



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

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Monitoring 30 November 2014 Parliamentary Elections

Monitoring period: 6–27 November 2014

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I. SUMMARY

As part of the Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections, Promo-LEX is conducting a long-term monitoring of the election campaign period for the parliamentary elections of 30 November 2014. The present report covers the period 6–27 November 2014 and reflects campaign-related findings reported by the observers from the Promo-LEX network, linked to the respective legal framework. The chapter on financial statements of electoral candidates contains an analysis, which is based on the financial reports of the parties presented to the CEC, and includes the electoral period beginning 25 October and 25 November 2014. The financial statements of the candidates were linked and compared to the findings of the observers in the field.

During the monitoring period, the CEC registered four more electoral candidates, admitted the request to withdraw one electoral candidate from the race and sent a request to the Chisinau Court of Appeals to cancel the registration to the race of electoral candidate Political Party “Patria” [Homeland]. The Chisinau Court of Appeals admitted the request submitted by the CEC. In the same period, 2268 international and national observers were accredited, including 814 observers under the Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort. The CEC It analyzed and made statements on 14 complaints on behalf of candidates, and 2 submissions by the police. Promo-LEX observers found shortcomings in the functioning and validity of data in the State Register of Voters. The CEC issued warnings to 8 electoral candidates with regard to the violation of the procedure of submitting financial reports.

According to observers, in at least 336 polling stations [PSs], the PS infrastructure and technical and material equipment is not in line with legal provisions. Note that the issue of arranging special sites for electoral posting remained unresolved in at least 514 localities, in the reporting period.

The Promo-LEX Monitoring Effort found that many electoral candidates conduct an active campaign using various campaigning activities. Thus candidates conducted traditional rallies, electoral concerts, distribution of electoral advertising, used outdoor and media advertising, organized sports activities, cleaning campaigns and car rallies. On the other hand, at least five electoral candidates were reported to use administrative resources during their campaigning in at least 23 instances. According to data provided by Promo-LEX observers, at least 6 candidates distributed electoral gifts. The monitoring period witnessed at least 10 election-related incidents.

During the reporting period, there was at least one case of inflammatory and derogatory campaigning, its origin unknown.

The performance of the local and regional media remains active, mirroring both positive and negative opinions, mostly on six electoral candidates.

As concerns the reporting on the finances of the electoral candidates, we find that 1177 citizens have contributed to the electoral funds of the candidates a total amount of 57,674,934 lei. However electoral candidates have reached only 53.34% of the expense threshold set by the CEC. Only 21 out of 26 registered candidates reported their finances with the CEC. The majority of expenses reported by the electoral candidates covered advertising expenses – 96.62%. None of the candidates reported expenses for rewards, travel and consultancy. Only three candidates reported expenses for salaries, maintenance of permanent premises, and communications.

II. FINDINGS

1. Performance of electoral bodies

a. Compliance with the Calendar of Actions during the reporting period

According to Art. 44 par. 3 of the Election Code, registration of candidates to the position of MPs takes 7 days from the date of submission of registration documents. The CEC Calendar of Actions sets the date of 6 November 2014 and the last day of registration of candidates, and 14 November as the final day for the approval of the circulation of ballots necessary for the voting in each polling station. With one day of delay, the CEC registered Doga Anatolie as an independent candidate to MP. The CEC established the circulation of ballots with a 4-day delay.

According to Art. 29 par. 12 of the Election Code, the governing bodies of election bureaus are chosen within 2 days from the formation of PSEBs. In at least 13 PSEBs - Calfa (r. Anenii Noi), Ciulucani, Negureni (both in r. Telenesti), Corjeuti, Caracusenii Vechi (both in r. Briceni), Recea, Sturzeni, Alexandresti (all in r. Rascani), Sarata Galbena (r. Hincesti), Copaceni (r. Singerei), Cazanesti, Vadul Leca (both in r. Telenesti), and Slobozia Recea (r. Rascani), the governing bodies were formed with a 1 to 4 day delay.

b. Registration of political parties and independent candidates

During the reporting period, the CEC registered two political parties (Political Party Centrist Union of Moldova and Political Party "For Nation and Country") and two independent candidates (Plesca Valeriu and Doga Anatolie) as electoral candidates. Stamate Petru was refused registration as an independent candidate on grounds of failing to provide sufficient valid signatures in his favor. On 22 November 2014, the CEC accepted the request to withdraw from the race for Parliament on 30 November 2014 of the Sociopolitical Movement "Ravnopravie".

As of 26 November 2014, 25 candidates could participate in the campaign (21 parties and 4 independent candidates). To compare, a total of 39 candidates registered for the race for Parliament on 28 November 2020 (20 parties and 19 independent candidates).

c. National and international observers

The CEC accredited 1154 international observers to monitor the parliamentary election on 30 November 2014, and namely: 5 from the Hungarian Embassy in Moldova, 1 from the Slovak Embassy in Moldova, 278 from the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, 1 from the Institute of European Law and Human Rights in Kazakhstan, 8 from the Embassy of Lithuania, 17 from the International Center for Election Studies in Lithuania, 2 from the Embassy of Qatar, 676 from the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and ODIHR, 9 from the East European Foundation, 21 from SILBA - Support Initiative for Liberty and Democracy, 14 from the European Parliament, 3 from the German Embassy, 6 from the Polish Senate, 8 from the Polish Embassy in Moldova, 4 from the Polish Stefan Batory Foundation, 3 from the Turkish Embassy, 11 from the Seim of Poland, 2 from the U.S. Embassy, 1 from IRI, 11 from the EU Delegation, 4 from the Russian Embassy, 7 from the Romanian Center for Balkan Strategies, 32 from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, 23 from the Belgian "European Students' Forum" Association, 5 from the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development GUAM;

The CEC also accredited 1114 local observers: 1 from IRI, 9 from the EU Delegation, 25 from the Association to defend Women's Rights "FEMILIA", 9 from the "Young Moldova" Association, 77 from the Association Institute for Human Rights, 1 from the Coalition for Nondiscrimination, 814 from the Promo-LEX Association, 19 from PDM, 31 from PP "Patria", 49 from PL, 45 from PSRM, 3 from BE "AMUV", 31 from the *Motivatie* Association, 2 from the Association for Participatory Democracy ADEPT, and 14 from the National Democratic Institute.

During the reporting period, at the request of the Slovak Embassy, the CEC eliminated from the list one observer from that institution.

d. CEC decisions

During the reporting period, the CEC adopted multiple decisions, including:

- Decision to approve the template and text of the ballot paper;
- Decision to establish the order of appearance of candidates in the ballot paper;
- Decision on allowing voters to vote with expired ID documents.

- Decision to establish the circulation of ballots to 3,112,449 copies, or which 2,403,962 copies in Romanian and 708,487 in Russian;
- Decision to approve the Regulation on the State Voters' Register;
- Decision on the particularities of voting for voters who don't have domicile or residence. On 24 November 2014, the CEC established that voters who don't have residence or domicile registration or cannot prove that can vote at any polling station in Moldova by submitting a statement of responsibility that they will refrain from multiple voting. On the other hand, on 4 November 2014, the CEC established that voters from the Transnistrian region could vote on supplementary voter lists only at 26 PSs created in 10 electoral districts. Comparing the two categories of voters, we draw the conclusion that voters from the Transnistrian region (total 211,329, according to the CEC data) are disadvantaged, as they must vote only at 26 pre-established PSs, while voters without a domicile/residence registration (which total 171,052, according to the CEC data) have an unjustified advantage in that regard, and can vote at any PS they choose.
- Decision to approve the Instruction on the testing of the voting procedure with the template envelope for vision-impaired voters during the 30 November 2014 parliamentary poll.

Given that some the CEC decisions favored certain categories of voters with regard to exercising their right to vote in preferential conditions, these decisions will be discussed in the post-electoral period and, where necessary, legal amendments will be adopted to avoid further political speculations.

e. Transnistrian region

To ensure the right to vote to residents of village Corjova, r. Dubasari, on 21 November 2014, the CEC passed a decision to transfer the polling station from Corjova to the town hall of Cocieri, r. Dubasari.

f. Changes/additions to DEC membership

In 3 electoral districts (Anenii Noi, Balti, and Dubasari), the nominal composition of DEC's was changed. The changes were requested by courts (in Anenii Noi and Balti) and the local administration (in Dubasari).

g. Complaints solved by the CEC

During the reporting period, the CEC examined 14 complaints from the candidates and 2 submissions from the police. The CEC rejected 8 complaints as unfounded, and admitted 6, and took notice of the 2 submissions.

Thus, complaints were submitted by: MPA – 3, PCRM – 8, PDM – 1, PDA – 1, and PLDM – 1. The candidates referred to in the complaints are: PLDM (6 cases), PDM (4 cases), PSRM (2 cases), PP "Patriots of Moldova" (1 case), and PL (1 case). The object of the contestations were: the violation of legal provisions on the use of administrative resources – 6 cases, failure to relief from office – 2 cases, unauthorized campaign posting – 4 cases, and use of election materials without corresponding signs – 2 cases.

The following candidates received warnings by the CEC following the respective contestations: PL - 1 case, at the complaint by PLDM, PDM - 1 case, based on the complaint of PCRM, PLDM - 3 cases, based on complaints by MPA and PCRM, PSRM - 1 case, per a complaint by PCRM. The object of contestations admitted by the CEC included: the violation of legal provisions on the use of administrative resources – 1 case PL, 2 cases PLDM, failure to relief from office – 1 case PDM, unauthorized campaign posting – 1 case PLDM and 1 case PSRM.

During the reporting period, the police submitted two reports against candidates. Thus, on 13 November 2014, Botanica police inspectorate contacted the CEC with regard to the placement of a PSRM election tent on the grounds of the Municipal Clinic no. 1 - on 18 November 2014, the CEC recognized the violation and issued a warning to the PSRM.

On 26 November 2014, The General Police Inspectorate informed the CEC of the fact that PP "Patria" used funds from abroad during the campaign for Parliamentary elections on 30 November 2014. On the same date, the CEC admitted the report and adopted a decision submitted to the Chisinau Court of Appeals to cancel the registration of PP "Patria" as candidate in Elections. On 27 November 2014, the Chisinau Court of Appeals examined the CEC submission and the contestation presented by PP "Patria" and ruled to enforce the CEC decision and cancel the registration of PP "Patria" as a candidate in elections. The court's motivated decision was not publicized at the time

of this report.

h. CEC Warnings

During the reporting period, the CEC issued warnings to 8 electoral candidates (PP “Democracy At Home”, Sociopolitical Movement “Ravnopravie”, PAD, PP “Patriots of Moldova”, PP “Centrist Union of Moldova”, PP “Communist Reformist Party of Moldova” and independent candidates Plesca Valeriu si Doga Anatolie) for violations under Art. 38 par. 8 of the Election Code – violation of the timeline for submitting reports on the financial flow during the election campaign.

i. State Voters’ Register

According to Art. 38¹ par. 2 of the Election Code, the CEC forms voter lists based on the State Voters’ Register. Starting with 13 October 2014, all those in charge of putting together, administering, transmitting and updating voter lists were granted access to the State Voters’ Register.

