

THE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE OF THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT

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On the basis of its competence laid down in Article 59 of the Rules of Procedure of the Croatian Parliament, the Legislation Committee of the Croatian Parliament, at its 45th session held on 16 April 2013, established a consolidated text of the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 24/11), the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11), and the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) defining the date of their entry into force.

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Chairperson
of the Legislation
Committee
of the Croatian
Parliament
**Ingrid Antičević
Marinović, m.p.**

POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND ELECTION CAMPAIGN FINANCING ACT (consolidated text)

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

This Act shall regulate the methods of financing political parties, independent Members of Parliament (hereinafter: MPs), members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates, the acquisition and use of funds, and oversight and audits.

By virtue of the provision of Article 1 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, the words “national minority MPs” in paragraph 1 were deleted.

The provisions of this Act shall apply to the regular annual financing of political parties, independent MPs and members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from lists of a group of voters, independent lists or lists of a group

of voters and candidates in elections for the President of the Republic of Croatia, for members to the Croatian Parliament, for members to the European Parliament, for heads of municipalities, mayors, county prefects and for the mayor of the City of Zagreb, and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units.

By virtue of the provision of Article 1 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, the words “national minority MPs” in paragraph 2 were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

For the purposes of this Act, financing shall mean the acquisition of funds and the provision of services or products free of charge with a view to supporting and promoting the political activities of political parties, independent MPs, members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from lists of a group of voters, independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates as well as the use of such funds, products and services for the purposes of such political activities, in compliance with this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 1 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, the words “national minority MPs” in paragraph 3 were deleted.

II. SOURCES OF FINANCING

Article 2

In order to pursue their political objectives, political parties may acquire revenue from their assets, membership fees, or membership contributions, publishing activities, voluntary contributions (donations), the sale of promotional materials, the organization of party events, and any other sources as may be deemed eligible by law.

By virtue of the provision of Article 2 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, the words “or membership contributions,” were inserted after the words “membership fees,” in paragraph 1.

Revenue from the sources specified in paragraph (1) of this Article, save for those from membership fees and from the organization of party events, may also be acquired by independent MPs and members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters.

By virtue of the provision of Article 2 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, the words “national minority MPs” in paragraph 2 were deleted.

Political parties, independent MPs and members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters may be financed from the state budget and from the budgets of local and regional self-government units, in the manner and under the conditions laid down in this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 2 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3, the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

Political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters may use the funds referred to in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of this Article solely for the purposes of pursuing the objectives set down in the work programme and the financial plan referred to in Article 28 of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 2 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 4, the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs” and the words “the programmes and charters of political parties or their work programmes and annual financial plans” were replaced by the words “work programme and the financial plan referred to in Article 28 of this Act.”

The funds specified in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of this Article shall not be used for private purposes.

Financing from the state budget and from the budgets of local and regional self-government units

Article 3

The funds required for the regular annual financing of political parties and independent MPs shall be secured in the state budget of the Republic of Croatia, and shall amount to 0.05% of operating expenses incurred as stated in the previously published annual budget execution report.

By virtue of the provision of Article 3 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, the comma was deleted after the words “political parties” and the word “and” was inserted, and the words “and national minority MPs” were deleted.

The funds required for the regular annual financing of political parties and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall be secured by local and regional self-government units in their budgets and shall be equal to any such amount as may be appropriated therein for each year for which such budgets are adopted.

Article 4

Political parties having their members in the Croatian Parliament and independent MPs elected from independent lists shall be entitled to regular annual financing from the state budget.

By virtue of the provision of Article 4 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, the comma after the words “the Croatian Parliament” was

deleted, the word “and” was inserted, a full stop was added after the words “independent lists” and the words “and national minority MPs” were deleted.

Political parties with members in the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units and members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units who have been elected from a list of a group of voters shall be entitled to regular annual financing from the budgets of local and regional self-government units.

By virtue of the provision of Article 4 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2, the words "independent members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, who have been elected from independent slates" were replaced by the words "members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units who have been elected from a list of a group of voters".

Article 5

The funds specified in Article 3 of this Act shall be allocated by setting an equal amount thereof for each MP or each member of the representative body of local and regional self-government units, with each political party being entitled to receive any such funding as may be proportionate to the number of its MPs or members of the representative body at the time of the constitution of the Croatian Parliament or of the representative body of such local and regional self-government unit.

If the membership of a Member (Members) of the Croatian Parliament or a member (members) of the representative body of a local and regional self-government unit in his/her (their) political party is terminated after the constitution of the Croatian Parliament or of a representative body of such local and regional self-government unit, the funds allocated under paragraph (1) of this Article shall be retained by the political party to which such a Member of Parliament or member of the representative body of such local and regional self-government unit belonged at the moment of constitution of the Croatian Parliament or the representative body of such local and regional self-government unit.

By virtue of the provision of Article 5 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2, the words "at the time of the constitution" were replaced by the words "at the moment of constitution".

Should two or more political parties merge, the funds allocated under paragraph (1) of this Article shall belong to any political party deemed the legal successor of the political parties that have ceased to exist as a result of such merger.

If any independent MP elected from an independent list or a member of the representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters becomes a member of a political party represented in the Croatian Parliament or in a representative body of such local and regional self-government unit after the constitution of the Croatian Parliament or the representative body of such local and regional self-government unit, the MP or member of the representative body of such local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters shall retain the funds secured for his/her regular annual financing in the state budget or in the budgets of local and regional self-government

units and shall remain subject to the provisions hereof pertaining to independent MPs or members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters.

By virtue of the provision of Article 5 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 4, in two instances, the words "independent member of the representative body of a local and regional governmental unit, who has been elected thereto from an independent slate" in the appropriate number and case were replaced by the words "a member of the representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters" in the appropriate number and case, and the words "member of the representative body of such local and regional governmental units elected from independent lists" were replaced by the words "member of the representative body of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters".

Article 6

For each elected MP or member of the representative body of a local and regional self-government unit who belongs to an under-represented gender, political parties shall also be entitled to a bonus of 10% of the amount allocated for each MP or member of a representative body of such local and regional self-government unit referred to in Article 5(1) of this Act.

Article 7

Decisions on the allocation of funds from the state budget under Article 5(1) hereof shall be made by the Committee on the Constitution, Standing Orders and Political System of the Croatian Parliament. The allocated funds shall be transferred, on a quarterly basis and in equal amounts, to the central accounts of political parties or to special accounts of independent MPs referred to in paragraph (3) of this Article. Funds for regular annual financing of national minority MPs nominated by a political party shall be transferred to the political party's central account.

By virtue of the provision of Article 6 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma and the words "and national minority MPs" were deleted after the words "independent MPs" and, after the words "in equal amounts", the following sentence was added: "Funds for regular annual financing of national minority MPs nominated by a political party shall be transferred to the political party's central account."

Decisions on the allocation of funds from local and regional budgets under Article 5(1) hereof shall be made by representative bodies of local and regional self-government units. The allocated funds shall be transferred, on a quarterly basis and in equal amounts, to the giro accounts of political parties or to special accounts of members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article.

Independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall open special accounts for the regular financing of their activities at the latest within 15 days from the beginning of their term of office.

By virtue of the provision of Article 6 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 the comma and the words "national minority MPs" were deleted after the words "independent MPs" and at the end of the sentence the full stop is replaced by a comma and the words "at the latest within 15 days from the beginning of their term of office" were inserted.

Independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters may establish an office for the performance of administrative and professional tasks.

By virtue of the provision of Article 6 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 4 the comma and the words "national minority MPs" were deleted after the words "independent MPs".

With regard to the staff of their office referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article, independent MPs and members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall have the rights and obligations of employers.

By virtue of the provision of Article 6 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 5, the words "national minority MPs" were deleted.

The special account referred to in paragraph (3) of this Article shall be a special purpose account (specifically intended for the regular financing of independent MPs, or members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters) with a selected bank in any such manner and according to any such procedure as may be specified in the general rules of banking operations, and shall be intended solely for the receipt of payments of donations to support political activity in the course of the year (apart from donations for election campaigns financing) and for the receipt of budget payments for the regular annual financing, but not for the receipt of other payments made to account holders on any other grounds (e.g. income from self-employment or employment, etc.), and the funds from such accounts may not be used to cover any private debts or for other private purposes of an independent MP, or a member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters.

In the event of enforcement against funds from the special account referred to in paragraph (6) of this Article used to cover the private expenses of an independent MP, or a member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters, then the independent MP or the member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters shall return the seized funds by paying the same amount into the special account referred to in paragraph (6) of this Article not later than 8 days from the date of the enforcement, or at the latest before closing the special account if fewer than 8 days remain before the expiry of the time limit for the closing of the special account.

