	Financial statements until 05.06.15	Treasurers
1	Chisinau municipality	102	25	3
2	Balti municipality	0	2	2
3	Comrat municipality	0	3	3
4	Anenii Noi district	14	1	1
5	Basarabasca district	6	0	0
6	Briceni district	0	0	0
7	Cahul district	20	6	2
8	Calarasi district	16	0	0
9	Cantemir district	0	1	0
10	Causeni district	38	6	6
11	Cimislia district	17	2	1
12	Criuleni district	30	1	1
13	Donduseni district	9	0	0
14	Drochia district	0	5	5

15	Dubasari district	10	1	1
16	Edinet district	0	0	0
17	Falesti district	13	1	1
18	Floresti district	0	0	0
19	Glodeni district	5	1	0
20	Hincesti district	0	0	0
21	Ialoveni district	0	0	0
22	Leova district	12	1	0
23	Nisporeni district	14	0	0
24	Ocnita district	0	0	0
25	Orhei district	4	0	0
26	Rezina district	5	0	0
27	Riscani district	0	0	0
28	Sîngerei district	0	1	1
29	Soldanesti district	6	0	0
30	Soroca district	0	0	0
31	Stefan-Voda district	0	0	0
32	Straseni district	11	2	2
33	Taraclia district	42	2	1
34	Telenesti district	0	1	0
35	Ungheni district	14	0	0
36	ATUG	0	16	0
	TOTAL:	388	78	30

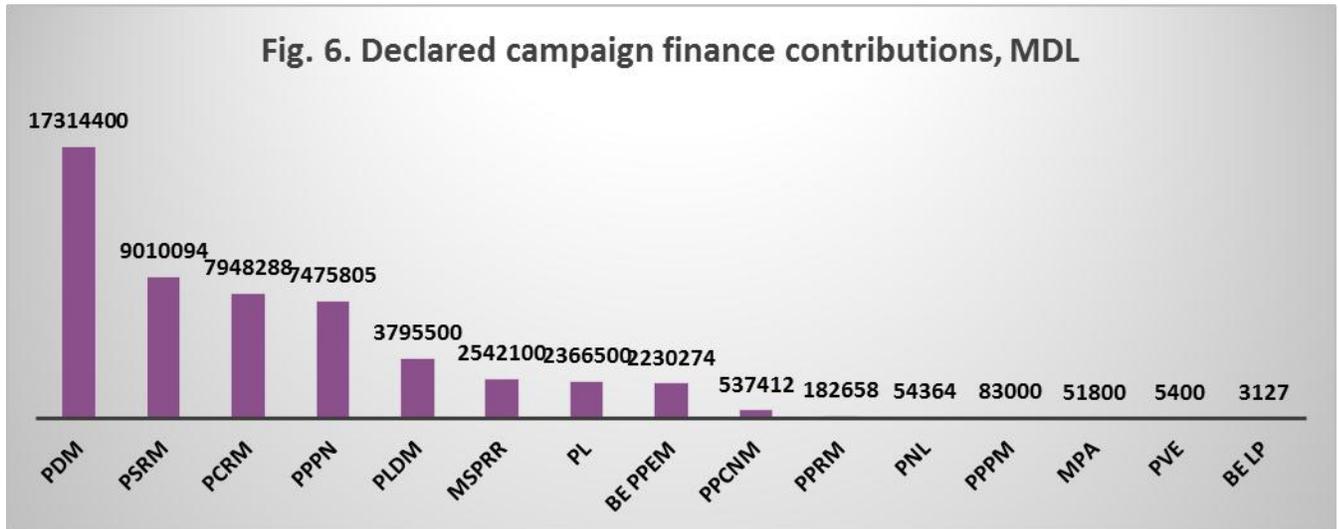
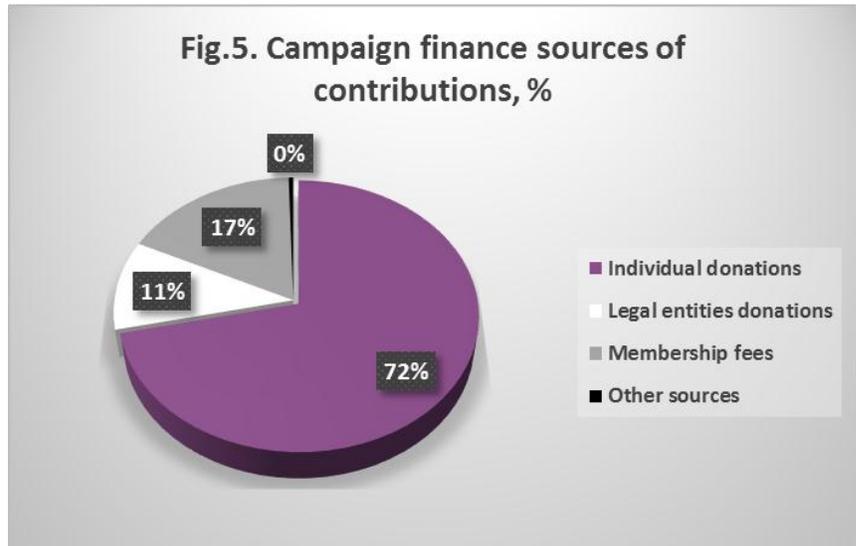
2.1 Revenues Reported by Election Candidates