During the reporting period, in at least 3 localities - Negresti (r. Straseni), Crihana (r. Orhei), and Sarata Galbena (r. Hincesti), deceased persons were found in the State Voters’ Register. On 13 November 2014, PS no.2 in s. Cocieri found inconsistencies with regard to the addresses and domicile of 1500 voters in the State Voters’ Register. According to persons interviewed by Promo-LEX observers, in Cuslauca and Gara Cobilea (r. Soldanesti), at least 40 people are missing from the State Voters’ Register.

During the reporting period, in at least 4 electoral districts (Criuleni, Drochia, Stefan Voda and Rezina) inconsistencies were found in the data of the State Voters’ Register, including improper alignment in alphabetical order, names written with small letters or in absence of diacritical signs. Deficiencies in the State Voters’ Register, and namely repeated inclusion of voters in the Register, were found also Balti and Glodeni.

j. Changes/additions to PSEB membership

During the reporting period, in at least 60 PSEBs, the representatives of candidates were changed (PLDM - 4 persons, PDM - 12 persons, PL - 23 persons, PCRM - 14 persons, APL - 17 persons).

In at least 15 PSEBs the number of PSEB members were supplemented.

k. Ensuring PSEB Logistics

According to p. 5 and 7 in the CEC Instruction on ensuring the infrastructure of polling stations, when looking for spaces for a PS, preference will be given to spaces located at the first floor, in easily accessible areas, so as to facilitate the access of the elderly or persons with disabilities; the premises designated for voting must have communications, including electronic communications, power, a proper sanitation group, fire extinguisher, and visible emergency exits.

Contrary to respective provisions, Promo-LEX observers found that at least 297 PSs did not have furniture, 325 PSs did not have safes, 173 PSs did not have a phone line, 336 PSs did not have fire extinguishers, 98 PSs did not have heating, and 10 PSs did not have an Internet connection.

At least three PSs, and namely the PS in Balasesti (r. Sangerei) and two PSs in r. Soroca did not meet the conditions for the access of persons with disabilities.

Promo-LEX observers found that PSEB no. 3 in Chisinau was going to be located in a tent next to a bar on 14/7 Bacioii Noi Street. The tent was to be installed on 28 November 2014, and before that, the PSEB worked from the bar.

During a phone poll conducted on 13 November 2014, Promo-LEX observers established that only 17 out of 78 PSs who answered the phone had been equipped with laptops. On 24 November, during another phone poll, Promo-LEX found that only 3 out of 79 PSs who answered the phone were not equipped with laptops, while 13 did not have Internet connection, and 13 did not have heating.

l. PSEB Working Schedule

According to p.29 of the CEC Regulation on the functioning of PSEBs, the bureau establishes audience hours of PSEB members and sets a timetable in that regard, which must take into account when most voters are free, so that they can ask for information of interest.

On 13 November 2014, between 15.00 and 17.00, Promo-LEX observers called a sample of 229 PSs throughout the territory of Moldova. The PSs were sampled in the following way: every PS no.1 and, starting with PS no.7, every tenth PS in every electoral district was contacted. According to the results of the poll, 151 PSs did not answer the call, which represents 66% of the total number of contacted PSs.

On 24 November 2014, between 15.00 and 17.00, Promo-LEX observers called a sample of 212 PSs throughout the territory of Moldova. The PSs were sampled in the following way: every PS no.2 and, starting with PS no.8, every tenth PS in every electoral district was contacted. According to the results of the poll, 122 PSs did not answer the call, which represents 62.7% of the total number of contacted PSs.

m. Ensuring protection of Personal Data by PSEBs

Under Art. 40 par. 1 of the Election Code, voter lists must be publicized in the premises of polling stations at least 30 days before the election. Since voter lists contain personal data, they must be processed so as to protect those data.

According to Promo-LEX observers' reports, in at least 32 PSs, this was not done. Thus, voter lists containing personal data were posted on informational boards in PSs in Zabriceni, Onesti, Blesteni, Bratuseni, Burlanesti, Badragii Vechi, Brinzeni, Chetrosica Noua, Constantinovca, Gordinesti, Sfrincani, Tirnova, Trinca (all in r. Edinet), PS no. 1 in Glodeni, Nihoreni (r. Rascani), Darcauti, Malcauti, Solonet, Stoicani, Rudi, Schineni, Nimereuca, and PS no.3 in Soroca (all in r. Soroca), Stefanesti (r. Stefan Voda), Gara Cobilea (r. Soldanesti), PS no. 29 in Cairaclia, Sofievca (all in r. Taraclia), PS no. 6 in Balti, PS no. 3 in Telenești, Stoianovca, Cania (all in r. Cantemir), and Gratiesti (mun. Chisinau).

n. PSEB members' involvement in campaigning activities

Under Art. 32 par. 7 of the Election Code, members of election bureaus and councils cannot participate in political campaigning in favor or against a candidate to MP, and cannot get involved in political activities in favor or an electoral candidate.

During the reporting period, it was found that at least 3 members of 2 PSs and at least one DEC member got involved in campaigning. Thus, on 7 November 2014, Senchevici Tatiana from PSEB no. 269 in Singera, mun. Chisinau, distributed newspapers and other materials in favor of PSRM. On 14 November 2014, Daniela Surgiu from PSEB no.13 in Fetita (Cimislia) campaigned in favor of PDM in Gura Gabenei (r. Cimislia). On 22 November 2014, Sergiu Iordan, vice chair of DEC Balti, participated at the PDM forum. Mr. Iordan wore a scarf with party symbols and handed PDM member cards to new members.

2. Performance of Public Administration

a. Transferring Voter Lists to PSEBs

Under Art. 39 par. 9 of the Election Code, voter lists are transferred by the CEC to local authorities, diplomatic and consular offices abroad at least 22 days before the poll, in 3 official copies, stamped and bearing protection signage on each page. Two of the copies are sent to the PSEB, and the town hall and/or diplomatic mission keep the third copy.

In at least 89 localities, voter lists were transmitted by the LPAs to the PSEBs with a one day delay; in at least 29 localities, the delay was 2 days; in 10 towns the delay was 3 days; in one town, the lists were passed 5 days later, and in 4 localities, the lists were transmitted with a 8-day delay.

b. Ensure a minimum of sites for election posting and holding rallies

Under Art. 47 par. 7 of the Election Code, local public administration authorities are obliged, within 3 days from the start of the campaign, to establish and ensure access to a minimum number of sites for electoral postings, and a minimum of premises/sites for conducting meetings/rallied with voters, and publish the respective decision at the

premises of the respective local governments.

Contrary to these provisions, in at least 409 localities, the local governments did not establish and equip sites for electoral posting, and in at least 514 localities, it was established that the provided premises for meetings were insufficient.

3. Performance of electoral candidates

a. Changes to the list of candidates for the position of member of the Parliament of Moldova

Under Art. 46 par. 6 of the Election Code, a candidate can make changes in their candidate list no later than 7 days before Election Day.

During the reporting period, there were 17 decisions to amend the composition of lists of candidates for members of Parliament of Moldova. The following competitors amended their candidate lists: PPCD – 1 case, PVE – 1 case, PP “Democracy At Home” – 2 cases, PNL - 2 cases, PCRM - 1 case, MPA – 1 case, PP “Patria” - 1 case, PL - 2 cases, “AMUV” - 3 cases, PLR - 3 cases, PDM - 2 cases, PLDM - 3 cases, PAD - 1 case, PCR - 1 case, PFP – 1 case, and PP “For Nation and Country” - 1 case.

b. Use of administrative resources

The Code of Best Practices of the Venice Commission prescribes a strictly enforced equality of public means used by candidates in elections. “Strict” equality means an equal treatment of political parties, regardless of their present representation in Parliament or support from the voters. Also, under Art. 47 par. 6 of the Election Code, in electoral campaigns, candidates cannot use public means and goods (administrative resources), and public authorities and institutions and those fulfilling such functions cannot transmit or provide candidates public goods and favors except on a contract basis, in equal conditions to all other candidates.

Contrary to these standards, Promo-LEX observers registered at least 23 cases that can be assessed as use of administrative resources.

Use of public buildings

Promo-LEX observers stated 2 cases of use of public buildings in favor of electoral contender PDM. Thus, mayor of Sofricani and mayor of Constantinovca (both in Edinet) admitted PDM banners to be installed on the town hall building.

At the same time, according to CEC Decision no.2975 of 19 November 2014, a PLDM banner was installed on the building of the town hall in Vatra.

Use of service cars and transportation

PDM candidates used in at least 3 cases the service cars during the campaign. During the reporting period, service cars of PDM candidates were seen at rallies in r. Causeni, r. Edinet, and Bahmut (r. Calarasi).

PLDM candidates used the service cars during the campaign in at least 10 cases. PLDM candidates’ service cars were seen at voter rallies in Briceni, Cotelea, Pererita (all in r. Briceni), Orhei, Ciocilteni, Fiodorovca (all in r. Orhei), r. Cimislia, mun. Balti, r. Straseni, Varnita (r. Anenii Noi).

At least one case of use of service cars for the campaign was observed with regard to PL - Dubasarii Vechi (r. Criuleni), PP Renaissance – r. Ocnita, and PCRM – r. Causeni.

Use of public office

During the reporting period, in 4 localities (Cimislia, Ialoveni, Edinet, and Donduseni) multiple cases were found when public servants conducted campaigning activities in favor of PDM during office hours. The institutions, whose employees campaigned in favor of PDM are Frets-Hunting Company in Cimislia, “Cimislia GAZ” SRL, Employment Office in Cimislia, Raion Council in Ialoveni, DGSAFP Ialoveni, Raion Council in Edinet, Mayor’s Office Edinet, “Edinet Gaz” SRL, Employment Agency Donduseni, SEDP Donduseni.

In Casunca (Floresti), a case was reported when a public servant campaigned in favor of PCRM during working hours. Thus, mayor Paulina Ciupac distributed campaigning materials to all citizens who visited the town hall starting with 11 November.

c. Electoral campaigning

During the reporting period, Promo-LEX observers recorded the following types of campaigning: voters' rallies, electoral concerts, electoral films, electoral dance nights, campaign launches, sports activities, openings of social facilities, door-to-door activities, flash mobs, electoral protests, election marches, campaigning tents, distribution of campaigning materials, street, use of known personalities.