By virtue of the provision of Article 6 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraphs 6 and 7 were inserted after paragraph 5.

Article 8

Independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters who, after the expiry of their term of office, have not been re-elected as MPs or members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units or whose term of office has been terminated before the expiry of the period for which they were elected shall, within 60 days from the date of the constitution of a new Croatian Parliament or a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit, or from the expiry of their term of office before the end of the period for which they were elected, return to the state budget or to the budget of a local or regional self-government unit:

- any unspent funds received from the state budget or from the budget of a local or regional self-government unit for the regular annual financing of their activities; and
- the pecuniary amount equal to the market value of any assets purchased by funds received from the state budget or from the budget of a local or regional self-government unit for the regular annual financing of their activities.

By virtue of the provision of Article 7 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma and the words "national minority MPs" were deleted after the words "independent MPs", and the words "within 30 days after the expiry of their term of office or the termination thereof" were replaced by the words "within 60 days from the date of the constitution of a new Croatian Parliament or a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit, or from the expiry of their term of office".

By way of derogation from the provisions of paragraph (2)(ii) of this Article, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government elected from a list of a group of voters referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article may return any assets purchased by funds received from the state budget or from the budget of a local or regional self-government unit for the regular annual financing of their activities to, and put them at the disposal of, the Government of the Republic of Croatia or the relevant local and regional self-government unit.

By virtue of the provision of Article 7 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 the comma and the words "national minority MPs" were deleted after the words "independent MPs".

The pecuniary amount equal to the market value of any assets specified in paragraph (1)(ii) of this Article shall be determined by the Ministry of Finance according to the market value of such assets at the time when the return of such pecuniary amount is made.

Independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article may, within the period specified in paragraph (1) of this Article, donate for general community purposes any unspent funds received by way of donations, and, if such funds have not been received by way of donations, they shall be subject to taxation under special regulations.

By virtue of the provision of Article 7 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 4 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

Independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall close the special accounts for the regular financing of their activities within 6 months from the date of the constitution of the new Croatian Parliament, or of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit, or from the termination of their term of office before the expiry of the period for which they were elected.

Banks in which special accounts for the financing of regular annual activity of independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters have been opened shall immediately notify the State Election Commission about the opening of such accounts, or of the closing thereof, and, at their written request, submit any requested information on transactions executed on these accounts to the State Election Commission or the State Audit Office.

Within the meaning of this Act, bank shall be any bank in the Republic of Croatia.

By virtue of the provision of Article 7 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013., paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 were inserted after paragraph 4.

Indirect financial support

Article 9

With regard to their efforts strictly associated with their political activity, political parties shall not be subject to the payment of profit tax and value-added tax under the provisions of special laws, and may also be entitled to tax benefits under the provisions of a special law.

Membership fees and voluntary contributions (donations)

Article 10

For the purposes of this Act, membership fees or membership contributions shall mean regular pecuniary sums paid by members of political parties in a manner and under the conditions as may be set forth in the charters or other acts of the political party.

By virtue of the provision of Article 8 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the words “or membership contributions” were inserted after the words “membership fees”.

For the purposes of this Act, voluntary contributions (hereinafter: donations) shall mean occasional or regular payments through which natural or legal persons voluntarily give money or provide services or products free-of-charge to political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a

group of voters and to independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates for the purposes of their political work or to finance their election campaigns.

By virtue of the provision of Article 8 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 the words “national minority MPs” were deleted.

For any donation made by way of products or services (including donations made in other non-pecuniary forms, such as movable or immovable property, property rights, etc.), natural and legal persons shall issue an invoice specifying the market value of any such donated product or service, stating that it has been made out to a political party, independent MP, member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters and to independent lists or lists of a group of voters, or candidates and shall not be subject to payment.

By virtue of the provision of Article 8 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 the comma and the words "national minority MP" were deleted after the words “independent MP” were deleted.

Services referred to in paragraph (3) of this Article shall not be deemed to include any voluntary work done by volunteers.

Political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters and independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates shall keep records of, and issue receipts for, received donations, and political parties must keep records of, and issue receipts for, all membership fees and membership contributions received.

By virtue of the provision of Article 8 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 5 the words "national minority MPs" were deleted and the words "and membership contributions" were inserted in two places after the words "membership fees".

The method of keeping the records and issuing the receipts referred to in paragraph (5) of this Article shall be laid down in an ordinance by the Minister of Finance.

Maximum amounts of donations

Article 11

Natural and legal persons may make donations to political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters and to independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates on a one-off basis or several times during the calendar year.

By virtue of the provision of Article 9 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted

after the words "independent MPs", and the words "independent slates" were replaced by the words "independent lists or lists of a group of voters".

Pecuniary donations shall be paid by the donor to the central accounts of political parties or the special accounts of independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters referred to in Article 7(3) of this Act, or the special accounts of leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters and candidates referred to in Article 14(3) of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 1 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11) which entered into force on 11 June 2013, in paragraph 2 the words "Pecuniary donations shall be paid" were replaced by the words "Pecuniary donations shall be paid by the donor".

By virtue of the provision of Article 9 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 the words "national minority MPs" were deleted.

The total value of donations made by a natural person to a political party, independent MP or a member of the representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters, an independent list or a list of a group of voters and a candidate shall not exceed HRK 30,000.00 (thirty thousand) in a single calendar year.

By virtue of the provision of Article 9 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 the words "Total amount" were replaced by the words "The total value", the words "national minority MPs" were deleted, and the words "independent slate" were replaced by the words "independent list or a list of a group of voters".

The total value of donations made by a legal person within a single calendar year shall not exceed (i) HRK 200,000.00 (two hundred thousand) when such donations are made to a political party or a candidate in elections for the President of the Republic of Croatia; (ii) HRK 100,000.00 (one hundred thousand) when such donations are made to an independent MP, an independent list or a candidate for national minority MP proposed by voters and national minority associations in the elections for members to the Croatian Parliament and the election of members to the European Parliament; and HRK 30,000.00 (thirty thousand) when such donations are made to an independent member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters and to a list of a group of voters or a candidate in elections at the local or regional level.

By virtue of the provision of Article 9 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 4 the words "The total amount" and the words "the total amount" were replaced by the words "The total value" and "the total value", the words "national minority MPs and" were deleted and the words "proposed by voters or national minority associations" were inserted after the words "candidate for national minority MP" and the words "independent slate or a candidate in elections at the local and regional level" were replaced by the words "a list of a group of voters or a candidate in elections at the local or regional level".

Political parties, independent MPs and members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of groups of voters and candidates shall report any value of donations exceeding the amounts referred to in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this Article to the State Audit Office and the State Election Commission or, if such donations have been made with a view to financing their election campaigns, to the State Election Commission, and shall pay it to the state budget not later than 8 days after the date when they received such payment.

By virtue of the provision of Article 1 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11) which entered into force on 11 June 2013, in paragraph 5 the words "and the State Election Commission" were inserted after the words "the State Audit Office":

By virtue of the provision of Article 9 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 5 the words "any amount of donations" were replaced by the words "any value of donations" and the words "national minority MPs" were deleted.

III. FINANCING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

Funding sources for financing election campaigns

Article 12

Political parties, candidates and independent lists or lists of groups of voters may finance their election campaigns from their own sources and through donations.

Political parties, independent lists or lists of groups of voters and candidates shall be obliged to publish the price, and any discount granted thereon, of media advertising for the purposes of their election campaigns within the deadline and in the manner laid down for the publication of reports on donations and costs of election campaigns referred to in Article 24 of this Act. The price, and any discount granted on the price of media advertising for the purposes of election campaigns, shall be disclosed on a form laid down in an ordinance to be passed by the Minister of Finance, which shall contain the information specifying the name of the media service provider, the number and date of the invoice issued for the provided media services, the number of media services contracted and performed, the price without the discount, the discount expressed as a percentage of the price and the amount paid after the discount.

By virtue of the provision of Article 10 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 at the end of the sentence a full stop was replaced by a comma and the following words were inserted: "within the deadline and in the manner laid down for the publication of reports on donations and costs of election campaigns referred to in Article 24 of this Act. The price, and any discount granted on the price of media advertising for the purposes of election campaigns shall be disclosed in a form laid down in an ordinance to be passed by the Minister of Finance, which shall contain the information specifying the name of the media service provider, the number and date of the invoice issued for the provided media services, the number of media services contracted and performed, the price without the

discount, the discount expressed as a percentage of the price and the amount paid after the discount."

Political parties, candidates and independent lists or lists of groups of voters specified in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be entitled to recover the costs of their election campaigns from the state budget or from the budget of a local or regional self-government unit in the manner and under the conditions set forth in this Act.