During the reporting period, 15 election candidates (electoral blocks and parties) reported about income amounting to MDL 51,555,645.25 (Figure 6), in addition the balance from the prior period of MDL 905,363.30.

During the reporting period, 43 of the 78 independent candidates that submitted financial statements to ECC II, reported revenue in the order of MDL 358,323; the other 36 candidates reported null income.

The income of election candidates (blocks and parties) consist of (Figure 5):

- Donations from 1,554 individuals totalling at MDL 950,000 36,881,143.06 and donations from 7 legal entities amounting to MDL 5,504,500;
- Membership fees (PSRM, PPPN) totalling at MDL 8,937,340;
- Other funds amounting at MDL 232,662 (PCRM).



Promo-LEX established 4 donations categories for political parties and electoral blocks:

- “very high” - over MDL 1 million: (PCRM – 2 donors, MSPR Ravnopravie – 1 donor);
- “high” – from MDL 100,000 up to MDL 1 million: (PPCNM – 1 donor, PPPN – 6 donors, PCRM – 3 donors, PL – 6 donors);
- “medium” – from MDL 75,000 up to MDL 100,000: (PDM – 17 donors, MSPR Ravnopravie – 1 donor, PCRM – 2 donors; PL – 3 donors, PPPN – 5 donors, PP Patrioții Moldovei – 1 donor, PPCNM – 1 donor);
- “other donations” – up to MDL 75,000: (Patrioții Moldovei – 1 donor PVE – 2 donors, MSPR Ravnopravie– 22 donors, PDM – 788 donors, PCRM – 165 donors, PPPN – 91 donors, PNL – 20 donors, PLDM – 119 donors, PSRM – 106 donors, BE PPEM – 140 donors, PL – 22 donors, PPRM – 6 donors, PPMPA – 10 donors, PVE – 3 donors, PPPM – 2 donors, BE LP – 13 donors).

Donations' Threshold

According to the Regulation on the Funding of Election Campaign approved by CEC Decision No 3352 of 4 May 2015, the threshold for funds which can be transferred on the "Electoral Fund" account of parties, social-political organizations, electoral blocks registered as election candidates is of MDL 59,243,005 on the one side, and for independent candidates - by multiplying the coefficient of MDL 20.86 to the number of voters included on the main lists of voters from the respective constituency.

Promo-LEX mentioned in its prior reports about the need of having a threshold for expenses of political parties and electoral blocks by constituencies and not only at the national level. The lack of such a threshold can cause situations when political parties or electoral blocks focus their expenses in a disproportionate way only in particular electoral constituencies. In this context, Promo-LEX found out at least one such situation. MSPR Ravnopravie election contestant made expenses of MDL 2,488,559.39 in the Orhei constituency - 4.28% of the maximum national threshold. On the other hand, any independent candidate from this constituency would have the possibility to spend only MDL 545,322.

2.2 Expenses of Election Candidates Reflected in Financial Statements

According to the biweekly reports submitted to CEC, the total amount of expenses reported by those 15 election candidates (blocks/parties) for the period of 08 May - 05 June 2015 is MDL 51,215,570.35. The main share of expenses declared relates to advertising – 76%. The second category of expenses is for promotion materials -15% (Figure 7).