At least 4 electoral candidates - PDM, PLDM, PSRM, PL – organized campaigning activities abroad (meetings with voters, concerts).

Meetings with voters

Election meetings were held by the following candidates: PLDM – 77 meetings; PDM – 53 meetings; PCRM – 28 meetings; PSRM – 22 meetings; PP “Patria” – 17 meetings; PL – 14 meetings; PLR – 6 meetings; BE “AMUV” – in at least 5 localities; PP “Renaissance” - in at least 2 localities; PP PFP – 2 meetings; PP “Patriots of Moldova” – in at least 5 locality.

Electoral concerts

Electoral concerts were organized by the following candidates: **PDM** – at least 28 concerts; **PLDM** – at least 60 concerts; **PL** - at least 5 concerts; **PCRM** – at least 4 concerts; **PLR** – at least 3 concerts; **PP “Patria”** – at least 3 concerts; **PSRM** - at least 1 concert.

Electoral films

One case of showing an electoral film was recorded at a meeting with voters organized by PCRM in Criuleni.

Electoral discotheques

During the reporting period, at least 5 cases of organizing election dance nights were recorded: by PDM (in 3 localities) and PLDM (in 2 localities).

Campaign launches

During the reporting period, according to Promo-LEX observers' findings, PDM launched its campaign in 2 localities (on 9 November 2014 in Singerei and 22 November in Balti).

Electoral sports activities

PL organized a football match on 16 November in Cimislia as part of its campaign.

Opening social facilities

During the reporting period, at least 4 candidates participated in openings of social facilities in at least 17 localities, where they also conducted campaigning activities.

Thus, PLDM participated at the inauguration of a Perinatal Center in Orhei, a renovation of the mayoralty and sports complex in Zagarancea (Ungheni), a sports school in Criuleni, a renovated police section in Bulboaca (Anenii Noi), a monument to D. Matcovschi, the “Concordia” canteen and the sports stadium in Ungheni.

“Patria” party participated in the inauguration of a monument to soldiers who died in Afghanistan in Soldanesti.

PDM inaugurated the gasification of the lyceum in Cuizauca (Rezina).

PLR participated in the launch of the project: “Installation of euro-bins in commune Tuzara”.

PL inaugurated monuments in the memory of victims of the communist regime in 9 localities: Harcesti (Ungheni), Radeni (Calarasi), Slobozia Mare and Valeni (both in Cahul), Ignatei (Rezina), Selemet (Cimislia), Sociteni (Ialoveni), Nicoreni (Drochia), and Singera (Chisinau).

Door-to-door activities

Door-to-door activities were conducted by PLDM (in at least 6 localities), PCRM (in at least 2 localities), PL (in at least 1 locality), PDM (in at least 9 localities), PPCD (in at least 1 locality), and PP “Patria” (in at least 1 locality).

Waste disposal events

On 15 November 2014, in Gratiesti (Chisinau), PLDM conducted a waste collection event.

Flash mobs

On 18 November 2014, in Chisinau, PPRM organized a flash mob.

Electoral protests

PPRM organized protests against the current government of Moldova in Chisinau, on 10 and 17 November 2014.

Electoral car rallies

During the reporting period, 4 candidates organized car rallies in 9 localities. Thus PCRM organized car rallies in 7 towns, PSRM - in 4 towns, PDM - in 1 town, and PL - in 1 town.

Campaign tents

During the reporting period, campaign tents on behalf of candidates were noticed in mun. Chisinau (PSRM, PPRM), Truseni, mun. Chisinau (PLDM), Singera, mun. Chisinau (PSRM), Basarabeasca (PSRM), Orhei (PSRM, PL), Ungheni (PDM), Anenii Noi (PDM), Criuleni (PDM), Costesti, r.Ialoveni (PLDM), and Ialoveni (PSRM).

Distribution of campaigning materials and leaflets

During the reporting period, Promo-LEX observers found that 8 candidates distributed campaigning materials.

Thus, PLDM distributed its paper, “Stejarul”, and brochures in Cornesti (Ungheni), Soldanesti, Siscani (Nisporeni), Costesti (Ialoveni), key chains with lanterns with the party in Truseni (Chisinau), Chisinau, and PLDM brochures resembling biometric passports called “Your passport to the future” in Cuhurestii de Jos (Floresti).

PCRM distributed its paper “Comunistul” in Gratiesti (Chisinau), Plop (Donduseni), Drochia, Chisinau, Glodeni, and Dubasarii Vechi (Criuleni).

PSRM distributed its paper “Socialistii” in Orhei, Clisova (Orhei), Bilicenii Noi (Singerei), Singera (Chisinau), Chisinau, Rascani, Tatarasti (Straseni), as well as calendars with the party symbol in Chisinau and Rascani.

PP “Renaissance” distributed a “Renaissance Magazine” in Basarabeasca.

PDM distributed its paper “Vocea Moldovei” in Ungheni, Plop (Donduseni), Soldanesti, Panasesti (Straseni), and distributed leaflets and brochures in Chisinau.

PP “Patria” distributed its paper “Power lays in Truth” in Criuleni, and Iserlia (Basarabeasca).

PPCD distributed a book, “The Rosca Plan”, in Soldanesti, Chisinau, Cahul, Ungheni, and Orhei.

PL distributed T-shirts, caps, bracelets, tape lines, and pens with the party symbol in in Tareuca and Ghiduleni (Rezina), as well as party leaflets, calendars, and pens in Dubasarii Vechi (Criuleni) and Chisinau, and party leaflets, brochures and key chains in Singera (Chisinau).

Anonymous electoral campaigning

On 13 November 2014, in Chisinau, address 16 P. Zadnipru St, anonymous posters were found with a provoking message: “EUROPEAN PROPERTY: ПРЕВРАЩЕНИЕ В ЕВРОКОЛОНИЮ РУМЫНИИ [Transformation into a European colony of Romania]”. During the reporting period, a paper called SFN was seen being distributed to voters, without appropriate signage on authorship or circulation, and containing defamatory articles about the Moldovan government and calling to support PSRM.

Street advertising

Promo-LEX observers found street advertising materials in favor of electoral candidates in various localities of Moldova, as described in the table below:

Table 1. Street Advertising

Electoral Candidate	Billboards localities	Banners localities	City- lights localities	Posters localities	Advertising in unauthorized locations / localities
PDM	20	59	1	107	80
PLDM	8	113	-	128	116
PCRM	1	5	1	43	29
PSRM	11	11	1	50	40
PL	16	23	2	13	16
PP “Patria”	2	12	1	10	10
PP RM	-	-	-	15	4
BE “AMUV”	-	1	-	4	1
PLR	5	3	1	11	5
PP MPA	-	-	-	4	1
PFP	1	2	1	2	3
PP “Renaissance”	3	-	1	-	1
PPCR	-	-	-	1	1
PP “Patriots of Moldova”	-	1	-	-	-
PNL	1	-	-	1	-
PPCD	-	-	-	2	-

Use of the image of known persons

During the reporting period, one candidate was found to use in their campaigning materials the image of well-known individuals. Thus, numerous PSRM billboards contained the picture of Russian President V. Putin and of Russian Patriarch Kirill.

d. Electoral gifts

According to Art. 38 par. 7 of the Election Code, candidates are prohibited from offering money, gifts, to distribute material goods, including humanitarian aid, free or charge, or to conduct other charitable activities in favor of the voters. Under Art. 181¹ of the Criminal Code, “offering or providing money, goods, services or other favors in order to determine the voter to exercise their voting right in a certain way during parliamentary or local election or during a referendum is prohibited. The goods include alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and food stuffs.”

During the reporting period, 6 candidates offered voters money and gifts.

Thus, on 9 November 2014, PDM supporters organized a disco party for youth in Causeni, where each invitation contained a flyer that guaranteed a free soft drink and 50 gr of divin [generic cognac]. On the same day, in Gordinestii Noi (Edinet), PDM representatives distributed blankets, wall clocks and tablecloths to the elderly and vulnerable persons. On 10 November 2014, in Edinet, PDM donated 70 blankets to socially vulnerable families. On 14 November 2014, in Rezina, PDM donated 35 bags. On 17 November 2014, in Orhei, PDM installed chess tables and benches marked with party symbols. On 20 November 2014, in Chisinau, PDM representatives distributed chocolates with the party symbol during a door-to-door exercise.

On 11 November 2014, in Ocnita, during a meeting with voters, PCRM leader and candidate Vladimir Voronin gave 8 watches to the leadership of the raion.

On 8 November 2014, in Cotelea (Briceni), PLDM donated 10,000 Moldovan lei for the renovation of the church. On 9 November 2014, in Leova, during the regional festival "Echo from the motherland", PLDM offered the winner a money prize of 500 lei. On 24 November 2014, in Sipca (Soldanesti) Vlad Filat, PLDM leader and candidate, donated toys, 12 3-story bunk beds, 36 sofas, 36 blankets, 4 5-sectioned closets, 10 tables and 40 chairs to the local kindergarten.

PL inaugurated on its own expense several monuments to victims of the communist regime, in Radeni (Calarasi) – estimated cost of 10,000 lei, Slobozia Mare (Cahul) – 8,000 lei, Valeni (Cahul) – 8,000 lei. On 16 November 2014, in Cimislia, PL organized a football competition, "Mihai Ghimpu's Cup", where money prizes were offered to the winners of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places – 400, 300 and 200 lei, respectively – 1,800 lei in total.

On 19 November 2014, PSRM distributed Moldcell cards in the premise of the "Cantemir" lyceum in Rascani.

On 18 November 2014, in Chisinau, PPRM organized an event to taste local products.

e. Involvement of the church and use of religious cults in campaigning

During the reporting period, there were recorded cases when the church interfered with the electoral campaign. Thus father Constantin, who introduced himself as a priest of the Bessarabian Metropolitan Church from village Statia Rediul-Mare (Ocnita), collected signatures in favor of PLDM because PLDM candidate Chiril Lucinschi had promised him to donate money for the construction of a church in the village.

Promo-LEX observers found electoral materials in the form of small icons that had congratulatory messages on behalf of PLDM on the back. Such cases were found in Orhei, Selemet (Cimislia), Truseni (Chisinau), Nisporeni, and Hlina (Briceni).

In Chisinau, there were cases of use of the image of the church in campaigning materials produced by PSRM ("Socialistii" paper, brochures). The November edition of Panorama newspaper, sponsored by PP "Patria", also used the image of the Orthodox Church.