Companies providing media advertising services for the purposes of the election campaign shall deliver their advertising rates to the State Election Commission and publish them on their website.

By virtue of the provision of Article 10 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 4 at the end of the sentence a full stop was deleted and the words "and publish them on their website." were inserted.

Financing from own sources

Article 13

Candidates for President of the Republic of Croatia and those for municipality and city mayor, county prefect and the mayor of the City of Zagreb, as well as candidates for deputy municipality or city mayor and county prefect elected from among national minorities must, within three days from the lawfully proposed lists, publicly disclose on their websites or on the websites of the political party that nominated them as candidates or in the press (in the case of local elections, in the local press) indicative data on the amount and sources of their own funds they intend to use for their election campaigns.

By virtue of the provision of Article 11 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraph 1 was amended.

Publication on the website referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall mean publication for the duration of the election campaign.

Own funds that political parties, independent lists or lists of groups of voters and candidates plan to spend on the election campaign must be transferred to a special account referred to in Article 14 of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 11 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013., paragraph 3 was inserted after paragraph 2.

Financing through donations

- Special accounts -

Article 14

Donations made to finance the costs of election campaigns for candidates nominated by political parties to participate in elections for MP, elections for members to the European Parliament, and elections for members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units shall be paid to a special account of such political parties to be opened for the purposes of financing their election campaign costs for each individual elections that they participate in.

When two or more political parties propose a joint list, donations for the financing of election campaign costs shall be transferred to a special account that must be opened by one of the political parties that proposed a joint list for the purposes of financing the election campaign, which is regulated in a mutual agreement between the political parties delivered to the State Election Commission.

Donations made to finance the costs of election campaigns for independent lists and candidates shall be paid into the special accounts of persons leading the independent lists or lists of groups of voters or candidates referred to in paragraph (4) of this Article.

The special accounts referred to in paragraph (3) of this Article shall be opened by:

- candidates for President of the Republic of Croatia, regardless of whether they have been nominated by political parties or voters;
- leaders of groups of voters in elections for members to the European Parliament;
- candidates for municipality head and city mayor, county prefect and mayor of the City of Zagreb and candidates for deputy municipality head and city mayor and county prefect elected from among members of national minorities, regardless of whether they have been nominated by political parties or voters;
- leaders of independent lists in elections for MP and candidates for representatives of members of national minorities nominated by voters and associations of national minorities;
- leaders of lists of groups of voters in elections for members of representative bodies of units of local and regional self government.

Political parties, candidates and leaders of independent lists or leaders of groups of voters referred to in paragraph (4) of this Article, as well as persons planning to stand for election, shall open special accounts for the purposes of financing their election campaigns at the latest on the date of the submission of their candidature and at the earliest one year before election day, provided that the date set as election day shall be deemed to constitute the date when the election was held during the current term of office if no specific date has been set by law as election day.

Donations made to finance election campaigns may be collected solely on the accounts referred to in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of this Article.

In the event of failure to submit candidature or the untimely submission, invalidity, or the withdrawal of candidature, the persons who have opened their special accounts shall return any unspent donations paid into such accounts to their payers, in proportion to any amount that may have been donated.

The special account referred to in paragraph (3) of this Article shall be a personal account for special purposes (for the financing of the election campaign) opened with a selected bank in a manner and by means of a procedure laid down in the bank's general terms and conditions, and shall be intended solely for the receipt of payments by way of donations made to finance election campaigns, but not for the receipt of other payments made to account holders on any other grounds (e.g. income from self-employment or employment, etc.). Funds collected on that account by way of donations may not be used for any other purpose other than to cover election campaign costs.

In the event of enforcement against funds from the special account intended for financing the election campaigns used to cover the private expenses of candidates and leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of groups of voters, then the candidates or the leaders of the independent lists or the heads of lists of groups of voters shall return the seized funds by paying an equal amount into the special account for election campaign financing, at the latest within 8 days from the date of the enforcement, or at the latest before closing the special account intended for election campaign financing, if fewer than 8 days remain before the expiry of the time limit for the closing of the special account.

Any bank where a special account for election campaign financing has been opened shall immediately notify the State Election Commission thereof and, at their request, submit any requested information on transactions performed on that account.

Political parties and leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of groups of voters shall finalise all pending transactions on the special accounts for election campaign financing and close them within 30 days after the expiry of the disbursement period for the election campaign costs referred to in Article 21 of this Act. Banks referred to in paragraph (10) of this Article shall promptly notify the State Election Commission of the closing of the special account for election campaign financing.

Political parties, independent lists or lists of groups of voters and candidates may continue collecting donations until the end of the election campaign.

Political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of groups of voters and candidates shall immediately report to the State Election Commission any donations received after the election campaign and return such donations within 8 days following the receipt thereof and, if such return is impossible or if the donation was received from an ineligible source, they shall, within the same time limit, pay into the state budget the amount of such donation.

If, after the completion of all transactions under this Act, there are still unspent funds received from donations remaining in the special accounts for election campaign financing, the remaining amount of donations in such accounts must be paid by the political parties to the central accounts of the political party, by the leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters, in equal parts, into the special accounts for the regular annual financing of independent MPs or for the regular annual financing of members of the representative bodies of the local and regional self-government units elected from these lists, whereas leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters whose lists did not win any seats in the Croatian Parliament or in the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, and the candidates for President of the Republic of Croatia, candidates for representatives of national minority members proposed by voters and associations of national

minorities, candidates for municipality head, city mayor, county prefect and mayor of the City of Zagreb, and candidates for deputy municipality head, city mayor and county prefect elected from among national minority members must return the amount of donations remaining in the special accounts for election campaign financing to the payers thereof, in proportion to the amount they have donated.

By virtue of the provision of Article 12 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraph 14 was amended.

Article 15

The political parties that have nominated their candidates for President of the Republic of Croatia, municipality head, city mayor, county prefect and mayor of the City of Zagreb and candidates for deputy municipality head, city mayor and county prefect elected from among members of national minorities shall pay the funds required to finance the election campaigns of such candidates into the special accounts therefor, as specified in Article 14(3) of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 13 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma was deleted after the words "the City of Zagreb" and the words "and candidates for deputy municipality head, city mayor and county prefect elected from among members of national minorities".

The provisions of Article 11 of this Act pertaining to the maximum amounts of donations shall not apply to the amount of funds paid by political parties into the special accounts of their candidates as described in paragraph (1) of this Article.

Maximum costs of election campaigns

Article 16

The funds collected to finance election campaigns may be used solely for the purposes of election campaign activities.

The funds referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall not be used for covering any private costs of candidates, such as the costs of their personal attire, debt repayment, private costs of their family members, and any other costs that are not directly associated with their election campaigns for the office for which they run.

Funds from the state budget or from the budgets of local or regional self-government units which are otherwise used by candidates as officials of the Republic of Croatia or authorized local officials in the performance of their duties shall not be used for the purposes of election campaigns.

Business premises, company vehicles and office equipment of governmental bodies and local and regional self-government units shall not be used for the purposes of election campaigns, save for individuals subject to special regulations on protected persons

Maximum total amounts of election campaign costs

Article 17

The total amount of election campaign costs per candidate or per list of candidates shall not exceed the following amounts:

- HRK 8,000,000.00 (eight million) in the case of elections for President of the Republic of Croatia;
- HRK 1,500,000.00 (one million five hundred thousand) within a single constituency in the case of the election of MPs;
- HRK 1,500,000.00 (one million five hundred thousand) in the case of the election of members to the European Parliament;
- HRK 1,000,000.00 (one million) in the case of elections for the mayor of the City of Zagreb;

By virtue of the provision of Article 14 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 4, the words “500,000.00 (five hundred thousand)” were replaced by the words “1,000,000.00 (one million)”.

- HRK 600,000.00 (six hundred thousand) in the case of elections for county prefect and mayor of major cities.

By virtue of the provision of Article 14 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 5, the words “400,000.00 (four hundred thousand)” were replaced by the words “600,000.00 (six hundred thousand)”, the comma after the words “county prefect” was deleted and the word “and” was inserted, and the words “and county seats” were deleted.

- HRK 250,000.00 (two hundred and fifty thousand) in the case of elections for city and municipality head in local self-government units with a population exceeding 10,000;
- HRK 100,000.00 (one hundred thousand) in the case of elections for city and municipal chief officials in local self-government units with populations from 3,001 to 10,000;
- HRK 50,000.00 (fifty thousand) in the case of elections for mayor and municipality head in local self-government units with a population not exceeding 3,000.

The amounts specified in paragraph (1)(iv),(v),(vi),(vii) and (viii) of this Article with regard to elections for chief officials in local and regional self-government units shall also apply to elections for members of the representative bodies of those units.