According to the biweekly reports, the total amount of expenses reported by those for the period of 08 May - 05 June 2015 is MDL 384,237.17. The main share of declared expenses relates to promotion materials – 97.2%.

a. Costs of Election Events and Meetings

According to the financial statements, 11 election candidates (blocks/parties) reported expenses amounting to MDL 3,312,643.19 for election events: (PDM – MDL 651.385, PPPN – MDL 1,012,761.80, PCRM – MDL 1 021,764.60, PPCNM – MDL 4243.80, PPRM – MDL 1500, PSRM – 73,226, BE PPEM – MDL 22,129.82, PNL – MDL 1,789.17, MSPR Ravnopravie – MDL 383,853, PLDM – MDL 15,000, PL – MDL 24,990).

b. Advertising Expenses

According to financial statements, 12 election candidates (blocks/parties) reported advertising expenses of MDL 38,910,098.65: PDM – MDL 13,463,729.02, PSRM – MDL 8,485,253.02, PPPN – MDL 5,239,565.05, MSPR Ravnopravie – MDL 1,755,603.19, PCRM – MDL 3,771,484.37, PL – MDL 1,482,301.84, BE PPEM – MDL 755,596.81, PLDM – MDL 3,293,699, PPCNM – MDL 522,207.64, PPRM – MDL 125,632.84, PNL – MDL 10,619.01, PMPA – MDL 4,406.86.

c. Expenses for Promotion Materials

According to the financial statements, in the chapter on expenses for promotion materials, 14 election candidates (blocks/parties) have reported expenses amounting to MDL 7,396,954.88: PDM – MDL 3,076,619.88, PSRM – MDL 174,138, PPPN – MDL 516,205, PCRM – MDL 1,501,614.63, PL – MDL 849,382.25, BE PPEM – MDL 879,588, PLDM – MDL 174,785, PPM – MDL 33,660, PPRM 53,700, PPCNM – MDL 9560, PPPVE – MDL 5300, PNL – MDL 40,685.40, PMPA – MDL 46,986.72, BE LP – MDL 34,730.

d. Expenses for Transportation of People and Goods

According to the financial statements, only 6 election candidates (blocks/parties) reported expenses amounting to MDL 1,123,280 for transport: PPPN - MDL 500,000, BE PPEM – MDL 223,269, SPRM – MDL 88,667, PDM – MDL 35,800, PCRM – MDL 255,544, PLDM – MDL 20,000.

e. Expenses for Public Opinion Polling Services

According to the financial statements, no election contestant has reported expenses related to public opinion polling services.

f. Additional Maintenance Expenses

According to the financial statements, 5 election candidates (blocks/parties) have reported expenses amounting to MDL 498,309.2 for maintenance expenses: PDM – MDL 63,737.66, BE PPEM – MDL 174,234.07, PSRM – MDL 6,824.14, PLDM – MDL 247,100, PPPN – MDL 6,413.33.

g. Expenses for the Staff Remuneration

According to the financial statements, 1 election contestant (blocks/parties) has reported expenses related to the remuneration of the staff employed temporarily for election purposes: PPRM – MDL 1,653.

h. Expenses for Delegation or Detachment (including for remuneration/daily allowances of observers and volunteers)

According to the financial statements, no election contestant (blocks/parties) reported expenses related to the remuneration of volunteers/agitators.

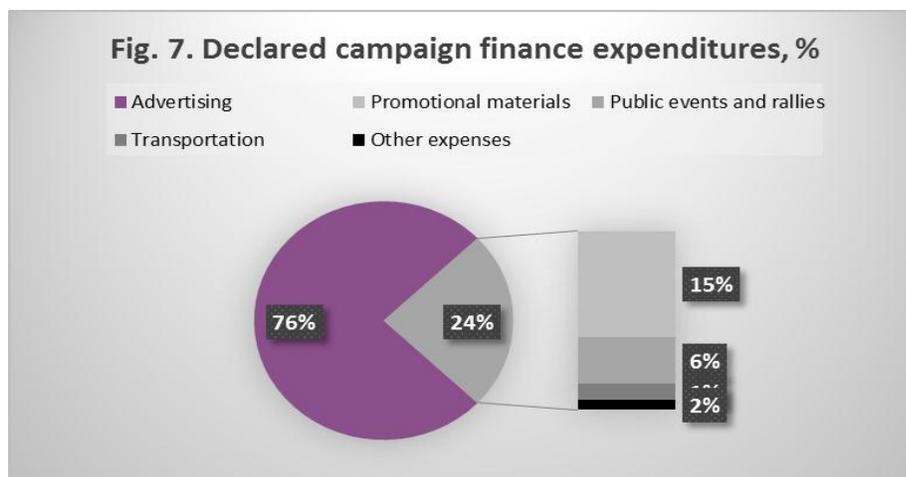
i. Expenses for Election-Related Consultancy and Policy