4. Electoral incidents

During the reporting period, at least 4 electoral incidents were recorded with the use of physical violence, 4 – with the use of verbal violence, 2 incidents of vandalizing the premises of one of the contenders, 1 incident when power was cut off in a locality for election-related reasons, and there were cases of giving money to voters.

On 8 November 2014, in Pivniceni (Donduseni) PDM representatives that attended the Day of the village celebrations were provoked by the locals, and when the conflict degenerated in a fight, police was called in. Two cases of verbal and physical aggression against PL candidate Violeta Rosca were recorded in Zgurita and Pelinia (both in Drochia). In both cases, the police documented the incidents in protocols.

On 8 November 2014, in Bacioi (Chisinau), during a meeting with PL candidate Chiperi Vera, 15 PDM supporters chanted lines threatening with physical violence against mayor Vitalie Salari, also a member of PL. On 13 November 2014, in Dubasarii Vechi (Criuleni), during a PDM rally with supporters, members of MAP together with Sergiu Mocanu verbally attacked PDM members. On 14 November 2014, in Calarasi, while attending a meeting with supporters, PSRM leader Igor Dodon was verbally attacked by PCRM member Valeriu Rusu. On 15 November 2014, in Naslavcea (Ocnita), during a meeting with supporters, PDM representatives were verbally aggressed by Reabco Tatiana, raion councilor, member of PCRM.

On 8 November 2014, in Drochia, unidentified persons vandalized the door of the local PL office. On 22 November 2014, in Criuleni, unidentified individuals forced their way into the local office of PP “Patria”, stealing the registers with party members data and deleting information from the computers.

On 9 November 2014, commune Cosauti (Soroca) was disconnected from power for 4 hours because PLDM representatives needed to install a banner.

During the reporting period, in Balti, Edinet and Varnita (Anenii Noi), many local people found in their mailboxes the papers “Puterea e in adevar [Power Lies in Truth]” with 100 lei banknotes stapled in them. PP “Patria” candidate Renato Usatii commented on this incident, noting that it was staged by other electoral contenders.

On 21 November 2014, in Varvareuca (Floresti), PDM members Valentina Buliga and Svetlana Rusu, CMF director in Floresti, were attacked by local man Dumitru Cenei. The conflict was alleviated after the intervention of other local residents.

5. Intimidation of voters

During the reporting period, at least 5 cases of voter intimidation were registered.

On 7 November 2014, in Singerei, Maria Frolov, an employee of the local post office, was threatened with dismissal by PDM candidate Brasovschi Gheorghe, after Frolov’s daughter joined PLDM. Similar situations were reported with regard to other employees of the post office.

On 12 November 2014, in Badragii Vechi (Edinet), PDM representative Galina Mosoric instructed an employee of the Psycho-Neurological Hospital in Brinzeni to bring 10 persons that will vote for PDM, threatening problems at work if he failed to do so.

On 13 November 2014, in Chisinau, students of the Ecological College were forced to attend a meeting with representatives of PP “Patria”.

On 12 November and 25 November 2014, in Varnita (Anenii Noi), 2 police officers forced a citizen to take down the PL flag and banner he had hoisted in his front yard.

Intimidation of observers

During the reporting period, there was one registered case of intimidation of a Promo-LEX observer. La 9 November 2014, in Soldanesti, at the opening of the monument in the memory of soldiers who perished in Afghanistan, “Patria” Party representatives verbally and physically attacked the Promo-LEX observer.

6. Performance of local and regional media

Under Art. 64, par. 1 of the Election Code, media organizations founded and funded by public authorities are obliged to uphold the principles of fair, responsible, unbiased and impartial reporting, in all their publications and programs, when reflecting the election campaign.

In at least 36 newspapers from 31 localities there were materials that favored or defamed certain electoral candidates.

At least 123 de materials were in favor, 4 - against PDM, 85 materials were in favor and 21 - against PLDM, 28 materials in favor and 1 against PL, 10 materials in favor and 1 against PCRM, 12 materials and 1 against PSRM, 57 materials in favor of PP “Patria”, 4 materials in favor of PFP, 5 materials in favor and 2 against PLR, 3 materials in favor of PP “Renaissance”, 1 material against BE “AMUV”.

Promo-LEX observers reported that among the broadcasters that broadcasted PLDM election were Radio-Orhei, Radio Prim, TV Prim, TV Elita; for PDM - Radio Prim, TV Prim, TV Elita, Radio-Orhei; for PL - Radio Prim, TV Prim, TV Elita; PSRM - Radio Prim, and TV Prim.

During the reporting period, it was found that Bas TV broadcasted at least one program favoring PLDM, PDM, PCRM, PSRM, PP “Patria”, BE “AMUV”, PP “Renaissance”, PP “Patriotii Moldovei”, PVE, and MPA; TV Drochia broadcasted at least one program favoring PLDM, PDM, PL, PCRM, and PSRM; TV Prim broadcasted at least one program favoring PLDM, PDM, PSRM, PP “Patria”, PPRM, and PDA, TV Elita broadcasted at least one program favoring PLDM, PD, PL, PP “Patria”, and PFP; TSV broadcasted at least one program favoring PDM, PL,

PCRM, PSRM, and BE “AMUV”, and Pervyi Pridnestrovskii broadcasted at least one program favoring PCRM and PSRM, and at least one program against PLDM, PDM, and PCRM.

III. FINANCING OF ELECTORAL CANDIDATES DURING THE CAMPAIGN

Under Art. 38, par. 8 of the Election Code, during electoral campaigns, candidates must present biweekly financial reports to the respective election bodies, and these reports must contain information on the revenues and expenses as per their destination.

During the reporting period, 21 out of 26 candidates submitted financial reports. Eighteen candidates submitted 2 financial reports each, and three candidates submitted one report each. Of those, 15 candidates submitted reports covering the period 24 October – 20 November 2014, 1 candidate (PP “Patria”) reported on period 25 October – 23 November 2014, 1 candidate (PVE) reported on period 28 October – 24 November 2014, 1 candidate (IC Oleg Cernei) reported on period 29 October – 25 November 2014, 1 candidate (PP PNT) reported on period 6–19 November 2014, 1 candidate (PDA) reported on period 7–20 November 2014, and 1 candidate (PAD) reported on period 8–23 November 2014. In the period covered by this report, two candidates presented 0 lei in revenues. Five candidates (independent candidates Doga Anatolie, Plesca Valeriu, and Oleg Brega, and parties “Patriots of Moldova”, “Centrist Union of Moldova”) did not submit any financial reports.

1. Revenues declared by electoral candidates

According to weekly reports on the contributions and donations received by candidates in the period 24 October – 27 November, 19 out of 26 candidates indicated amounts delivered into the “Election Fund” account. The total volume of revenues declared by these candidates in the period 24 October – 25 November 2014 was 57,786,679 Moldovan lei. Additionally, the balance from the transfers in the previous period amounted to 5,172,502 lei. Revenues accumulated during the reporting period were composed of donations from 1,118 individuals to a total amount of 42,510,137 lei; contributions from four legal entities in favor of 4 candidates, to a total amount of 9,455,000 lei, of which three donations of 21,000 lei each, and one donation of 9,434,000 lei transferred to the electoral fund account of one of the candidates; party members’ monthly fees transferred to the account of one of the candidates; and an interest credit provided by the Ministry of Finance in the amount of 25,000 lei. (fig.1.1)

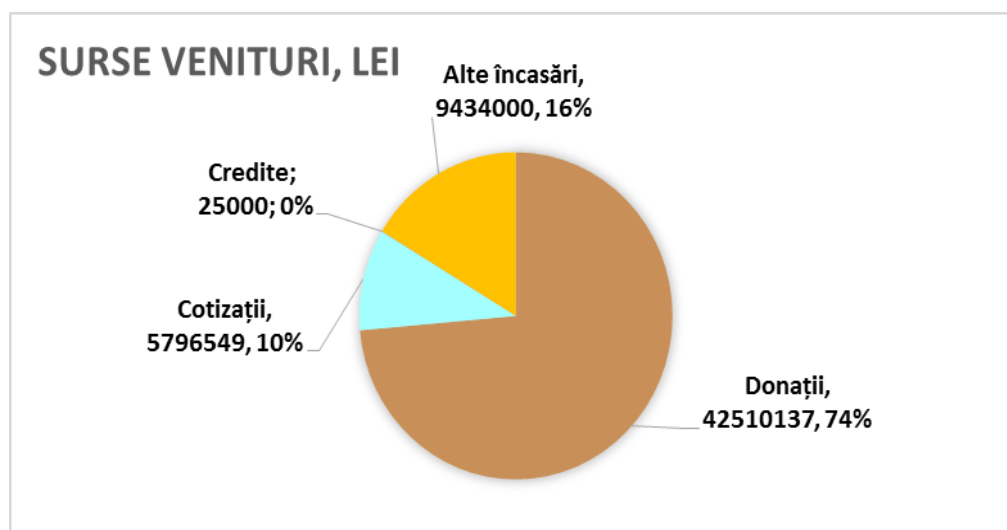


Fig.1.1 Sources of candidates’ revenues

The revenues indicated by PDM amount to 19,842,100 lei, PLDM – 19,138,000 lei, PP “Patria” – 7,192,000 lei, PSRM – 5,796,549 lei, PCRM – 2,376,388 lei, PL – 1,202,000 lei, PLR – 983,500 lei, PPRM – 477,200 lei, PP “Renaissance” – 249,400 lei, BE “AMUV” – 110,467 lei, MPA – 153,100 lei, PFP – 50,000 lei, PPCD – 31,400 lei, PNL – 13,700 lei, PP PCR – 5,780 lei, IC Oleg Cernei – 109,045 lei, IC Doga Anatolie – 25,000 lei, IC Plesca Valeriu – 20,000 lei, PAD – 16,000 lei, PVE – 2,700 lei (fig. 1.2).