In the elections for deputy municipality head, city mayor and county prefect elected from among members of national minorities, the total amount of election campaign costs shall not exceed 50% of the amount laid down for the election campaign costs of the candidates for municipality head, city mayor and county prefect in the same units.

The total amount of election campaign costs in the elections for President of the Republic of Croatia, in the elections for municipality head, city mayor, county prefect and mayor of the City of Zagreb, and for deputy municipality head, city mayor, and county prefect elected from among members of national minorities may be increased by 20% of the total maximum amount determined in paragraph (1)(i),(iv),(v),(vi),(vii) and (viii) of this Article, or paragraph (3) of this Article for candidates who reach the second and the third rounds of elections. The total amount of election campaign costs may be further increased by the same percentage for every subsequent election round.

By virtue of the provision of Article 14 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, new paragraphs 3 and 4 were inserted after paragraph 2.

If the total amount of donations received for the financing of election campaign costs exceeds the eligible amount of election campaign costs laid down in paragraph (1) of this Article, political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of groups of voters and candidates shall return the total amount of donations exceeding the eligible amount of election campaign costs to their payers, in proportion to the value of any such received donation not later than the time limit prescribed for the submission of the election campaign financing statement referred to in Article 34 of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 14 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013., former paragraph 3, which became paragraph 5, was amended.

IV. RECOVERY OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN COSTS FROM THE STATE BUDGET OR FROM THE BUDGETS OF LOCAL OR REGIONAL SELF-GOVERNMENT UNITS

Article 18

The following shall be entitled to recover election campaign costs from the state budget of the Republic of Croatia:

- candidates who receive a minimum of 10% of valid votes at elections for President of the Republic of Croatia;
- political parties and independent lists which receive a minimum of 5% of valid votes at elections for members to the European Parliament;

By virtue of the provision of Article 15 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 2, the figure “10%” was replaced by the figure “5%”.

- political parties and independent lists which receive more than 5% of the valid votes of electors in their constituency at elections for members to the Croatian Parliament;

– political parties which nominated candidates for national minority MPs who became members in the Croatian Parliament and candidates for national minority MPs nominated by voters and national minority associations, who became members in the Croatian Parliament.

By virtue of the provision of Article 15 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraph 1, subparagraph 4, was amended.

– candidates for MPs of national minorities accounting for less than 1.5% of the population of the Republic of Croatia, who did not become members in the Croatian Parliament, but have received more than 15% of the valid votes from voters in their constituency, shall be entitled to recover 15% of costs that would otherwise be recoverable by elected MPs.

The following shall be entitled to recover election campaign costs from the budgets of local and regional self-government units:

– political parties and lists of a group of voters which win at least one seat in a representative body in elections for members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units;

By virtue of the provision of Article 15 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2, subparagraph 1, the words "independent slates" were replaced by the words "lists of a group of voters".

– candidates who, at elections for municipality heads, city mayors, county prefects and the mayor of the City of Zagreb and their deputies, receive a minimum of 10% of valid votes from the total number of voters turning out for such elections;

By virtue of the provision of Article 15 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2, subparagraph 2, a comma was added after the words "elections" instead of a full stop.

– candidates who, at elections for municipality heads, city mayors, county prefects elected from among national minorities, receive a minimum of 10% of valid votes from the total number of voters turning out for such elections.

By virtue of the provision of Article 15 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, subparagraph 3 was inserted after subparagraph 2.

Costs recoverable under paragraph (1) of this Article shall be paid from the state budget of the Republic of Croatia, whereas those recoverable under paragraph (2) of this Article shall be paid from the budgets of local and regional self-government units.

Article 19

The level of costs recoverable under Article 18 of this Act shall be determined in a decision of the Government of the Republic of Croatia adopted no later than 7 days after the date of the

publication of the decision to call the elections. The Government decision shall be published in the Official Gazette.

The decision referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article regarding the level of recoverable election campaign costs related to elections for municipality heads, mayors, county prefects, the mayor of the City of Zagreb and deputy municipality heads, mayors and county prefects elected from among members of national minorities and for the election of members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units shall also apply to early elections and by-elections.

By virtue of the provision of Article 16 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 after the words "the City of Zagreb and" the words "deputy municipality heads, mayors and county prefects elected from among members of national minorities and" were inserted.

Article 20

The recoverable costs of election campaigns for candidates and independent lists or lists of a group of voters shall be paid into the special accounts of such candidates and leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters opened for the purposes of financing their election campaign costs.

By virtue of the provision of Article 17 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the words "independent lists" were replaced by the words "independent lists or lists of a group of voters".

The recoverable costs of election campaigns for political parties shall be paid into the special accounts of such political parties, opened for the purposes of financing their election campaign costs.

The funds required to recover election campaign costs related to the election of members to the Croatian Parliament shall be allocated to political parties, independent lists and candidates for national minority MPs nominated by voters and national minority associations in proportion to the number of seats won in the Croatian Parliament.

By virtue of the provision of Article 17 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 the words "nominated by voters and national minority associations" were inserted after the words "candidates for national minority MPs" .

Funds for the recovery of election campaign costs in the elections for members to the European Parliament from the Republic of Croatia shall be allocated to political parties and independent lists in proportion to the number of seats won by the Republic of Croatia in the European Parliament.

By virtue of the provision of Article 17 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, new paragraph 4 was inserted after paragraph 3.

The funds required to recover election campaign costs related to elections for members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units shall be allocated to political parties and lists of a group of voters in proportion to the number of seats won by each political party or a list of a group of voters in any such representative body.

By virtue of the provision of Article 17 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in former paragraph 4, which became paragraph 5, the words "independent lists" were replaced by the words "lists of a group of voters", and the words "independent list" were replaced by the words "list of a group of voters".

The funds required to recover election campaign costs related to elections for the President of the Republic of Croatia and elections for municipality heads, city mayors, county prefects and the mayor of the City of Zagreb and elections for deputy municipality heads, city mayors, and county prefects elected from among members of national minorities shall be allocated in proportion to votes received.

By virtue of the provision of Article 17 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in former paragraph 5, which became paragraph 6, the words: "and elections for deputy municipality heads, city mayors, and county prefects elected from among members of national minorities" were inserted after the words "the City of Zagreb".

The funds required to recover election campaign costs paid to special accounts of leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters or candidates for county prefect, city mayor or municipality head shall be distributed among the candidates listed on independent lists or lists of a group of voters or among candidates for county prefect, city mayor or municipality head and candidates for their deputies in accordance with their mutual agreement. If no such agreement has been reached, they shall be equally distributed.

By virtue of the provision of Article 17 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in former paragraph 6, which became paragraph 7, the words: "independent list" were replaced by the words "independent list or a list of a group of voters".

The participants referred to in Article 15(1) of this Act, who received payments to recover their election campaign costs on their special accounts, may transfer the recovered election campaign cost funds, or the amount remaining after the election campaign costs have been covered, to the central account of the political party that nominated them. Such payment shall not be regarded as a donation.

By virtue of the provision of Article 17 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, a new paragraph 8 was inserted after former paragraph 6, which became paragraph 7.

Article 21

Any costs recoverable under Article 18(1) and (2) of this Act shall be disbursed within 60 days from the date of the announcement of the final official elections results

V. PROHIBITION OF FINANCING AND PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT

Article 22

There shall be no financing of political parties, independent MPs, members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates by:

By virtue of the provision of Article 18 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the words “national minority MPs“ were deleted.

- foreign states, foreign political parties and foreign legal persons;
- government bodies, public companies, legal persons vested with public authority, companies and other legal persons in which the Republic of Croatia or any local and regional self-government unit has any interest or shares, as well as public and other institutions owned by the Republic of Croatia or any local and regional self-government unit;
- labour unions or employer associations;
- associations, trusts and foundations represented by central government officials, or local or regional officials;
- religious communities, humanitarian and other non-profit associations and organizations;
- natural and legal persons subject to any enforcement proceedings related to their outstanding debts due to the budget or their employees;

By virtue of the provision of Article 18 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 6, a full stop was deleted and a comma was inserted after the words “employees”.

- local and regional self-government units, except in cases and in the manner provided for in this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 18 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 7 was inserted after subparagraph 6.

No donations shall be made by unidentified (anonymous) sources. Donations by unidentified (anonymous) sources shall be deemed to include donations made by donors whose details are unknown at the time of their payment or those made by donors who cannot be positively identified without additional action (e.g. donations via text messaging services, telephone answering machines, etc.).

No donations, either in cash or in kind, shall be made through third parties (intermediaries).

Any donation made from any of the ineligible sources referred to in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of this Article shall forthwith be reported to the State Audit Office or to the State Election Commission by a political party, independent MP, member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters, the leader of an independent list or the leader of a list of a group of voters and a candidate, and such funds shall be paid into the state budget no later than 8 days from the date of receipt of that payment.