According to the financial statements, 3 election candidates (blocks/parties) reported such expenses, amounting to MDL 317,700.50: PCRM – MDL 305,900, PLDM – MDL 7,973, PDM – MDL 3,827.50.

j. Other Expenses

(including: banking services; communication services; LCEI materials; rental of permanent offices, including the territorial ones; utility services related to rented premises; remuneration of central staff; remuneration of local (territorial) staff; remuneration of media/strategy advisers)

According to the financial statements, 15 election candidates (election block/parties) reported expenses amounting to MDL 421,283.94. PPRM – MDL 65, PPCNM – MDL 600.40, BE PPEM – MDL 13,811.21, PPPN – MDL 36,941.38, PSRM – MDL 318,078.98, PNL – MDL 1143.09, PPMPA – MDL 105.80, MSPR Ravnopravie – MDL 7,720, PPPVE – MDL 9, PPM – MDL 151, PCRM – MDL 865, PLDM – MDL 30,313.57, PL – 1,893.25, PDM – MDL 9,568.26, BE LP – MDL 18.



2.3 Expenses of Election Candidates found by Promo-LEX observers but not reflected in financial statements

According to the findings of the Promo-LEX observers, for the period 8 May - 12 June 2015, 19 election candidates (PDM, PSRM, PL, PCR, PLDM, PNL, BE PPEM, PPPN, PPCNM, PPMPA, PPRM, PLD, IC M. Olan, IC D. Malai, IC I. Dosca, IC I. Toma, IC N. Dandeu, IC D. Gudu, IC I. Railean) did not state certain expenses in the financial statements, submitted to CEC.

a. Costs of Election Events and Meetings

According to Promo-LEX, at least 6 election candidates made unreported expenses for 22 concerts, at least 4 celebrations for children and at least 1 football game and a ring dance (hora):

PL- at least 10 concerts, one ring dance (hora), a celebration for children, where 4 clowns were involved and one performance showed. The following artists performed: Cronos band, the Orhei brass band, „Plaiesii” group, Slobozia-Dușca brass band, folklore music and dances groups from Soldanesti, the groups from O. Ghibu High School, "Tharmes” band, Igor Cuciuc, Ion Rața, "Vakal-Star” ensemble, Corina Tepes and Costi Burlacu, Cristina Scarlat, "Trio Paradis Dance" and Aurel Chirtoacă, Maria Stoianov, Maria Țarna, Cezara, Ina Sturza, Angela Cobari, Vasile Tumuruc, Adrian Ursu and Bety, "Do-re-micii” Studio, Georgeta Voinovan, Tatiana Heghea, Viorel Burlacu.

PDM – at least 5 concerts and 2 events for children. The following artists performed for PLDM: ACORD band, „Satrita” ensemble, Ion Suruceanu, Doina Arseni, Aura, „Prietenia” band, 2 clowns and animators were involved, and one theatre performance ”Electorală 2015” was performed.

PSRM - at least 4 concerts and on one occasion the use of fire works was reported. The following artists performed for PSRM: Ian Raiburg, „Asorti” band, local artists from Donduseni t., Olga Guțu, Nelly Ciobanu, “Lume” band.

MSPR Ravnopravie – at least 1 campaign launching event and 1 concert, 1 football game, one celebration for children on 1 June. The following artists performed for MSPR Ravnopravie: Pavel Parfeni, Natalia Gordienko, Constantin Moscovici, Olea Tira, Ian Raiburg and „Zdob and Zdub” band.

IC I. Dosca – 1 concert. 2 artists performed for the candidate: Doina Sulac and Anatol Mirzenko. In the financial statements of the election candidate submitted to ECC, the information regarding the organization of events is not available.

IC I. Toma – 1 concert. 3 artists performed for the candidate: Valentina Cojocaru, Vitalie Dani and Rodica Roșioru.

b. Expenses related to Outdoor Advertising

According to Promo-LEX observers, 9 election candidates have omitted fully or partially to report expenses for outdoor advertising in their statements submitted to CEC. The unreported expenses amount to at least MDL 215,847.