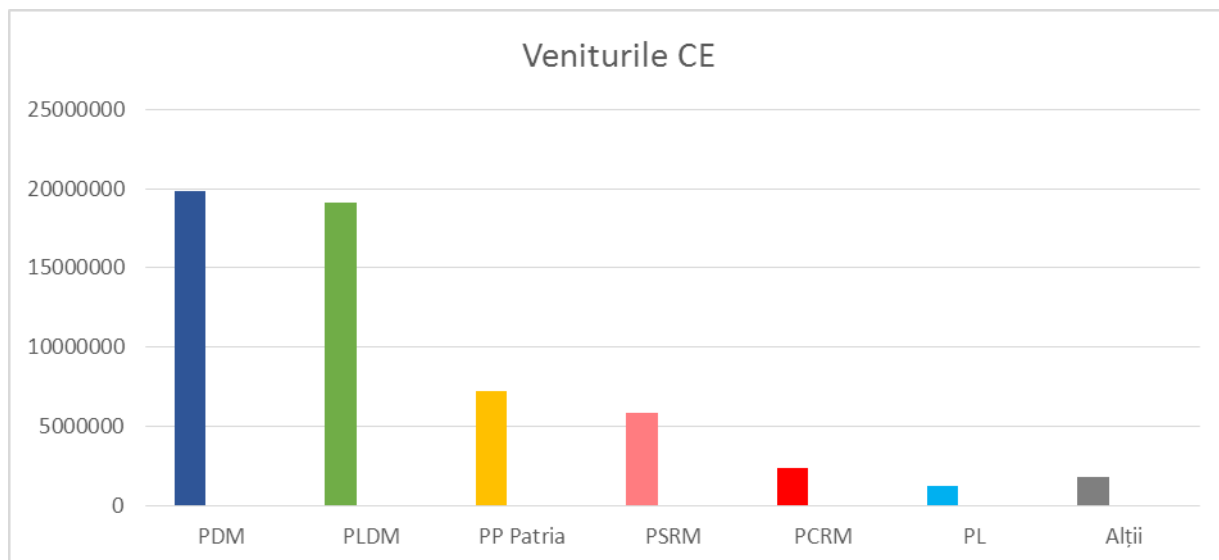


Figure 1.2 Candidates' revenues

As of 23 November 2014, according to financial reports, PDM used 53.34% of the ceiling established by the CEC; PLDM – 53.27%, PP “Patria” – 19.72%, PSRM – 13.88%, PLR – 7.02%, PCRM – 5.91%, PL – 2.19%, others – 4.2% of the ceiling. (fig. 1.3)

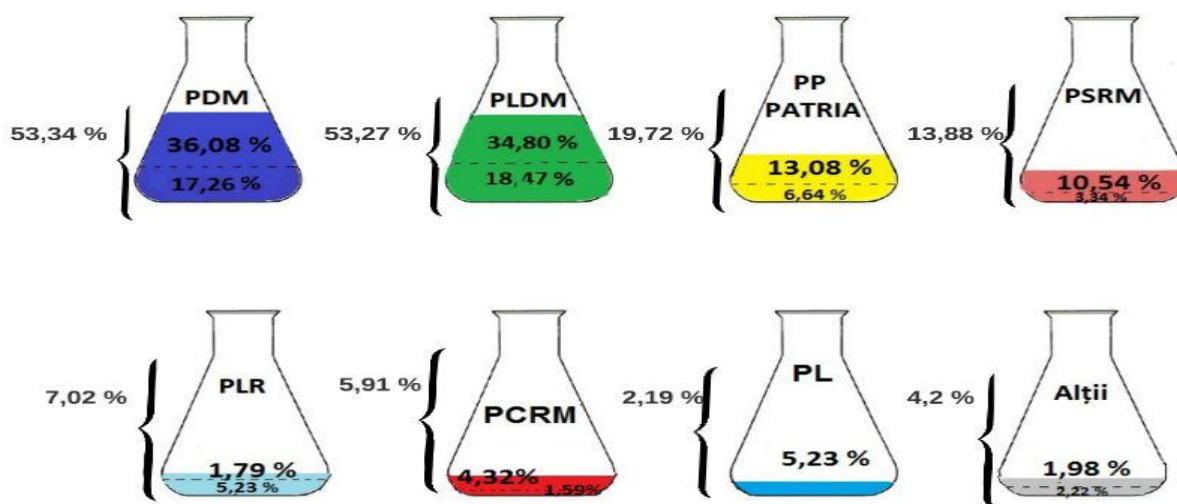


Figure 1.3 Share of total reported expenses in the established ceiling of 55 mln lei

During the respective period, as shown by an analysis conducted by the Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort, 4 categories of revenues were established: “very large” – over 1 mln lei: (PDM – 1 person; PP “Patria” – 2 persons); “large” – 100 thousand to 1 mln lei: (PLDM – 52 persons; PP “Patria” – 15 persons; PLR – 5 persons; PSRM – 1 person; PCRM – 1 person; PL – 2 persons; PPRM – 1 person); “medium” – 75 thousand to 100 thousand lei: (PSRM – 57 persons; PLDM – 8 persons; PDM – 26 persons; PLR – 1 person; PCRM – 1 person; PPRM – 1 person); and “other revenues” – up to 75 thousand lei: (PDM – 559 persons; PCRM – 188 persons; PLDM – 115 persons; PPRM – 22 persons; PP “Renaissance” – 65 persons; PLR – 1 person; PSRM – 12 persons; MPA – 6 persons; PNL – 4 persons; PPCR – 4 persons; BE “AMUV” – 4 persons; PFP – 1 person; PPCD – 2 persons; PL – 10 persons, PVE – 3 persons; IC Oleg Cernei – 13 persons, PAD – 1 person). (fig. 1.4)

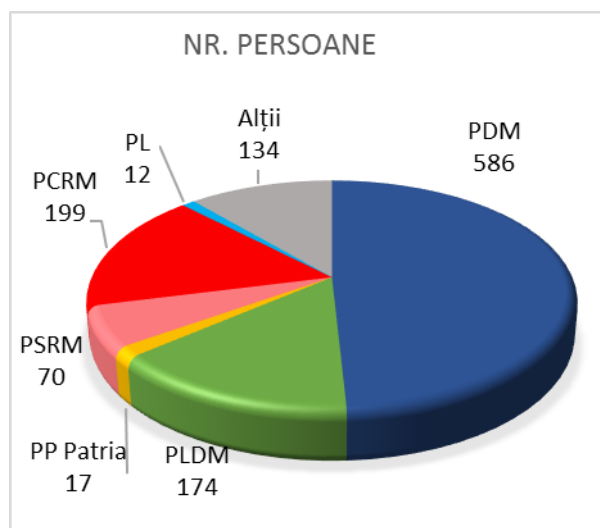


Figure 1.4 Number of persons

2. Candidates' expenses reflected in financial reports

a. Renting premises

As shown by financial reports, 11 candidates reported expenses for renting premises and offices, to a total amount of 475.224 thousand lei (0.78% of total expenses).

Of them, only 4 candidates reported renting expenses for their permanent offices, which amount to 246.233 thousand lei: PP "Patria" – 213.235 thousand lei, PPRM – 24.341 thousand lei, PSRM – 5.040 thousand lei, PNL – 3.617 thousand lei.

With regard to temporary premises (hall rooms), only 8 candidates reported such expenses, which amount to a total of 140.768 thousand lei: PCR – 51.093 thousand lei, PL – 42.85 thousand lei, PP Patria – 39.174 thousand lei, PSRM – 34.012 thousand lei, PDM – 27.94 thousand lei, PAD – 6.91 thousand lei, PLDM – 1.5 thousand lei, and PLR – 1 thousand lei. We emphasize that the 8 mentioned candidates only reflected expenses for temporary premises used for certain events, and did not indicate rent expenses for permanent offices (headquarters).

b. Transportation expenses

According to financial reports, only 5 candidates reported expenses in a total amount of 861.563 thousand lei (1.43% of total expenses): PP "Patria" – 635.508 thousand lei, PP "Renaissance" – 130 thousand lei, PDM – 51.555 thousand lei, PLDM – 40 thousand lei, PCR – 4.5 thousand lei.

c. Renting other fixed and perishable assets

As shown by financial reports, only one candidate (PLR) reported expenses amounting to 2.25 thousand lei for renting other fixed or consumable assets (0.004% of total expenses).

d. Salaries

Financial reports show that only 3 candidates reported expenses of 35.995 thousand lei (0.06% of total expenses) for remuneration of work of the central campaign staff: PLR – 27,432 lei, MPA – 4,377 lei, PNL – 4,190 lei.

e. Compensations

As proven by financial reports, none of the candidates included in their reports expenses connected with compensating volunteers and activists.

f. Advertising expenses

During the reporting period, 19 candidates reported advertising expenses which amount to a total of 58,154,813 lei (96.62% of total expenses): PDM – 19,853,974 lei, PLDM - 19,590,741 lei, PP “Patria” – 7,779,085 lei, PSRM – 5,721,399 lei, PCRM – 2,213,948 lei, PL – 978,779 lei, PLR – 897,961 lei, PPRM – 472,112 lei, MPA – 148,015 lei, PFP – 142,868 lei, PP “Renaissance” – 106,219 lei, BE “AMUV” – 103,605 lei, IC Oleg Cernei – 97,585 lei, PPCD – 30,786 lei, PAD – 7,560 lei, PCR – 5,780 lei, PVE – 2,400 lei, PNL – 2000 lei. (fig. 1.5)

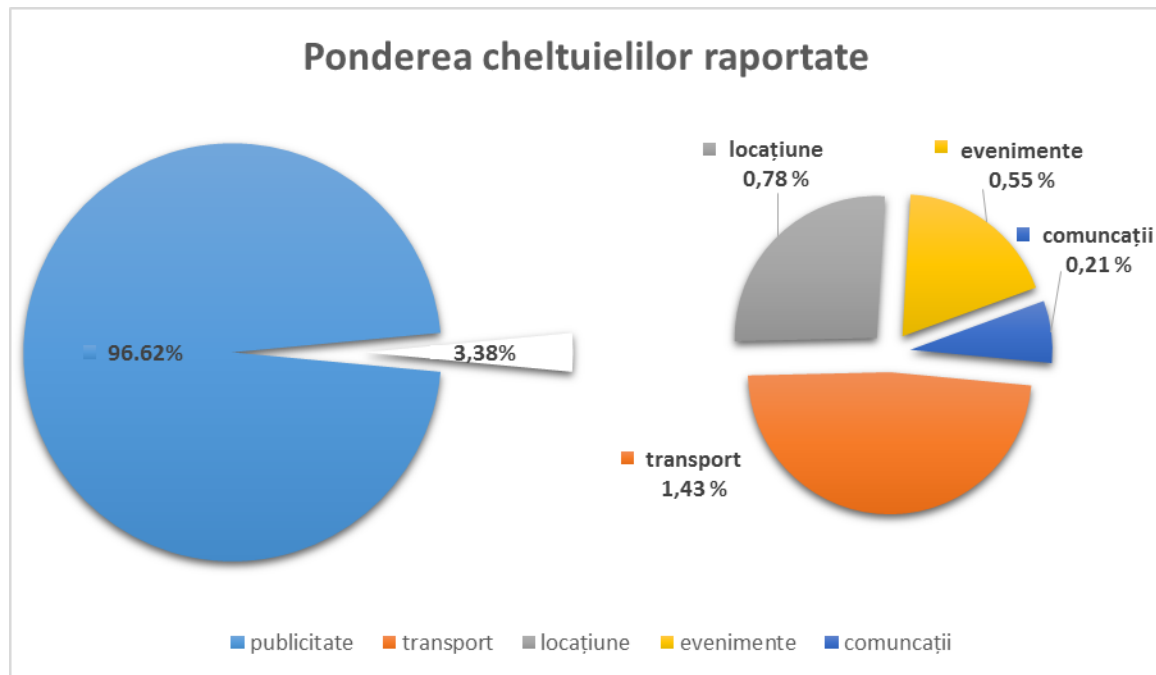


Figure 1.5 Share of advertising expenses in total expenses

g. Public events

As shown by financial reports, five candidates reported expenses of 330,723 lei (0.55% of total expenses): PLDM – 172,931 lei, PDM – 74,249 lei, PLR – 55,608 lei, PP “Patria” – 21,150 lei, and BE “AMUV” – 6,785 lei. Only two candidates reported artists’ honoraria as expenses: PLDM (172,931 lei) and PP “Patria” (12,150 lei).