By virtue of the provision of Article 2 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11) which entered into force on 11 June 2013, in paragraph 4 the words "and the State Election Commission" were inserted after the words "the State Audit Office".

By virtue of the provision of Article 18 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraph 4 was amended.

By way of derogation from paragraph (1)(i) of this Article, the prohibition of financing political parties, independent MPs, members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates (by foreign states, foreign political parties and foreign legal persons whose core activity consists of education in the development and promotion of democratic principles) shall not apply to the financing of educational programmes.

By virtue of the provision of Article 18 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 5 the words "national minority MPs" were deleted.

Article 23

When collecting donations to finance their activities, political parties, independent MPs, members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, independent lists or lists of groups of voters and candidates shall not exert any political or other pressure on natural and legal persons.

When collecting donations to finance their activities, political parties, independent MPs, members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, independent lists or lists of groups of voters and candidates shall not promise political or any other counter favours, privileges or personal benefits of any kind to natural and legal persons.

By virtue of the provision of Article 19 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraphs 1 and 2 the words "national minority MPs" were deleted.

VI. ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ON DONATIONS AND ELECTION CAMPAIGN COSTS AND ON DONATIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES, INDEPENDENT MPS AND MEMBERS OF REPRESENTATIVE BODIES OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL SELF-GOVERNMENT UNITS ELECTED FROM A LIST OF A GROUP OF VOTERS DURING THE YEAR

By virtue of the provision of Article 20 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in title above Article 24 the comma and the words “NATIONAL MINORITY MPS” were deleted after the words “INDEPENDENT MPS”.

Article 24

Political parties and leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters and candidates receiving any funds paid into their special accounts to finance their election campaigns shall, within the time limit specified in paragraph (5) of this Article, submit reports on donations received to finance their election campaigns and reports on their election campaign expenses, including information updated to the day of the submission thereof, to relevant electoral commissions.

By virtue of the provision of Article 21 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the words “within the time limits specified in paragraph (5) of this Article” were replaced by the words “within the time limit referred to in paragraph (5) of this Article”.

The reports referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be submitted by using a form laid down in an ordinance to be passed by the Minister of Finance.

A report on donations shall contain information specifying each donor (personal or corporate name and address), the date when any donation was paid or when any product or service was provided free of charge, the amount of any donations paid or the market value of any donated product or service, specified on an invoice which is not subject to payment, and the type of each donation.

A report on election campaign costs (expenses) shall contain information specifying the purpose of any cost, the name and address of any recipient, the date of payment, the amount paid or, in the case of donations by way of products or services, the market value of any such product or service, specified on an invoice which is not subject to payment.

The reports referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be delivered by political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters and candidates to the competent elections commission 7 days prior to the elections.

By virtue of the provision of Article 21 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 5 a full stop was inserted after the words “prior to the elections” and the words “(preliminary reports) and not later than 15 days following the date of the announcement of final official election results (final reports)” were deleted.

Political parties, leaders of independent lists and leaders of lists of a groups of voters and candidates must publish the reports referred to in paragraph (5) of this Article on their websites, or on the website of the political party that proposed the candidate or in the daily press (for local elections, in the local press) not later than 48 hours following the expiry of the time limit referred to in paragraph (5) of this Article.

By virtue of the provision of Article 21 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 6 the comma was deleted after the words “website” and the words “or on the website of the political party that proposed the candidate”, and the words “in the local daily press“ were replaced by the words “in the local press”.

Publication on websites referred to in paragraph (6) of this Article shall mean publication for the duration of at least 30 days.

Article 25

In the event specified in Article 15(1) of this Act, where a political party pays any funds into the special account of a candidate that it has nominated in order to finance his/her election campaign, the report on donations received by such candidate, as specified in Article 24(1) of this Act, shall also contain information on donations received by such political party, specified in accordance with Article 24(3) of this Act.

Annual disclosure of information on donations

Article 26

Political parties, independent MPs and members of a representative body of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters who receive donations in the first six months of the current year shall, at the latest by 15 July of the current year, publish on their websites reports on the donations received in support of their political activity in the course of the first six months of the current year (semi-annual report), specifying the data in accordance with Article 24(3) of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 22 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraph 1 was amended.

Political parties, independent MPs and members of a representative body of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters who did not receive any donations in the first six months of the current year must within the time limit referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article publish on their websites a notification that they did not receive any donations in the period of time in question.

By way of derogation from paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article, members of representative bodies of units of local and regional self-government elected from a list of a group of voters may publish the report referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the notification referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article on the website of the local and regional self-government unit in which they are politically active. The publication of reports and notifications on websites of local and regional self-government units shall not be regarded as a donation.

By virtue of the provision of Article 22 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, new paragraphs 2 and 3 were inserted after paragraph 1.

Publication on websites under paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of this Article shall mean publication for the duration of at least 30 days.

By virtue of the provision of Article 22 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in former paragraph 2, which became paragraph 4, the words: “under paragraph 1” were replaced by the words “referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3”.

Within the time limit referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article, political parties and independent MPs must inform the State Election Commission by email of a website on which the semi-annual reports and notifications referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article are published.

Within the time limit referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article, units of local and regional self-government must inform the State Election Commission by email of a list of websites on which semi-annual reports and notifications referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article are published by members of a representative body of the local and regional self-government unit in question elected from a list of a group of voters.

The list of websites referred to in paragraphs (5) and (6) of this Article shall be published by the State Election Commission on its website.

State administration offices in counties shall maintain and regularly update records on the political parties represented in the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units and on members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, elected from a list of a group of voters on the territory of the county within their jurisdiction, and submit them to the State Election Commission and the State Audit Office, at their request.

Local and regional self-government units shall notify the state administration office in each county about any changes of data contained in the records.

The reports referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be submitted on a form laid down in an ordinance adopted by the Minister of Finance.

The content and the method of keeping records and the form of the record referred to in paragraph (8) of this Article are laid down in an ordinance adopted by the Minister of Administration.

By virtue of the provision of Article 22 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were inserted after former paragraph 2 which became paragraph 4.

VII. OVERSIGHT OF THE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF POLITICAL PARTIES, INDEPENDENT MPS, MEMBERS OF REPRESENTATIVE BODIES OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL SELF-GOVERNMENT UNITS ELECTED FROM A LIST OF A GROUP OF VOTERS, INDEPENDENT LISTS OR LISTS OF A GROUP OF VOTERS AND CANDIDATES AND THE AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

By virtue of the provision of Article 23 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in the title above Article 27 the words “NATIONAL MINORITY MPS” were deleted.

Bodies competent for oversight and audit

By virtue of the provision of Article 23 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, the title above Article 27 was amended.

Article 27

The State Election Commission shall oversee the annual financial operations and annual financial statements of political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters and carry out other tasks under its competence.

By virtue of the provision of Article 3 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, new paragraph 1 was inserted.

By virtue of the provision of Article 3 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11), which entered into force on 11 June 2011, former paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 became paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

By virtue of the provision of Article 24 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” after the words “independent MPs” were deleted.

The State Election Commission shall, in cooperation with relevant election commissions, oversee compliance with the provisions of this Act with regard to election campaigns, financial accounts pertaining to the financing of election campaigns, the collection of donations, election campaign costs, reporting on the financing of election campaigns and other activities related to the financing of election campaigns by political parties, independent lists or a list of a group of voters and candidates.

The State Election Commission shall oversee the financing of election campaigns from the date of opening special accounts for the financing of election campaigns to the completion of transactions on such accounts.

The State Audit Office shall perform audits of political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, and shall perform any such other tasks under its competence.

By virtue of the provision of Article 24 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 4 the words “perform audits of the annual financial operations and annual financial statements” were replaced by the words “perform audits” and the

comma and the words “national minority MPs” after the words “independent MPs” were deleted.

The State Audit Office shall perform audits under this Act as stipulated in the law governing the work of the State Audit Office and International Standards on Auditing.

By virtue of the provision of Article 24 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 5 the word “implement” was replaced by the word “perform”.

When exercising its control function, the State Election Commission may request any information as may be required thereby from the State Audit Office.

The State Election Commission shall exercise control and oversight through other competent authorities and may request such authorities to provide it with any required information and to take any required action. Such authorities shall, within the required period, submit to the State Election Commission all information and findings, in compliance with the provisions of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 3 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in former paragraph 6, which became paragraph 7, the words “The State Election Commission shall exercise control through other relevant authorities” were replaced by the words “The State Election Commission shall exercise control and oversight through other competent authorities”.