According to Promo-LEX observers, the minimum monthly fee to place a street billboard of 6x3m² is about MDL 5,650, a banner of 6x2 m² - MDL 2000, a banner of 1.8x1.5m² - at least MDL 1000, a city light of 6x3 m² - MDL 2450, a digital standard panel - at least MDL 5000, of a street billboard of 15x6m² - at least MDL 12000, a street billboard of 3x9m² – at least MDL 10,500, a street billboard of 3x2m² – MDL 3600.

Regarding the PCRM election candidate, the Promo-LEX observers reported 14 street billboards of 3X6m², 16 city lights, 15 banners of 6x2m², 1 LED panel of 1x2m². Expenses amounting to MDL 158,300 were estimated. The unreported expenses amount to at least MDL 71,667.12

Regarding the PPCNM election candidate, Promo-LEX observers reported 11 street billboards of 3X6m². The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 62,150.

Regarding the PNL election candidate, Promo-LEX observers reported 3 street billboards of 1.5x2.5m². The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 15,000.

Regarding the PNL election candidate, the Promo-LEX observers reported 2 street billboards of 1.5x2.5m². The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 6,000.

Regarding the independent candidate M. Severovan, Promo-LEX observers reported 5 street billboards of 6x3m². The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 28,250.

Regarding the independent candidate N. Dandes, Promo-LEX observers reported 2 street billboards of 6x3m². The expenses were reported partially. The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 20,530.

Regarding the independent candidate I.Răilean, Promo-LEX observers reported one banner of 6x3 m². The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 5,650.

Regarding the independent candidate D. Gudu, Promo-LEX observers reported one street billboard of 2x3 m². The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 3,600. The respective candidate submitted a notification claiming that during 22 May - 05 June 2015 he did not have any expenses.

Regarding the independent candidate M. Olan, Promo-LEX observers reported 3 banners of 1.8x1.5m². The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 3,000.

Expenditures for Electronic Means of Information

According to Promo-LEX observers, at least 6 election candidates (PCRM, PDM, PLDM, PL, PSRM and PPPN) placed digital banners on the websites of the PROdigital group (www.protv.md, www.noi.md, www.aquarelle.md, www.kankan.md, www.perfecte.md). Only 2 election candidates (PDM and PPPN) reflected the expenses for this type of advertising in their financial statements.

c. Expenses for Promotion Materials

According to Promo-LEX observers, 6 election candidates and 2 independent candidates have omitted fully or partially to report expenses for promotion materials in their statements submitted to CEC. The amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 739,900.

According to the verifications of the Promo-LEX observers, the minimum price for one flyer is at least MDL 0.21 for 500,000 copies, of a A3 poster – MDL 2.5 for 5000 copies, of a flyer of 14.5x21 cm² - MDL 0.50, of a calendar of 10x7 cm² for 200,000 copies – MDL 0.25, the price for one sticker of 20 cm in diameter for 1250 copies – MDL 6, the price for a flyer of 21x23 cm², for 20000 copies – MDL 3.5, of a 16 pages brochure - MDL 2.39 for 50,000 copies, the price for a 12-page brochure

of 21.5 cm x 14.5 cm - MDL 5 for 30.000 copies, the price for one 8-page brochure of 20 cm x 14.5 cm – MDL 3.5 for 10,000 copies, the price of one 88-page booklet – MDL 12,5 for 3000 units, the price for a 16-page colored newspaper – MDL 0.48 for 100 000 copies, the price of a flag (textile 79x42 cm² with iron handle of 200cm) – MDL 50, the price of a flag of 19x10cm² – MDL 2.5.

For this period, with respect to the PSRM election contestant, Promo-LEX observers reported cases of distribution of party newspapers of 16 pages, order 443 - 100,000 copies, order 444 - 200,000 copies, order 475 - 70,000 copies, order 480 - 60,000 copies, order 482 - 200,000 copies, order 522 - 200,000 copies, order 560 - 200,000 copies that were not included in the financial statements of election contestant. 4-page leaflets of 23x22cm² (18500 copies) and posters of A4 format 0190 (1000 copies) were reported. The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 561,150.

For this period, with respect to the PLDM election contestant, Promo-LEX observers reported cases of distribution of leaflets, 8 pages order 6901 - 10,000 copies, small flags with PLDM symbol without data, booklets containing electoral program of the candidate Urecheanu S. of 88 pages - 3000 copies printed. With regards to PLDM candidate for Budesti Mayor's Office - N Costiuc, Promo-LEX observers reported the distribution of booklets with the electoral program of the candidate, which did not contain any data about the printing house and were not paid from the electoral fund. Distribution of party newspapers containing information about the candidate for the Truseni Mayor's Office -Andries L., order 7082, 5000 copies, and candidate for Chisinau Mayor's Office - Urecheanu S., order 6961, 5000 copies. Although some materials indicates that they have been paid from the Electoral Fund, typographical data is not indicated in the financial statement of the election contestant. The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 153,000.