h. Consultancy services

As shown in financial reports, none of the electoral candidates reported expenses for consultancy services.

i. Travel expenses

As shown in financial reports, none of the electoral candidates reported travel expenses.

j. Banking services

According to financial reports, 16 candidates reported a total of 10,962 lei in expenses for banking services (0.02 % of total expenses).

k. Maintenance services for permanent premises (water, sanitation, gas, power, heating, etc.)

As shown in financial reports, 3 candidates reported a total 4,183 lei in expenses for utilities (0.01% of total expenses): PP “Patria” – 2,705 lei, PPRM – 1,439 lei, and PCR – 40 lei.

l. Communication services

According to financial reports, 3 candidates reported expenses for communication services, to a total amount of 124,093 lei (0.21% of total expenses): PP “Patria” – 100,000 lei, PSRM – 19,895 lei, PP “Renaissance” – 2,828 lei, and PNL – 1,370 lei.

m. Materials (consumables, office supplies)

A single candidate reported expenses on materials (PP “Patria”), which amounted to 2,772 lei (0.01% of total expenses).

3. Candidates’ expenses reported by Promo-LEX observers but not reflected in financial reports

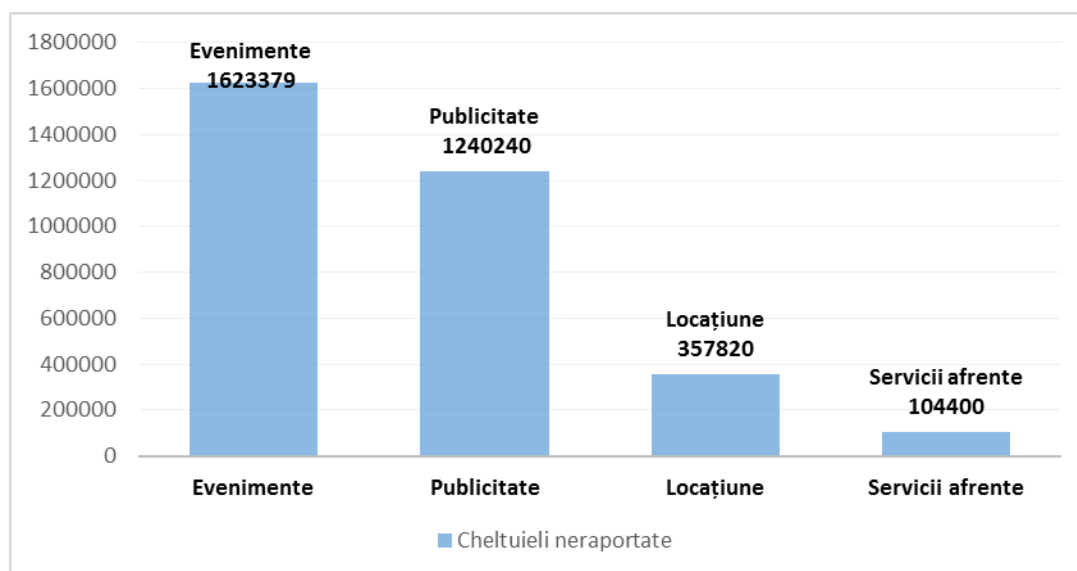


Figure 1.6 Large unreported expenses (estimates)

a. Renting premises

According to Promo-LEX observers, 15 candidates have at least 226 permanent premises (offices) in 32 raion centers, in the cities of Chisinau and Balti, and in Gagauzia. Of the 226 territorial offices visited by Promo-LEX observers: PDM uses 36 offices, PLDM – 35, PCRM – 34, PL – 27, PSRM – 29, PP “Patria” - 17; PPRM – 14; PLR – 14; PP “Renaissance” - 9; MPA – 4; PNL – 3; PPCD – 1; BE “AMUV” – 1; PFP – 1; and PAD – 1.

The Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort established that minimum expenses undeclared by 11 candidates for 165 offices for 4 weeks were at least 357,820 lei.

Thus, the financial report submitted by the PDM fails to reflect at least 113,46 lei in rent expenses, that of the PL does not reflect 63.28 thousand lei in renting expenses, the report of PCRM does not contain expenses of 56.24 thousand lei, that of the PLDM does not reflect at least 46,4 thousand lei, that of the PSRM - at least 18.16 thousand lei. The report of PLR does not reflect 38,04 thousand lei, the MPA report fails to reflect 6,060 lei, the PP “Renaissance” report fails to reflect 7,650 lei, and the report submitted by PPCD does not contain info to 5 thousand lei in rent expenses, PFP – 1,600 lei, and PAD – 1,500 lei.

When making its calculations, the Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort was guided by the following rent prices: Chisinau and Balti cities – 100 lei per sq.m. per month; raion centers – 50 lei per sq.m. per month.

b. Transportation expenses

Promo-LEX observers reported that at least 9 candidates used transportation on the territory of Moldova for electoral purposes. Thus, PLDM used transportation means and fuel for at least 66 concerts in 21 raions and for 18 rallies with voters in 11 raions; PDM – for at least 23 electoral concerts in 15 raions and 10 meetings with voters in 8 raions; PSRM – for at least 16 voter meetings in 11 raions; PCRM – for at least 2 concerts in 2 raions, 11 rallies in 7 raions and for distributing printed materials in communities; PP “Patria” – for at least 12 meetings with voters in 12 raions and for distributing printed materials); PL – for at least 2 concerts and meetings with voters in 5 raions; PPRM – for voter meetings in 10 raions; PP “Renaissance” – in 5 raions, PLR – for 4 voter meetings in 3 raions, MPA – in 6 raions, PFP – for meetings in 4 raions, and BE “AMUV” – in 3 raions.

Only 5 candidates reported expenses in that regard, to a total amount of 861,563 lei (1.43% of total expenses): PP “Patria” – 635,508 lei, PP “Renaissance” – 130 thousand lei, PDM – 51,555 lei, PLDM – 40 thousand lei, PCRM – 4,500 lei.

c. Salaries

According to findings by Promo-LEX observers, at least 15 candidates had hired staff during the reported period: PDM - in 34 localities, PLDM – in 33 localities, PCRM – in 30 localities, PSRM - in 26 localities, PL - in 21 localities, PLR – in 18 localities, PP “Patria” in 14 localities, PPRM in 12 localities, PP “Renaissance” in 8 localities, MPA and PNL – each in 3 localities, PPCD – in 2 localities; and PAD, PFP and BE “AMUV” – in at least one locality each.

Only 3 candidates reported expenses in that regard, with a total amount of 35,995 lei (0.06% of total expenses) for remunerating their staff members: PLR – 27,432 lei, MPA – 4,377 lei, and PNL – 4,190 lei.

d. Compensations for volunteers/activists

Promo-LEX observers reported that at least 1,668 volunteers worked for 10 electoral candidates. PDM had at least 455 volunteers in 10 raions, while their daily fees could vary from 50 and 300 lei; PLDM – at least 453 volunteers in 15 raions, and they are paid between 100 and 700 lei a day; PCRM – 328 volunteers in 7 raions, paying them between 50 and 200 lei; PSRM – 206 volunteers in 12 raions, paying them between 50 and 200 lei; PL – 94 volunteers in 5 raions, paying them between 50 and 200 lei; PPRM – 72 volunteers in 3 raions, paying them between 35 and 50 lei; PP “Patria” – at least 27 volunteers in 4 raions, paying them between 70 and 150 lei; PPCD – at least 23 volunteers in 2 raions, paying them between 50 and 100 lei; PP “Renaissance” – at least 6 volunteers in one raion, who are paid between 50 and 90 lei; and MPA – 4 volunteers in one raion, who are paid at least 50 lei per day.

Note that none of the candidates reflected the respective expenses in their financial reports. The activists and volunteers shared the amounts and ranges indicated above for each candidate with Promo-LEX observers.

e. Advertising expenses

According to Promo-LEX observers, 13 candidates failed to reflect in their financial reports advertising expenses of at least 1,240,240 lei.

As verified by Promo-LEX observers, the minimum monthly cost of a 6x3m billboard is at least 5,650 lei, and 6x2m banner is at least 2,000 lei, a 1x1.5m banner is at least 800 lei, a 6x3 m “city light” costs at least 2,450 lei a month, a standard digital panel – at least 5,000 lei. A flyer costs at least 0.21 lei for a circulation of 100,000, a leaflet costs at least 0.21 lei for a circulation of 500,000, a A3 format gloss paper poster costs no less than 2.5 lei for a circulation of 5,000, and a matte paper A3 poster – no less than 1.5 lei for a circulation of 15,000. A flyer bearing religious signs costs no less than 0.5 lei for a 3,050 circulation, a 66-page brochure costs 9.9 lei for a circulation of 5,000, a 16-page brochure costs 2.39 lei for a circulation of 50,000 copies, a 8-page brochure costs 1.5 lei for a circulation of 50,000 copies, and a 4-page A3 paper costs 0.48 lei for a circulation of 100,000 copies. ex. The price of an A4 size text/article published in the local media varies from 1.90 and 2.90 per unit, and in Chisinau – as high as 5 lei. A publication in VIP Magazin costs at least 20 thousand lei. Add here the cost of other promotional materials: passport template – 5 lei, a T-shirt – 70 lei, 1 bag – 125 lei, 1 jacket/ windbreaker – 300 lei.