By virtue of the provision of Article 3 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11) which entered into force on 11 June 2013, former paragraph 7 was deleted.

The manner of cooperation referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be determined in special instructions of the State Election Commission.

By virtue of the provision of Article 24 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraph 8 was inserted after paragraph 7.

Audit of annual financial statements and financial operations

Financial records

Article 28

Political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall, before the end of each current year, adopt their annual work programme and financial plan for the following calendar year.

By virtue of the provision of Article 25 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12

March 2013, in paragraph , the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

Independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall adopt a work programme for their term of office at the beginning of their term of office.

By virtue of the provision of Article 25 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

Article 29

Political parties and independent MPs shall maintain their financial records as stipulated in the accounting regulations applicable to non-profit organizations.

Members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall keep cash journals and revenue and expense journals by applying single-entry bookkeeping and cash basis accounting, in compliance with the accounting regulations applicable to non-profit organizations.

By virtue of the provision of Article 26 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, Article 29 was amended.

Financial statements

Article 30

Political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall prepare and submit their financial statements as stipulated in the accounting regulations applicable to non-profit organizations, regardless of the value of their assets and amount of earned revenue.

By virtue of the provision of Article 27 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words "independent MPs" and at the end of the sentence the full stop was replaced by a comma and the words “regardless of the value of their assets and amount of earned revenue” were inserted.

Political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters units shall submit their financial statements for the reporting period from 1 January to 31 December to the State Audit Office and to the State Election Commission within 60 days from the date of expiry of such reporting period.

By virtue of the provision of Article 27 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12

March 2013, in paragraph 2, the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs” and the words “and the State Election Commission” were inserted after the words “the State Audit Office”.

Together with the annual financial statements referred to in paragraph (2) of this Article and as an integral component thereof, political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall provide:

– their annual work programmes and budgets specified in Article 28(1) of this Act, and independent MPs, national minority MPs and independent members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall also enclose their work programmes for their term of office referred to in Article 28(2) of this Act;

– a report on donations received during the year with details on natural and legal persons that made their donations (personal or corporate name and address), the date when any donation was paid or when any product or service was provided free of charge, the amount of any donation paid or the market value of any donated product or service, specified on an invoice which is not subject to payment, and the type of each donation.

By virtue of the provision of Article 27 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3, in the introductory sentence and in subparagraph 1 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

When submitted by political parties, the report on received donations referred to in paragraph (3)(ii) of this Article shall also contain information on donations paid by such political parties to party candidates into their special accounts during the election campaign and data on donations into the accounts of entities related directly or indirectly with a political party or which are under its control.

By way of derogation from paragraph (2) of this Article, if a political party ceases to exist in accordance with the provisions of the Act regulating the establishment of political parties, the political party removed from the Register of Political Parties shall draw up an annual financial statement with the date preceding the date of removal from the Register of Political Parties, and submit it to the State Audit Office and the State Election Commission within 30 days of the day of the closing of the account.

The financial statement referred to in paragraph (5) of this Article shall be signed by the person responsible for the financial operations of the political party in the period covered by the statement.

By way of derogation from paragraph (2) of this Article, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, who were not after the expiry of their term of office re-elected as MPs or as members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units or whose term of office terminated before the expiry of the period for which they were elected shall draw up a financial statement dated before the closing of the special account for the regular financing of their activity and submit it, within 30 days after the day of the closing of the

special account for the regular financing of their activities, to the State Election Commission and the State Audit Office.

By virtue of the provision of Article 27 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 were inserted after paragraph 4.

Performance of audits

By virtue of the provision of Article 28 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, the subtitle above Article 31 was amended.

Article 31

Audits of political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall be performed each calendar year for the previous year.

The State Audit Office shall not be obliged to perform an audit of political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters with annual revenue and a value of assets, given in annual financial statements, of less than HRK 100,000.00, but it may carry it out in accordance with its work plan and programme.

By virtue of the provision of Article 29 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraphs 1 and 2 were amended.

Political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article must deliver to the State Audit Office at its request all requested documents.

By virtue of the provision of Article 29 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 the comma and the words "national minority MPs" were deleted after the words "independent MPs" and the words "independent members of local and regional governmental units" were replaced by the words "members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters".

Audit reports

Article 32

Audit reports of political parties that are, under the provisions of this Act, entitled to financing from the state budget or from the budgets of local and regional self-government units, as well as those of independent MPs, national minority MPs and independent members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, shall be submitted by the State Audit Office to the Croatian Parliament before the end of each current year for the preceding year.

By virtue of the provision of Article 30 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the words “reports on the annual financial statements and operations” were replaced by the words “audit reports” and the comma and the words “national minority MPs” after the words “Croatian Parliament” were deleted.

Audit reports of political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a group of voters shall be published on the website of the State Audit Office.

By virtue of the provision of Article 30 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 the words “reports on the annual financial statements” were replaced by the words “audit reports” and the comma and the words “national minority MPs” after the words “independent MPs” were deleted.

Oversight of election campaign financing

Financial records

Article 33

Leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates that are obliged to open special accounts for the purposes of financing their election campaigns shall, as of the date of opening such accounts, keep cash journals and revenue and expense journals by applying single-entry bookkeeping and cash basis accounting, in compliance with the accounting regulations applicable to non-profit organizations.

Election campaign financing statements

Article 34

Political parties and leaders of independent lists or of a list of a group of voters and candidates receiving payments into their special accounts for the purposes of financing their election campaigns shall prepare financial statements on the financing of their election campaigns containing information on any revenue earned to finance their election campaigns, any sources of such financing, and any expenses incurred to finance their election campaigns, and shall submit them to the State Election Commission, or to the competent elections commission, within 30 days from election day.

By virtue of the provision of Article 31 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 after the words “State Election Commission”, a comma and the words “or to the competent elections commission” were inserted.

Reports on donations received and election campaign costs and the form with data on the price and discount received for advertising the campaign in the media shall constitute integral parts of the financial statements on the financing of the election campaign referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article.

By virtue of the provision of Article 31 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 at the end of the sentence a full stop was deleted and the words “and the form with data on the price and discount received for advertising the campaign in the media” were inserted.

Where a political party pays any funds into the special account of a candidate nominated by it in order to finance his/her election campaign, the report on donations received by such candidate, referred to in paragraph (2) of this Article, shall also contain information on any voluntary contributions received by such political party for the purposes of financing his/her election campaign.

The form of the financial statement for the financing of the election campaign shall be laid down in an ordinance adopted by the Minister of Finance.

Article 35

If so requested by the State Election Commission, political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters and candidates shall, along with their financial statements on the financing of the election campaign, submit thereto all the required documentation.

Performance of oversight

Article 36

During their election campaigns, political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters and candidates shall keep and regularly update their records of all donations received and election campaign costs incurred, and shall, if so requested by the State Election Commission, submit any information required even if their election campaigns are still underway.

Article 37

While performing oversight on the basis of documents submitted by political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters and candidates, the State Election Commission shall, through relevant authorities and departments, verify whether the amount of funds spent corresponds to that of funds received, as presented in the financial statements, and whether the information contained in such statements is accurate.

Oversight report

Article 38

The State Election Commission shall publish its oversight report on compliance with the provisions of this Act related to the election campaign by posting it on its website within 60 days of the date of the announcement of the final official election results.

Publication on the website referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall mean publication for the duration of at least 30 days.

Publication of financial statements

Article 39

Annual financial statements of political parties, independent MPs and members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters referred to in Article 30 of this Act, and the financial statements on the financing of election campaigns of political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters and candidates, as specified in Article 34 of this Act, shall be public documents.

By virtue of the provision of Article 32 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

Political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters shall publish annual financial statements on their websites by 1 March of the current year for the previous year.

By virtue of the provision of Article 32 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

Political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a groups of voters and candidates must publish financial statements on the financing of election campaigns on their websites or on the website of the political party that proposed the candidate or in the daily press (for local elections, in the local press) at the latest within 15 days from the expiry of the time limit referred to in Article 34(1) of this Article.

By virtue of the provision of Article 32 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 a comma was inserted after the words “website” and the words “or on the website of a political party that proposed the candidate” were inserted and the words “in the local daily press” were replaced by the words “in the local press”.

Publication on the website referred to in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Article shall mean publication for the duration of at least 90 days.

By way of derogation from paragraph (2) of this Article, members of the representative bodies of units of local and regional self-government elected from a list of a group of voters may publish annual financial statements on the website of the local and regional self-government unit in which they are politically active. The publication of annual financial statements on the websites of local and regional self-government units shall not be regarded as a donation.

Political parties, independent MPs and leaders of independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates must deliver by email to the State Election Commission within the time limits provided for the publication of the annual financial statement and the financial statement for the financing of the election campaign, information on the website, on the name and date of

the publication of the daily newspaper in which they published their financial statement, and the financial statement for the financing of the election campaign in compliance with the obligation of publication laid down in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Article.