For this period, with respect to PPPVE election contestant, Promo-LEX observers have reported about cases of distribution of flyers without printed typographical data, paid from Electoral Fund, and at least 10 flags (cloth 79x42 cm² with metal handle of 200 cm). The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 250.

For this period, with respect to PPRM election contestant, Promo-LEX observers have reported about the posters, without having typographical data, Mihail Cirlig - PPRM candidate for the position of General Mayor of Chisinau mun. The expenses could not be estimated.

Regarding the PNL election candidate, Promo-LEX observers reported about advertising in local press "Curierul de Hincesti" No 21, article 1 page. The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 2,900.

With respect to IC M.Olan, Promo-LEX observers reported about distribution of flyers paid from the Electoral Fund order 6734 - 4000 copies. The election contestant submitted a notification claiming that no expenses will be made. The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 2000.

Regarding the IC A. Malai from Ursoaia v., Cahul, Promo-LEX observers reported the distribution of coloured flyers, which were not paid for from the electoral fund. Moreover, the respective candidate submitted a notification informing that no expenses will be made.

Regarding PLD, Promo-LEX observers reported the distribution of colour flyers for M.Darie candidate, Printshop type, 33000 copies, 389 cont. The estimated amount of unreported expenses is at least MDL 16,500.

d. Expenses for Transportation of People and Goods

Promo-LEX observers found that at least 4 election candidates did not report the use of transport services for election purposes.

Promo-LEX observers reported about candidates of MSRP Ravopravie and PL who used transport services for the events organized in Orhei d. and Chisinau mun.

IC Cibotari Veceslav, Cotelea v., Briceni d. incurred transport expenses to clean the roads from the village.

IC A. Mereanu, Sadaclia v., Basarabeasca d. incurred transport expenses for the organization of the visit of at least 25 local persons to Chistoleni Monastery.

g. Expenses for the Remuneration of the Staff Employed Temporarily for Election Purposes

Promo-LEX observers have found that at least 9 election candidates have employed territorial staff for elections: PSRM – 25, PDM – 26, PLDM – 20, PL – 9, PPPN – 9, PCRPM – 6, PPRM – 2, BE „PPEM” – 1, PPMPA – 1.

Only 2 election contestants have reported insignificant expenses related to the remuneration of the staff employed temporarily for election purposes: PPRM – 1,653 MDL, PPPN – 1,025.75 MDL.

h. Expenses for Delegation or Detachment (including for remuneration/daily allowances of observers and volunteers)

Promo-LEX observers reported that at least 586 volunteers were involved in election activities for 8 candidates: PSRM – 98, PL – 97, PDM – 26, PLDM – 49, PCRPM – 34, PPPN – 206, BE „PPEM” – 42, MSPRR – 34. None of the above has reported expenses in this regard.

j. Other Expenses

(including: banking services; communication services; LCEI materials; rental of permanent offices, including the territorial ones; utility services related to rented premises; remuneration of central staff; remuneration of local (territorial) staff; remuneration of media/strategy advisers)

Rental of offices

According to Promo-LEX observers, 8 election candidates use at least 13 offices in the monitored districts and did not include this information in financial statements submitted to CEC: PPRM – 5, PP „Renaștere” – 2, PPMPA – 1, MSPR Ravopravie – 1, PAD – 1, PP Regiunilor – 1, PNL – 1, BE LP – 1.

Based on the comparative calculations with data from the financial statements of CEC, for 4 weeks, we estimated a quantum of at least MDL 13,205 that have not been reported.

Maintenance Services

According to Promo-LEX observers, at least MDL 2,327 were not reported as expenses for activity in the 13 offices used during 4 weeks.

3. ACTIVITY OF EXAMINING BODIES

According to the decision taken with regards to the election candidates' reports on revenue and expenses during the election campaign for the general local elections, as of 22 May 2015, CEC applied sanctions in the form of warning to several election candidates: MPSN, MSPFN, PPM, PPPR, PPCD, PP Regiunilor, PSM, PPDA, PPNOI, PLD, BE LP. The sanction was applied for the violation of Article 38(2)(c) and Article 38² from the Electoral Code, specifically for the contestants' failure to inform the Commission about the fact that did not open a bank account with the indication "Electoral Fund".

