Approved via the Decision of the Central Electoral Commission
no. 332 dated 24 October 2006;
amended and completed by CEC decisions
no.1792 dated 22 July 2008;
no.3379 dated 27 July 2010;
no. 3573 dated 5 October 2010;
no. 2675 dated 25 September 2014

REGULATION
on status of observers and their accreditation procedure

I. General provisions

1. The status of observers and observers’ accreditation procedure shall be set by the Electoral Code, this Regulation and other normative acts in force.

2. Observers’ activity shall be guided by the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, the Electoral Code, this Regulation, other normative acts in this field, and international agreements where the Republic of Moldova is a party.

3. Observers are persons having the right to vote and being duly authorized, who may represent local, foreign or international organizations or institutions and whose mission is to follow the way in which elections are organized and performed. The observer’s positions is incompatible with the position of candidate in elections, member of the electoral body, representatives or trust persons of the electoral candidate.

4. Observers can be:
- nationals, citizens of the Republic of Moldova – representatives of qualified public associations from the Republic of Moldova or representatives of the electoral candidates, accredited by the electoral bodies under the conditions set in the Electoral Code;
- international – representatives of international organizations, governments of foreign states and non-governmental organizations from aboard, as well as international experts in the electoral area, accredited by the Central Electoral Commission.

II. Procedure for accrediting observers

5. The Central Electoral Commission shall accredit national and international observers under the Central Electoral Commission in the district electoral councils, in the polling stations on the territory of the Republic of Moldova and in the polling stations established outside the Republic of Moldova.

6. The representatives of international organizations, foreign countries’ governments and non-governmental organizations from abroad may register, if needed, with the Central Electoral Commission the interpreters who will assist the international observers accredited during the period of their activity.

Source: http://www.cec.md/
7. The District electoral council shall accredit, by request of electoral candidates/referendum participants, one national observer to each polling station from the respective district, indicating the station to which they will be accredited. The observers from the qualified public associations in the Republic of Moldova shall be accredited by the District electoral council on the entire territory of the respective district.

Point 7 (previously point 6) amended via CEC Decision no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010 and completed via de CEC Decision no. 2675 dated 25.09.2014

8. Applications for accreditation of national observers shall be lodged at the headquarter of the Central Electoral Commission for accreditation in district electoral councils, polling stations on the territory of the Republic of Moldova and in polling stations established outside the Republic of Moldova and in the offices of the district electoral councils for accrediting in polling stations from the respective district.

9. The application for accreditation of national observer shall cover an official letter, in its original copy, from the institution which requests the respective accreditation, the copy of the ID card or the temporary ID card mentioning the Republic of Moldova citizenship, the residence of the holder, for every candidate. For accrediting national observers in the polling stations established outside the country, the copy of the touristic passport shall be submitted. In case of the international observers, the application shall cover an official letter, in the original copy, and the special form, for every candidate, according to the template provided in Annex No. 1, from behalf of the institution requesting the accreditation, the copy of the foreign citizen’s passport (travel document). The public organizations will also submit the copy of the charter, as well as the copy of the certificate of registration under the Ministry of Justice or any other competent body. The national public organizations shall submit also the copy of the extract from the State Register of Non-commercial Organizations issued maximum 6 months prior to the moment it is actually submitted. The incomplete files shall be rejected.

Point 9 introduced via CEC Decision no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010 and amended via de CEC Decision no. 2675 dated 25.09.2014

10. The deadline for lodging the applications for accreditation as observers is 7 days prior to the elections date.

Point 10 amended via CEC Decision no. 2675 dated 25.09.2014

11. Invitation of international organizations, representatives of governments of foreign countries and non-governmental organizations from abroad as international experts/international observers shall be performed by the Central Electoral Commission directly or through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, upon the request of the Central Electoral Commission.

Point 11 (previously 9) amended via CEC Decision no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010

12. During the review of the application for accreditation, the Central Electoral Commission shall cooperate with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Information and Security Service, and Ministry of Justice.

13. The electoral body, within 5 days, as a rule in the presence of the applicant or his/her representative, shall adopt a decision for accreditation or decline of the proposed candidate for observing elections. In case of declining the proposed candidate, the electoral body must inform the party proposing the candidate the reasons for such denial.

Point 13 (previously 11) amended via CEC Decision no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010

14. The electoral body shall issue badges to the accredited national and international observers, and registered interpreters, in accordance with the template set out in Annex No. 2. The badges shall be borne on the breast left side and valid only when presenting the ID card.


Source: http://www.cec.md/
15. Fulfillment of observer’s function shall start from the moment of accreditation and shall expire on the date immediately after the day when final result of the election are confirmed by the competent authorities.

16. The decision on declining the accreditation should be well-reasoned and may be challenged to the hierarchical body, and subsequently to the court.

   Point 16 introduced via CEC Decision no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010

17. The protocol office of the international observers shall be established under the Central Electoral Commission. The numeric composition and the activity principles of the respective office shall be set forth via a decision of the Central Electoral Commission. The office shall be active during the period of the electoral campaign, aiming to ensure the efficient activity of the international observers.