Within the time limit referred to in paragraph (3) of this Article, units of local and regional self-government must inform the State Election Commission by email of the list of websites which publish the annual financial statements of members of a representative body of the unit of local and regional self-government unit in question elected from a list of a group of voters.

The list of websites and the names and dates of publication of the daily newspaper referred to in paragraphs (6) and (7) of this Article shall be published by the State Election Commission on its website.

The annual financial statements and financial statements on the financing of the election campaign referred in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be permanently published on the website of the Croatian Information and Documentation Referral Agency (HIDRA) where databases may be published on the basis of different criteria.

The annual financial statements and financial statements on the financing of the election campaign are delivered to the Croatian Information and Documentation Referral Agency (HIDRA) for publication by the State Election Commission or by the competent elections commission.

By virtue of the provision of Article 32 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 were inserted after paragraph 4.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

Article 40

Notwithstanding their liability for any offence, the following administrative sanctions may be imposed on political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of a list of a group voters and candidates in administrative proceedings for the breach of any provisions of this Act pertaining to the maximum amount of election campaign costs, the disclosure of information on donations and election campaign costs and financial statements on the financing of election campaigns:

- 1) full forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs;
- 2) partial forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs,
- 3) suspension of the payment of recoverable election campaign costs,

The administrative sanction of full forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs shall be imposed on political parties, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates in the following cases:

- if they use their election campaign funds for ineligible purposes, i.e. contrary to Article 16(1) and (2) of this Act, or if they use funds from the state budget or local budgets, or

company vehicles or equipment of governmental bodies or local and regional self-government units contrary to the prohibition laid down in Article 16(3) and (4) of this Act.

The administrative sanction of partial forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs shall be imposed on political parties, heads of independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates in the following cases:

– if they exceed the maximum total amount of election campaign costs, as specified in Article 17(1), (3) and (4) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 33 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3, subparagraph 1, the words “Article 17(1)” were replaced by the words “Article 17(1), (3) and (4)”.

– if they fail to return the total amount of donations received exceeding the eligible amount of election campaign cost to their payers, as specified in Article 17(5) of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 33 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3, subparagraph 2, the figure “(3)” was replaced by the figure “(5)”.

In the case referred to in paragraph (3) of this Article, the sanction of partial forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs shall consist of a reduction in the amount of recoverable elections campaign costs by any such amount by which the eligible amount of election campaign costs has been exceeded. If the excessive amount of election campaign costs exceeds the amount of recoverable election campaign costs, the sanction of full forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs shall be imposed.

The administrative sanction of suspension of the payment of recoverable election campaign costs shall be imposed on political parties, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates in the following cases:

– if they fail to submit their reports on donations and election campaign costs to the relevant electoral commission or to publish them within the specified time limit as stipulated in Articles 24 and 25 of this Act;

– if they fail to submit their financial statements on the financing of the election campaign, including the required enclosures, to the State Election Commission within the specified time limit as stipulated in Article 34 of this Act;

– if they fail to publish their financial statements as stipulated in Article 39(3) of this Act.

The payment of recoverable election campaign costs shall be suspended as stipulated in paragraph (5) of this Article until the obligation in question is duly fulfilled and at the latest by the expiry of the time limit for the closing of a special account for the financing of the election campaign referred to in Article 14 (10) of this Act. The failure to fulfil the obligation within the specified time limit shall result in the imposition of the sanction of full forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs.

By virtue of the provision of Article 33 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 6 at the end of the sentence a full stop was replaced by a comma and the following text was inserted: “at the latest by the expiry of the time limit for the closing of a special account for the financing of the election campaign referred to in Article 14 (10) of this Act. The failure to fulfil the obligation within the specified time limit shall result in the imposition of the sanction of full forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs.”.

The decision on full or partial forfeiture of the right to recover election campaign costs under paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) of this Article and on the suspension of payment, or forfeiture of recoverable election campaign costs under paragraphs 5 and 6 of this Article shall be adopted by the State Election Commission.

By virtue of the provision of Article 33 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 7 a comma was inserted after the words “suspension of payment” and the words “or forfeiture” were inserted and the words “referred to in paragraph 5” were replaced by the words “referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6”.

Decisions of the State Election Commission on the imposition of an administrative sanction may not be appealed but an administrative dispute may be initiated.

Decisions of the State Election Commission under paragraph (7) of this Article shall be published on the State Election Commission's website.

By virtue of the provision of Article 33 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 9 the words “in the Official Gazette” were replaced by the words “on the State Election Commission's website”.

Article 41

Notwithstanding their liability for any offence, if political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government elected from a list of a group of voters fail to submit their annual financial statements, including the required enclosures, to the State Audit Office and the State Election Commission within the specified time limit as stipulated in Article 30 of this Act, the payment of funds for their regular annual financing from the state budget or from the budgets of local and regional self-government units shall be suspended.

By virtue of the provision of Article 34 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs” and the words “and the State Election Commission” were inserted after the words “the State Audit Office”.

The payment of funds for regular annual financing from the state budget or from the budgets of local and regional self-government units shall also be suspended for political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government

elected from a group of voters failing to disclose information on donations received during the year as stipulated in Article 26 of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 34 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

The suspension of payment under paragraph (1) of this Article shall continue until the submission of the annual financial statement to the State Audit Office and the State Election Commission, and the suspension of payment under paragraph (2) of this Article shall continue until the disclosure of information on donations, with the amount of payment being reduced in proportion to the delay of the submission or disclosure.

By virtue of the provision of Article 34 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 the words "and the State Election Commission" were inserted after the words “the State Audit Office” and at the end of the sentence the full stop was replaced by a comma and the words “with the amount of the payment being reduced in proportion to the delay of the submission or disclosure”.

Decisions on the suspension of payment of funds for regular annual financing from the state budget, upon the proposal of the State Audit Office, or the State Election Commission, shall be adopted by the Committee on the Constitution, Standing Orders and Political System of the Croatian Parliament.

Decisions on the suspension of payment of funds for regular annual financing from the budget of a local or regional self-government unit shall be adopted by the representative body of a local and regional self-government unit upon the proposal of the State Audit Office, or the State Election Commission.

By virtue of the provision of Article 4 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11) which entered into force on 11 June 2013, in paragraphs 4 and 5 after the words “State Audit Office” a comma was added and the words “or the State Election Commission” were inserted.

Article 42

Notwithstanding their liability for any offence, political parties, independent MPs, and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters failing to publish their annual financial statements within the specified time limit as stipulated in Article 39(2) of this Act shall forfeit their right to regular annual financing from the state budget or from the budget of a local and regional self-government unit for a period of three months.

By virtue of the provision of Article 35 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 the comma and the words “national minority MP” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

The decision on the forfeiture of the right to regular annual financing from the state budget for a period of three months, as stipulated in paragraph (1) of this Article, upon the proposal of the State Audit Office, shall be adopted by the Committee on the Constitution, Standing Orders and Political System of the Croatian Parliament.

The decision on the forfeiture of the right to regular annual financing from the budget of a local or regional self-government unit for a period of three months, as stipulated in paragraph (1) of this Article, shall be adopted by the representative body of a local and regional self-government unit.

IX. MISDEMEANOUR PROVISIONS

Article 43

A fine shall be imposed on:

– political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of units of local and regional self-government elected from a list of a group of voters using funds contrary to the provisions of Article 2 (4) and (5) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 1, the words “national minority MPs” were deleted.

– independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters failing to open special accounts for the regular financing of their activities in compliance with the provision of Article 7(3) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 2, the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

– independent MPs and members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters failing to return the amount of seized funds in accordance with Article 7(7) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, a new subparagraph 3 was inserted in paragraph 1, after subparagraph 2.

– independent MPs and members of representative bodies of units of local and regional self-government elected from a list of a group of voters who, after the end of their term of office and unless they have been re-elected, fail to return any unspent funds, the pecuniary amount equal to the market value of assets, or any assets within the prescribed time limit stipulated in Article 8 of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, in former subparagraph 3, which became subparagraph 4, the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs”.

– political parties failing to maintain records of, and issue receipts for, membership fees or membership contributions and voluntary contributions received, as well as independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, the leader of an independent list or leader of a list of a group of voters and candidates failing to keep records of, and issue receipts for, voluntary contributions received in compliance with the provision of Article 10(5) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, in former subparagraph 4, which became subparagraph 5, the words “or membership contributions” were inserted after the words “membership fees” and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted.