With regard to candidate PLDM, Promo-LEX observers reported that at least three printing orders mentioned in the materials distributed to voters are not found in the financial report presented to the CEC (A3 posters - TEU com. no. 5013, circulation 50,000 copies; TEU com. no. 4930 circulation 50,000 copies, flyers with religious symbols - “Elan Poligraf” printing house on 12.11.14. circulation 3,050 copies, and passports “Passport of the young voter” - “Elan Poligraf”, circulation 50,000 copies.) Also, there were reports of circulation of PLDM leaflets without proper printing and circulation data. Observers also reported seeing at least 300 windbreakers, 570 bags, 100 T-shirts dedicated to volunteers and voters, and expenses for these materials are not reflected in the financial report of PLDM. Thus, as promotional advertising expenses go up to 168,250 lei, and expenses for distribution materials – to 287 thousand lei, total unreported PLDM expenses amount to at least 455,250 lei.

With regard to PSRM, Promo-LEX observers found unreported electoral advertising in at least two national publications: “Экономическое обозрение [Economic Review]” – 1 pag, “Kommersant” – 3 pag. (20 thousand lei.)

According to an analysis by the Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort, in at least three cases, printing houses mentioned in promotional or informational materials are not found in the financial reports submitted by PSRM (A2 posters circulation 5,000 copies, Arva Color, com 082/invoice 083 of 24.10.2014 (15 thousand lei); A5 flyer - Arva color, order 091, circulation 30,000 copies (14.7 thousand lei); A4 flyer – Arva Color SRL, order 097, circulation 20,000 copies (9,800 lei); party paper “Социалисты [Socialists]” (240 thousand lei) - no. 29 of 25.10.14, no. 30 of 01.11.14 and no. 31 of 07.11.14, orders no. 1309, 1351, 1403 –total circulation 500,000 copies. There were also reported A3 calendars and an A5 format brochure, “Light from light to light us all”, both produced without printing data. Unreported estimated expenses are of at least 289.7 thousand lei.

With reference to PLR, Promo-LEX observers reported at least 17 billboards in 5 raions, 12 double city lights, 50 1.25x1.25m banners in one raion and printed advertising in at least 9 raions, which were not reflected in the financial reports. Also unreported was a publication in a national newspaper, Timpul, on 2 pages. Total unreported expenses amount to 170,290 lei.

As for candidate PDM, Promo-LEX observers reported electoral advertising in at least 6 nationwide publications: “Saptamana” – 3,5 pag., “Timpul” – 2 pag., “Ziarul de Garda” – 0.5 pag., “Экономическое обозрение” – 2.5 pag., “Kommersant” – 0.5 pag., and “VIP Magazin” – 4 pag. A new type of brochure, “Respect and European Funds! A Guide for the EU” was also produced and was not reflected in the party’s financial report. Unreported expenses amount to at least 125 thousand lei.

With regard to PCRM, Promo-LEX observers reported at least 3 billboards and 36 1x1.5m banners in 5 raions, A3 posters without printing and circulation data in 6 raions, as well as 8-page 20x20cm brochures “Only PCRM, only Voronin” without printing data. Unreported electoral advertising was found in at least one national and one regional publication: “Экономическое обозрение” – 1 pag., “Moldova Independenta” – 3 pag, and “Actualitati Florestene” – 0.5 pag. Total unreported expenses amount to at least 66,7 thousand lei.

As for candidate PPCD, Promo-LEX observers found unreported electoral advertising in at least one national publication: “Flux” – 6 pag., and found distribution brochures of the “Rosca Plan”. According to an analysis by the Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort, at least one printing house mentioned in promotional or informational materials is not found in PPCD’s financial reports (“Planul Rosca” brochure, 66 pages, printing house “Prag-3” SRL, circulation 5,000 copies, as of 04.11.2014). Total unreported expenses amount to at least 60 thousand lei.

With regard to PL, Promo-LEX observers found unreported electoral advertising and promotional materials (pens, notepads, tapelines, key rings) in at least 10 raions. Additionally, unreported electoral advertising in at least three national and three regional publications were found: “Timpul” – 1 pag., “Vocea Poporului” – 0.5 pag., “Ziarul de Grada” – 0.5 pag, “Cuvantul” – 1 pag., “Observatorul de Nord” – 1.5 pag and “Ziarul Nostru” – 1 pag. Total unreported expenses amount to at least 22,85 thousand lei.

With regard to independent candidate Oleg Cernei, Promo-LEX observers found unreported electoral advertising in at least two national publications: “Saptamana” – 2 pag., and “Ziarul de Garda” – 1 pag. Total unreported expenses amount to at least 15 thousand lei.

With regard to electoral candidate PNL, Promo-LEX found at least one standard billboard and one standard banner in 2 different raions, and also found unreported and unmarked printing materials According to an analysis by the Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort, at least one printing house mentioned in promotional or informational materials is not found in PNL’s financial report (4-page flyer, printing house “EUROPRES”, no. 371 of 18.10.2014, circulation 10 000). Total unreported expenses amount to at least 13,4 thousand lei.

As per PPCR, Promo-LEX observers found electoral materials in at least 2 raions (the respective advertising materials were printed by “Xonart Prim” S.R.L. with a circulation of 5,000 copies. Unreported expenses amount to at least 16,05 thousand lei.

Promo-LEX observers also found at least 3 unreported standard banners in favor of BE “AMUV” in one raion, and advertising materials in at least 5 raions. Unreported expenses amount to at least 6 thousand lei.

As for candidate PP “Patria”, Promo-LEX observers found a A-5 12-page brochure “Renato Usatii Plan” without printing data, and expenses for its production are not reflected in the financial report.

f. Public events

According to Promo-LEX observers, at least 6 candidates spent money on at least 100 concerts in total amount of 1,808,460 lei. At least 50 artists were involved in those concerts.

PLDM organized at least 66 concerts in 21 raions, 2 disco dances in 2 raions, and one concert abroad. Artists' remuneration expenses are estimated at 1.346 mln lei.

PDM held at least 24 electoral concerts in 15 raions and 3 disco dances in 3 raions. Artists' remuneration expenses are estimated at 345,160 lei. Organization costs are estimated at 20 thousand lei.

PL organized one campaign launching event and 3 concerts in 3 raions. Artists' remuneration expenses are estimated at no less than 56 thousand lei.

PP "Patria" organized at least 2 concerts in one raion. Artists' remuneration expenses are estimated at 20,600 lei.

PCRM conducted 3 concerts in 2 raions. Artists' remuneration expenses are estimated at no less than 11,350 lei.

PLR held 2 concerts in one raion, and artists' remuneration expenses are estimated at no less than 9,350 lei.

At least 24 artists performed for PDM (I. Suruceanu, C. Prepelita, I. Raiburg, V. Lungu, A. Ochisanu, Z. Julea, N. Ciobanu, V. Dani, M. Pavel, A. Lazariuc, A. Ursu, N. Gordienko, S. Latisev, C. Burlacu, C. Tepes, D. Gherman, M. Sarabas, V. Cojocaru, I. Rusu, N. Stratan, Falești folk music orchestra, I. Istrati, M. Ciobanu, Kapushon, one DJ and one MC.)

At least 29 artists performed for PLDM (Akord band, N. Barbu, A. Puica, I. Palade, 3SudEst band, E. Doga, D. Sulac, Isidor, N. Glib, P. Parfenii, A. Moon, Z. Julea, A. Latisev, Gh. Țopa, I. Suruceanu, I. Raiburg, actors G. Pirlea and N. Godina, Fuego, M. Șura, Aura, D. Sulac, A. Barbu, A. Mirzenko, "Drimba" folk band, Catharsis, D. Gherman, "Lautarii" folk music orchestra - Anisoara Dabija, Lidia Bejenaru, Nicolae Cibotaru and Ioana Capraru; G. Voinovanu).

At least 2 artists - M. Șura and Constantin Moscovici – performed for PCRM.

At least 2 artists performed for PP "Patria" – G. Topa and Mc Gootsa. A lautari band from Chisinau and folk music ensemble "Opincuta" performed for PL.

At least one artist, I. Cuciuc, sang for PLR.

Only three candidates (PLDM, PP "Patria" and PDM) reflected expenses for these in their financial reports submitted to the CEC, including PLDM – 172,931 lei, PP "Patria" – 12,150 lei for honoraria, and PDM – 72,248 lei for renting the stage. (fig.1.7)

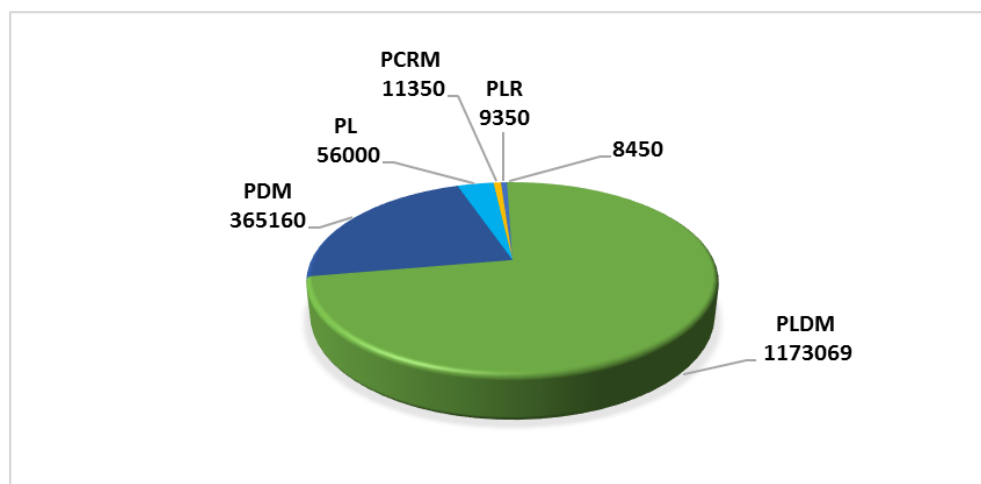


Figure 1.7 Unreported expenses for events (estimates)

g. Travel expenses

Promo-LEX observers reported that, in the monitoring period, at least 4 candidates (PLDM, PSRM, PDM and PL) undertook trips for election purposes. The travels covered at least 18 cities in 6 countries.

PLDM conducted at least 11 voter rallies in Milan (08.11.14), Galati and Constanta (08.11.14), Padua, Bologna and Bucharest (09.11.14), Brescia (15.11), Mestre, Torino, Paris and Athens (16.11.14).

PSRM held at least 7 meetings, of which 5 with voters and 2 with officials in the Russian Federation, in Moscow (02.11.14, 04.11.14, 18.11.14), Sankt Petersburg, Sochi, Tyumen and Surgut.

PDM held at least two voter rallies in Mestre and Verona (14.11.14).

