The status of observer at Riigikogu elections

The regulation is established on the basis of clause 15 (4) 9 of the Riigikogu Election Act.

§ 1. Observer’s certificate

(1) In order to receive an observer’s certificate a written application has to be submitted where the name of the applicant and who he/she is representing is notified.

(2) The application must be submitted not later than on the election day.

(3) The following shall submit their application for receiving an observer’s certificate to the National Election Committee:
   1) representative of a foreign state;
   2) representative of an international organization.

(4) The following shall submit their application for receiving an observer’s certificate to the county election committee:
   1) representative of a body of a local government of a foreign state;
   2) representative of a party;
   3) independent candidate;
   4) other person.

(5) The National Election Committee or the county election committee shall register an observer based on his/her application and issue an observer’s certificate to him/her (standard form included).

§ 2. Rights and duties of an observer

(1) An observer must introduce himself/herself to the election committee and present an observer’s certificate.

(2) An observer may visit a meeting of the National Election Committee, county election committee or polling station committee as well as observe all election activities, including the voting procedure and verification of voting results and election results.

(3) An observer is entitled to observe the conduct of electronic voting, including the procedures of key management of the electronic voting system, cancellation of votes and verification of voting results.

(3) An observer is entitled to write down the numbers of the security seals used for sealing the ballot box or its opening.

(4) An observer may not interfere with the work of the election committee nor take part in the election activities which are within the competence of the election committee.

(5) An observer is not entitled to access the polling list except in the cases specified in the Riigikogu Election Act.
(6) An observer may present a summary of his or her observations to the National Election Committee either in written form at the address Lossi plats 1A, 15181 Tallinn or electronically at e-mail address val@riigikogu.ee.

§ 3. Informing of the violation of the law

When an observer draws the attention of the election committee to a violation of law, the election committee shall inform the higher level election committee of this.

Heiki Sibul
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National Election Committee