On 2 June 2015, CEC found that PL violated the electoral legislation with regards to financial reporting and warned the contestant according to Article 38(4) of the Electoral Code, stating that the election contestant did not submit concrete data regarding the payment for booklets with the program of candidate Dorin Chirtoaca.

On 9 June 2015, CEC sanctioned the election candidates PSM, PPSM and PLD by warning them for the violation of Article 38(2)(c) and Article 38² of the Electoral Code. In addition, the Liberal Party was warned repeatedly for the failure to submit the information requested by CEC based on its Decision No 3457 of 2 June 2015 on the results of the additional verification of the Liberal Party's report on revenue and expenses as of 22 May 2015.

On 5 June 2015, CEC sanctioned three election candidates (PP Regiunilor, PSM and PPSM) with a fine from 100 to 150 c.u. according to Article 48¹ of the Electoral Code, for their violation of Article 38(2)(c) and Article 38² of the Electoral Code, in particular for their failure to submit the report on the revenue and expenses in the election campaign for the general local elections of 14 June 2015 and failure to inform CEC about the fact that it does not intend to open an Electoral Fund account.

On 8 June 2015, ECC annulled the registration for the election campaign of the independent candidate T. Munteanu, Cantemir t. for the violation of Article 38(2)(h) and 38(3)(f) of the Electoral Code and Regulations on the Financing of Election Campaigns, points 14(2) and 15 on the placement of electoral advertising and political promotion on billboards.

OBSERVATION METHODOLOGY OF PROMO-LEX ASSOCIATION

Observation of the general local elections of 14 (28) June 2015 is a project implemented by Promo-LEX Association as part of the Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections. Promo-LEX Association is a Non-Government Organization that aims at developing the democracy in the Republic of Moldova, including the Transnistrian region, by promoting and defending the human rights, monitoring the democratic processes, and strengthening the civil society.

Promo-LEX Observation Mission for the general local elections involves 39 long-term observers (LTO) and 33 medium-term observers (MTO), who will monitor the electoral process in all the constituencies of the Republic of Moldova during 14 April - 13 July 2015. Promo-LEX will delegate a short-term observer (STO) in each level-one constituency on the day of elections. The effort of Promo-LEX will consist in parallel vote tabulation (PVT) in all polling stations of Chisinau, Balti and Comrat municipalities. The observers involved in the monitoring process sign the Code of Conduct of the Promo-LEX Independent National Observer, assuming the commitment to act quickly, in good faith and in a non-partisan manner. The public reports of the Mission are developed exclusively on the basis of the observers' standardized reports, produced as a result of the visits in settlements and to level-one and level-two Electoral Constituency Councils, as well as discussions, meetings with interviewers and review of official documents.

Promo-LEX Observation Mission is not a political opponent for the election candidates involved in the general local elections of 14 (28) June 2015. The Observation Mission is not an investigation body and does not assume the express obligation to support its findings by evidence. Photo and video evidence gathered by Promo-LEX observers are regularly posted on the web page www.electoral.monitor.md.

This project enjoys financial and technical support from USAID, the Council of Europe and NDI. The opinions presented in the public reports of Promo-LEX belong to authors and do not necessarily reflect the view of donors and partners.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Central Electoral Commission

- Amend the Regulation on the List of Voters, in order to offer the legal possibility to vote on the basis of voting right certificate to all voters, who will not be in the area where they have their domicile or residence on the elections day;
- Provide urgently to EOPS the necessary number of voting right certificates in order to ensure the right to vote to all voters, who will not be in the area where they have their domicile or residence on the elections day;
- In order to prevent the “artificial” electoral migration, develop urgently Instructions that would explain and regulate the voting procedure for the voters who changed their residence or domicile in the period between the date when the lists of voters were prepared and the election date;
- Make sure that EOPS follows the timetable for the election of the management bodies;