PL had at least one meeting with voters, in Verona (20.11.14).

Expenses for travel, lodging, renting spaces, honoraria and other expenses were not included in the financial reports of the candidates. If the expenses were covered from abroad, the respective candidates could be suspected of receiving financial support from abroad.

h. Maintenance services for permanent premises

With regard to maintenance, none of the candidates reported expenses for the 226 offices. Promo-LEX observers reported incurred expenses for this budget line, for 4 weeks of campaigning, of 104.4 thousand lei.

Thus, the financial report submitted by the PDM fails to mention at least 26.8 thousand lei in expenses, the report presented by PLDM does not mention 18.07 thousand lei, the PCRM report does not mention at least 13.88 thousand lei, the PL report fails to mention 13.56 thousand lei, the PSRM report fails to mention 11.92 thousand lei, the PP “Patria” report fails to mention 6.6 thousand lei, the PPRM report fails to mention 2.28 thousand lei, the PLR report fails to mention 4,1 thousand lei, the PP “Renaissance” report fails to mention 1.38 thousand lei, the MPA report does not mention 2.4 thousand lei, the PNL report fails to mention 900 lei, PPCD – at least 1000 lei, PAD – 500 lei, and PFP – 200 lei. Only 3 candidates reported expenses in that regard: PP “Patria” – 2.705 thousand lei, PPRM – 1.439 thousand lei, and PCR – 40 lei.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort calls on all the Moldovan voters to show maturity and responsibility, to participate in the 30 November 2014 poll, and to exercise their individual rights to vote. Promo-LEX believes that the voters must cast their votes in a conscious and responsible manner.

On the other hand, the Promo-LEX Election Monitoring Effort reiterates the recommendations formulated in its previously published three monitoring reports. Additionally, Promo-LEX calls on the authorities to take the following measures:

To the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova:

- Amend the legal framework to avoid favoring certain categories of citizens by the CEC in the electoral period;
- Amend the legal framework to allow all voters to vote at any polling station during parliamentary elections and national referenda following the implementation of the State Voter register;

To the Central Election Commission:

- Verify and ensuring the functioning of PESBs in accordance with their set working timetables;
- Ensure functional PESB logistics (laptops, internet connection);
- Verify and ensure protection of personal data by PESB members with regard to the posting of voter lists in public spaces;
- Prohibit PESB members' participation in campaigning, investigate cases when PESB members became involved in the campaign;
- Revisit the CEC decision no.3018 to allow voters that do not have residence or domicile visa to vote at any polling station in the country;
- Thoroughly verify the financial reports submitted by candidates and calculate precisely the amounts assessed as undeclared by candidates and/or not included in the financial reports, including expenses abroad, and inform law enforcement bodies as required in the Election Code;
- Start discussions on the need to establish ceilings for donations to election funds, including the possibility to limit transfers of money from the party account to the election account to the amount *de facto* present in the party account at the time of the campaign;
- Explain the procedure of transferring funds from the party account (as a legal entity) into the electoral account, and the procedure of reflecting this transaction in financial reports;
- Ensure a mechanism to avoid the possibility of masking *de facto* donors for candidates (*who first transfer funds to party accounts, and, later, make single transfers from the party account to the election account*);
- In order to avoid suspicions of political bias, treat all candidates fairly and equally when it comes to cases of confirmed allegations of use of undeclared financial means which go more than 5% beyond the set ceiling or which come from abroad;

To authorities of local public administration:

- Ensure good functioning of PSEB logistics (appropriate premises, heating, phones);
- Respect the timeline for transmitting voter lists to PSEBs;

To electoral candidates:

- Ensure that members delegated by electoral candidates to the PSEBs fulfill their obligations;

- Apply internal disciplinary sanctions to members and supporters of the candidates who admitted situations of use of administrative resources during the campaign;
- Avoid physical and psychological confrontations during campaigning activities;
- Ensure transparency of campaign funding to avoid conflict situations that could generate discussions regarding the need to eliminate the candidate from the race;

To the media:

- Provide an unbiased coverage of the performance of the electoral candidates.

To law enforcement agencies:

- Investigate, in accordance with contravention or criminal procedure legislation, cases mentioned in this report that raise suspicion of violations of current legislation.

V. PROMO-LEX OBSERVATION METHODOLOGY

The Promo-LEX Association monitors the 30 November 2014 parliamentary election throughout the Republic of Moldova, including the left bank of the Nistru River. This effort involves 41 long-term observers and 32 medium-term observers. On Election Day, Promo-LEX will delegate short-term observers for each polling station, raising the total number of observers to 2,000. The activity of all long-term and short-term observers is coordinated by a central team, which monitors both the pre-electoral and post-electoral periods.

Monitoring activities are neutral and unbiased in regard to all electoral candidates. Promo-LEX is not an investigative body; therefore, it is not obliged to provide evidence for the findings of their observers. Before participating in the Monitoring Effort, Promo-LEX observers were trained in election observation, and in demonstrating an unbiased, a-political attitude and maintaining objectivity in the framework of the Monitoring Effort. Each Promo-LEX observer signs a Code of Conduct developed and approved by the Global Network of National Electoral Observers (GNDEM). A copy of the Code of Conduct is available on the web-page www.promolex.md.

The Monitoring Effort includes observation of activities conducted by electoral candidates, electoral bodies, authorities of central and local public administration, and local and regional mass media. Another priority field for analysis is the monitoring of the use of finances by the electoral candidates, their revenues and expenses, and their reporting in accordance with the law. Particular attention will be paid to the implementation of the State Register of Voters.

The public reports of the Monitoring Effort are developed based on official information, observers' direct observation and reports, interviews with electoral actors, and analysis of official documents.

International standards used as a basis for the monitoring reports are those elaborated by the Organization of United Nations (International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948); the Council of Europe (European Convention on Human Rights), the European Commission for Democracy Through Law – the Venice Commission (Code of Good Electoral Practices, Guidelines for Political Parties' Finances), the European Union (Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union), and the OSCE. Basic principles of the international electoral standards are: universal, equal, free, secret, periodic, correct and direct suffrage (right to elect and be elected).

The Promo-LEX Association conducts the monitoring of parliamentary elections on 30 November 2014 within its Program of Monitoring Democratic Processes. The Monitoring Effort falls under activities conducted by the civil society within the framework of the Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections. The monitoring of parliamentary elections of 30 November 2014 benefits from technical assistance provided by the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) and is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), the Council of Europe, and the Stefan Batory Foundation from the funds provided by the Solidarity Fund "Support for Democracy" Program of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland. Opinions expressed in this report belong to the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the funders.

a. Promo-LEX Experience in election monitoring

Promo-LEX experience in election monitoring began in 2009 with seven observers who monitored the electoral process in the Transnistrian region of Moldova during the parliamentary elections of April 2009. Promo-LEX observed the early parliamentary elections held on 29 July 2009, covering 250 polling stations in six electoral

districts (in the Transnistrian region and neighboring regions). On 5 September 2010, Promo-LEX monitored the constitutional referendum, deploying a national network of 42 long-term observers and 300 short-term observers in all territorial units of the country. At the same time, Promo-LEX deployed 79 observers to monitor the referendum in 40 polling stations outside the country. Promo-LEX subsequently became the leading NGO from Moldova in monitoring electoral processes.

Promo-LEX observed the early parliamentary elections on 28 November 2010 in all electoral districts in Moldova. On Election Day, Promo-LEX deployed observers to each polling station throughout the country. In total, Promo-LEX accredited and deployed 2,500 national observers for the respective election. During the same Monitoring Effort, Promo-LEX carried out parallel vote tabulation (PVT), a quick statistical qualitative and quantitative vote count (Quick Count). At the recount on 15 December 2010, the Promo-LEX observers carried out parallel vote tabulation at District Electoral Councils. The same methodology was used to monitor the local elections on 5 June 2011. Promo-LEX monitored the new local elections on 15 November 2009, 16 May 2010, 19 May 2013, 10 November 2013 and 11 May 2014.

Since 2005, Promo-LEX has been a member of the Coalition for Free and Fair Elections. In 2009, Promo-LEX became a member of the European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations (ENEMO). In 2010, Promo-LEX joined the Global Network of Domestic Election Monitors (GNDEM). In 2013, Promo-LEX became a founding member of the European Platform for Democratic Elections (EPDE).

During this period, Promo-LEX observers have accumulated extensive international experience in several elections, including the presidential elections in Georgia and Ukraine; parliamentary elections in Norway, Estonia, Ukraine, Germany, Kosovo, and Macedonia; local elections in Romania and Ukraine, as well as a referendum in Romania.

VI. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Art. – Article

ATU Gagauzia – Autonomous Territorial Unit Gagauzia

BCC – Broadcasting Coordination Councils

CCED – Center for Continuous Electoral Development

the CEC – Central Electoral Commission

CISA CIS – Council of Interstate Assemblies of the Community of Independent States

D. – District

DEC – District Electoral Council

EC – Electoral candidate

Electoral Bloc MCCU – Electoral Bloc Moldova's Choice Customs Union

ENEMO – European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations

EPDE – European Platform for Democratic Elections

GNDEM – Global Network of Domestic Elections Observers

GUAM – Organization for cooperation and economic development

INSM – National Institute of Standardization and Metrology

J.S.C. – Joint Stock Company

LPA – Local Public Administration

m² – square meters

mln – million

MPA – Political party “Anti-MAFIA Popular Movement”

mun. – municipality

NDI – National Democratic Institute

NED – National Endowment for Democracy

NGO- Nongovernmental Organization

ODIHR – Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

OMVSD – Small value assets and consumables

OSCE – Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

p. – Page

Par. – Paragraph

PCR – Political Party “Party of the Communists Reformists of Moldova”

PCRM – Party of the Communists of the Republic of Moldova

PDA – Political Party “Democracy at Home”
PDM – Democratic Party of Moldova
PL – Liberal Party
PLDM – Liberal Democratic Party of Moldova
PLR – Political Party “Liberal Reformists Party”
PNL – National Liberal Party
PP Patria – Political Party “PATRIA”
PP PFP – Political Party “People’s Force Party”
PP Renaissance – Political Party “RENAȘTERE”
PPCD – People’s Christian Democratic Party
PPRM - Political Party “People’s Party of the Republic of Moldova”
PS – Polling Station
PSRM – Political Party “Party of Socialists of the Republic of Moldova”
PVE – Political Party “Green Ecologists Party”
PVT – Parallel Vote Tabulation
RM – Republic of Moldova
SPPS – State Security and Protection Service
TV – Television
UN – United Nations
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
Unit. – Unit
USAID – United States Agency for International Development