   Point 17 introduced via CEC Decision no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010

III. Rights and obligations of observers

18. Observers have the right to:
   - attend, but not interfere with the process, all the meetings of the electoral bodies, all procedures related to checking, sealing and opening the ballot-boxes, counting and summing up the votes, the operations related to voters’ lists, ballots, vote certificates, as well as when minutes on summation of election results are made;
   - inform the chair of the electoral body about the observed breaches in elections;
   - have access to all the information of electoral nature, voters’ lists, minutes concluded by the electoral bodies;
   - receive copies of the minutes concluded by electoral bodies;
   - attend, but not interfere with the process, the meetings of electoral candidates/referendum participants with voters;
   - after notifying the chair of the electoral body, to perform video and audio recording, to take pictures of how the election process is performed, without endangering the secret and security of voting;
   - if necessary, to be accompanied by an interpreter, who will not interfere in the election process or in other election activities carried out by the electoral bodies;
   - take other actions that do not contradict with the Electoral Code, this Regulation, and legislation in force;
   - the international observers are entitled to request, if needed, assistance from the Observers’ Protocol Office;
   - the national (local) observers may lodge notifications about the observed breaches, which will be examined by the chair of the electoral body, with compulsory information of the notification author about the taken decision.

   Point 18 (previously 15) amended and completed via CEC Decision no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010

19. Observers shall:
   - be impartial in carrying out their duties and not express personal opinions or preferences regarding certain election candidates/referendum participants or regarding certain problems that may occur during elections;
   - fulfill their obligations in a correct manner, shall not interfere with the election process, and procedures on the Election Day or in counting of votes;
   - wear the badge issued by the electoral body and, upon request of all interested persons, shall authenticate themselves and confirm that the accompanying person is an interpreter, and the latter shall present an identity document;

Source: [http://www.cec.md/](http://www.cec.md/)
- not wear in visible places symbols that belong to election candidates/referendum participants, including object or garments of certain color that identify the election candidate/referendum participant;
- not give instruction or take actions that contradict with the decisions of the electoral bodies;
- fill out the statistical form regarding the polling station that they supervised;
- avoid making any kind of comments in public, including in presence of mass media representatives or other interested persons, until the closing of polling stations about their observations;
- know and observe the effective legislation of the Republic of Moldova and provisions of this Regulation;
- observe the provisions of the Law no. 133 dated July 8, 2011 on protection of personal data.

Point 19 (previously 16) amended via CEC Decision no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010, no. 2675 dated 25.09.2014

IV. Guaranties of fulfillment of observer’s functions

20. For purpose of efficient fulfillment of the established functions, the observers shall be furnished with materials and financial resources by the parties that have proposed them for accreditation or on their own expense.

21. The enter, exit and stay in the territory of the Republic of Moldova of international observers shall occur under conditions of the Law no. 269-XIII dated 9 November 1994 on exit and entry into the Republic of Moldova” (Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 1995, no. 6, article 54).

22. The accredited observers are guaranteed to have free and unrestrained access to any election operations.

V. Observers’ responsibility

23. If an observer has breached the effective election norms, the electoral body that has accredited the observer may cancel his/her accreditation by adopting a decision.

24. Any propaganda action pro and contra any political party, another social-political organization or an independent candidate or against the issue subject to referendum, or an attempt to exercise influence on the voter’s choice, and any other breaches in any way whatsoever of observer’s rights and obligations and effective election norms, shall lead to cancellation of observer’s accreditation by the electoral body that has accredited the observer.

Point 24 (previously 21) amended by the CEC Decision no.1792 dated 22.07.08, and no. 3379 dated 27.07.2010

25. If observers are found guilty in breaching election norms on the day of voting, they shall be immediately removed from polling station premises, upon the order of the electoral body chair, and this fact will be documented in a minutes report signed by the respective observer.

26. The decision on cancellation of accreditation as observer or his/her replacement with another person can be taken by the institution which has requested previously the accreditation of the respective person, based on a written application which would be lodged to the corresponding electoral body.

Point 26 introduced via the CEC Decision no. 2675 dated 25.09.2014

Source: http://www.cec.md/
Annex No. 1

to the Regulation on status of observers and their accreditation
approved via the CEC Decision No. 332 dated 24.10.2006

Annex no. 1

Introduced via the CEC Decision no. 2675 dated 25.09.2014

APPLICATION FORM

For accreditation as a foreign (international) observer

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<td>4. Citizenship</td>
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<td>5. Passport number and type: diplomatic, official, ordinary</td>
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<td>6. Date and place of issue of passport</td>
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<td>8. Represented organization (full name, address, phone, fax, e-mail)</td>
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<td>9. Position and place of work</td>
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<td>10. Contact information of the applicant (e-mail, mobile, telephone)</td>
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<td>11. Arrival date in the Republic of Moldova</td>
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<td>12. Departure date from the Republic of Moldova</td>
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Source: [http://www.cec.md/](http://www.cec.md/)
Annex No. 2

to the Regulation on status of observers and their accreditation
approved via the CEC Decision No. 332 dated 24.10.2006

Annex no. 2
Introduced via the CEC Decision no. 2675 dated 25.09.2014

Templates of the observer/interpreter badges

* Types of elections:
  - Parliamentary elections
  - Anticipated parliamentary elections
  - General local elections
  - New local elections
  - Republican referendum
  - Constitutional republican referendum

Source: [http://www.cec.md/](http://www.cec.md/)