- Make sure that ECC and EOPS members follow the working hours prescribed by the regulation;
- Establish a mechanism to ensure the security of the lists of voters;
- Develop some proposals for legal amendments aimed at eliminating the discrepancies related to the requirement related to personal data security and transparency of the lists of voters;
- Continue the training of electoral officials and reintroduce the requirement for mandatory training of all persons delegated as potential electoral official, in particular those delegated by the political parties represented in the Parliament;
- Initiate proposals for the amendment of Article 32(7) of the Electoral Code;
- Warn the lower electoral bodies about the need to comply with the working regime and not to allow the involvement of electoral authority members in political activities.
- Verify thoroughly the financial statements of election candidates and check how they accumulate revenues, in particular those reported as membership fees, adopting a justified Decision on all findings;
- Establish a single threshold for all election candidates, at the level of constituency;

To LPAs

- Select and propose members of the electoral bodies, so that their nominal structure cannot be changed frequently;
- Ensure ECC and EOPS with the necessary conditions for their activity;
- Comply with the Electoral Schedule;
- Publish the financial statements developed by independent candidates;
- Not to admit illegal use of public goods in the election campaign.

To Election Candidates

- Select and propose members of the electoral bodies, so that their nominal structure cannot be changed frequently;
- Ensure financial transparency during the election period;
- Avoid using administrative resources and offering electoral presents;
- Apply disciplinary sanctions in line with the internal regulations for parties, whose candidates allowed the use of administrative resources and offered electoral presents.

To Law Enforcement Bodies

- Investigate the alleged violations of the electoral legislation and, if necessary, charge the guilty persons, who used administrative resources, offered electoral presents, used prohibited symbols during the election campaign or admitted other violations of the electoral legislation.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

para - paragraph

LPA - Local Public Administration

Art. - Article

BE LP - “People’s List” Electoral Block

BE PPEM – “European Popular Platform from Moldova - Iurie Leancă” Electoral Block

EOPS - electoral office of the polling station

ODIHR – Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

EC - electoral constituency

CEC – Central Election Commission

ECC - Electoral Constituency Council

IC - independent candidate

OTCEM - Ongoing Training Centre on Electoral Matters

com. - commune

NCPPD - National Center for the Protection of Personal Data

fig. - Figure

PPMPA - Antimafia Popular Movement

MPSN - “Speranța - Надежда” Professionals’ Movement

MSPFN - “New Force” Social-Political Movement

MSPR Ravnopravie - “Ravnopravie” Republican Social-Political Movement

MSPRRM - Social-Political Movement of the Roma People from the Republic of Moldova

mun. - municipality

NATO - North Atlantic Treaty Organization

NDI - National Democratic Institute

No - number

UN - United Nations

t. - town

OSCE - Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

LTO - Long term observer

MTO - Medium term observer

STO - Short-term observer

PP Regiunilor - Party of the Regions from Moldova

PC - Conservatory Party

PCRM - Party of the Communists of the Republic of Moldova

PDM – Democratic Party of Moldova

PE - European Party

PL – Liberal Party

PLD - Party of Law and Justice

PLDM - Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova
 PM - Labour Party
 PMAE - "European Action Movement" Party
 PMUEM - "Moldova Unită – Единая Молдова" Party
 PNL - Liberal National Party
 UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
 PP - political party
 PPPN - Our Party Political Party
 PPCD – People’s Christian Democratic Party
 PPCNM - "Our Home– Moldova" Political Party
 PPDA - "Democracy at Home" Political Party
 PPDM - "People’s Democratic Party of Moldova" Political Party
 PPM - "Moldova’s Patriots’ Party’
 PPMPUV - "PEOPLE’S MOVEMENT FOR THE CUSTOMS UNION" Political Party
 PPNOI - New Historical Option Political Party
 PPPAM - Agrarian Party of Moldova Political Party
 PPPFP - "People’s Force Party" Political Party
 PPPNT - "FOR THE NATION AND COUNTRY" Political Party
 PPPR - "Rebirth" Political Party
 PPPSP - "Party of the Progressive Society" Political Party
 PPPVE- Green Environment Party Political Party
 PPRM - People’s Party of the Republic of Moldova Political Party
 PPSM - The Socialist People’s Party of Moldova
 PPUM - Political Party for Moldova’s Union
 PRM - the Republican Party of Moldova
 PSRM – Political Party "Party of the Socialists from the Republic of Moldova"
 PVT - parallel vote tabulation
 RM - Republic of Moldova
 d. - district
 v. - village
 PS - polling station
 UATSN – Administrative Territorial Unit on the left bank of the Nistru river
 EU - European Union
 ATUG - Autonomous Territorial Unit Gagauzia
 PH - printing house
 NI - number of issues
 u. - unit