– political parties, the leaders of independent lists or the leaders of a list of a group of voters and candidates failing to disclose the price, and any discount granted thereon, of media advertising for their election campaign in compliance with Article 12(2) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, former paragraph 5 became paragraph 6.

– candidates for President of the Republic of Croatia and those for municipality head, city mayor, county prefect and the mayor of the City of Zagreb and candidates for deputy municipality head, city mayor, county prefect elected from among members of national minorities who fail to publish indicative data on the amount and sources of their own funds they intend to use for their election campaigns in compliance with the provision of Article 13 of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, in former subparagraph 6, which became subparagraph 7, the words “and candidates for deputy municipality head, city mayor, county prefect elected from among members of national minorities” were inserted after the words “the City of Zagreb”.

– political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of a list of a group of voters and candidates who fail to open special accounts for the purposes of financing their election campaign costs or who fail to open such accounts within the required period in compliance with Article 14(3) and (4) of this Act;

– candidates and leaders of independent lists or leaders of lists of a group of voters who fail to return the seized amount of funds within the specified time limit as stipulated in Article 14(8) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, after the former subparagraph 7, which became subparagraph 8, a new subparagraph 9 was added.

- political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of a list of a group of voters and candidates using their election campaign funds for ineligible purposes, i.e. contrary to Article 16(1) and (2) of this Act, or using funds from the state or local budget, or the premises, official vehicles or equipment of governmental bodies or local and regional self-government units, contrary to the prohibition laid down in Article 16(3) and (4) of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, former paragraph 8 became paragraph 10.

– political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of an independent list or leaders of a list of a group of voters and candidates who, when collecting donations, exert any political or other pressure on, or promise any political or other counter favours, privileges or personal benefits to, natural and legal persons contrary to Article 23 of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, in former subparagraph 9, which became subparagraph 11, the words “national minority MPs” were deleted.

– political parties and candidates failing to submit their reports on donations and election campaign costs to the relevant election commissions within the specified time limit or failing to publish those reports in compliance with Articles 24 and 25 of this Act, as well as heads of independent lists or of a list of a group of voters failing to submit their reports on donations and election campaign costs to the relevant election commissions or to publish them in compliance with Article 24 of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, former subparagraph 10 became subparagraph 12.

– political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of units of local and regional self-government elected from a list of a group of voters who fail to adopt their work programme and their financial plan in compliance with the provision of Article 28 of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, in former subparagraph 11, which became subparagraph 13, the comma and the words “national minority MPs” were deleted after the words “independent MPs” and the words “and who fail to keep their business records” were deleted and the words “in compliance with Articles 28 and 29” were replaced by the words “in compliance with the provision of Article 28”.

– political parties, independent MPs and members of representative bodies of units of local and regional self-government elected from a list of a group of voters failing to submit their annual financial statements, including the required enclosures, to the State Audit Office and the State Election Commission within the prescribed time limit as stipulated in the provision of Article 30 of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, in former subparagraph 12, which became subparagraph 14, the comma and the words “national minority MP” were deleted after the words “independent MPs” and the words “and the State Election Commission” were inserted after the words “the State Audit Office”.

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, former subparagraph 13 was deleted.

– political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of a list of a group of voters and candidates failing to submit to the State Election Commission the financial statements on the financing of their election campaign, including the required enclosures, within the prescribed period stipulated in Article 34 of this Act;

– political parties, leaders of independent lists or leaders of a list of a group of voters and candidates failing to keep and update records on received donations and election campaign costs or who, during the election campaign, fail to deliver the requested documents upon the request of the State Election Commission in compliance with Article 36 of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, former subparagraphs 14 and 15 became subparagraphs 15 and 16.

– political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates failing to publish their financial statements within the prescribed time limit stipulated in Article 39 of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, in former subparagraph 16, which became subparagraph 17, the words “national minority MPs” were deleted.

For any offence specified in paragraph (1) of this Article, political parties shall be subject to a fine ranging from HRK 50,000.00 to HRK 500,000.00.

For any offence specified in paragraph (1) of this Article, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, leaders of independent lists or lists of a group of voters and candidates shall be subject to a fine ranging from HRK 30,000.00 to HRK 50,000.00.

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 the words “national minority MPs” were deleted.

By virtue of the provision of Article 36 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraph 4 was deleted.

Article 44

A fine shall be imposed on:

– political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates failing to report any value of donations exceeding the amounts specified in Article 11(3) and (4) of this Act, and failing to pay it into the state budget in compliance with Article 11(5) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 37 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 1, the words “national minority MPs” were deleted and the words “amount of donations” were replaced by the words “value of donations”.

– political parties, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates failing to return donations received after the end of the election campaign to donors within the time limit or failing to pay such donations into the state budget, in compliance with Article 14(12) of this Act;

– political parties, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates failing to allocate unspent funds from donations remaining on a special account for the financing of the election campaign in compliance with Article 14(3) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 37 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, new subparagraphs 2 and 3 were inserted after subparagraph 1.

– political parties, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates exceeding the maximum total amount of election campaign costs, as stipulated in Article 17(1) (2) and (3) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 37 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 in former subparagraph 2, which became paragraph 4, the words “Article 17(1)” were replaced by the words “Article 17(1), (3) and (4)”.

– political parties, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates failing to return the total value of received donations exceeding the eligible amount of election campaign costs to their payers, as stipulated in Article 17 (5) of this Act;

By virtue of the provision of Article 37 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, in former subparagraph 3, which became subparagraph 5, the words "total amount of received donations" were replaced by the words "total value of received donations" and the figure "(3)" was replaced by the figure "(5)".

– political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates failing to report any donation paid from ineligible sources and to transfer such funds into the state budget, as stipulated in Article 22(4) of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 37 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1 in former subparagraph 4, which became subparagraph 6, the words "national minority MPs" were deleted.

For the offences specified in paragraph (1)(i), (ii), (iii) and (vi) of this Article, political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of independent lists or of a list of a group of voters and candidates shall be fined in an amount ranging from 8% to 10% of the total amount of donations which a natural or legal person is allowed to make to a political party, independent MP, member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of independent lists or of a list of a group of voters and candidates, as stipulated in the provisions of Article 11(3) and (4) of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 37 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2 the words "specified in paragraph 1(i) and iv)" were replaced by the words "specified in paragraph (1)(i), (ii), (iii) and (vi)", the words "national minority MPs" were deleted, and the words "total amounts of donations" were replaced by the words "total value of donations" and the words "national minority MPs" were deleted.

For the offences specified in paragraph (1)(iv) and (v) of this Article, political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of independent lists or of a list of a group of voters and candidates shall be subject to a fine ranging from 8% to 10% of the maximum total eligible amount of election campaign costs, in stipulated in Article 17 of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 37 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 3 the words "specified in paragraph 1(ii) and (iii)" were replaced by the words "specified in paragraph 1(iv) and (v)" and the words "national minority MPs" were deleted.

Article 45

A fine shall be imposed on:

- a natural or legal person failing to issue an invoice for any donation made by way of products or services, or if the value of any donated product or service, as specified on such invoice, does not correspond to its market value, as stipulated in Article 10(3) of this Act;
- a natural or legal person paying any donation to a political party, independent MP, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, to an independent list or a list of a group of voters and candidates contrary to Article 22(1)(vi) of this Act.

By virtue of the provision of Article 38 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 1, subparagraph 2 the words “national minority MPs” were deleted.

For the offence specified in paragraph (1) of this Article, legal persons shall be subject to a fine ranging from HRK 50,000.00 to HRK 100,000.00.

For the offence specified in paragraph (1) of this Article, natural persons shall be subject to a fine ranging from HRK 10,000.00 to HRK 50,000.00.

A fine ranging from HRK 10,000.00 to HRK 20,000.00 shall also be imposed on persons authorized to act on behalf of or to represent a legal person.

Article 46

A fine ranging from HRK 100,000.00 to HRK 500,000.00 shall be imposed on:

- local and regional self-government units failing to secure the funds required for the regular annual financing of political parties and members of their representative bodies elected from a list of a group of voters in their budgets, in compliance with the provision of Article 3(2) of this Act.

Article 47

A fine ranging from HRK 50,000.00 to HRK 100,000.00 shall be imposed on:

- local and regional self-government units failing to regularly transfer the funds required for the regular annual financing of political parties and members of their representative bodies, as specified in Article 7(2) of this Act, and failing to pay out any recoverable election campaign costs within the specified period and as stipulated in Article 21 of this Act.

A fine ranging from HRK 10,000.00 to HRK 50,000.00 shall also be imposed on persons authorized to act on behalf of and represent such local and regional self-government units, as well as on persons responsible for their financial operations.

Article 48

Assets acquired by political parties, independent MPs, members of representative bodies of local and regional self-government units elected from a list of a group of voters, leaders of independent lists or of lists of a group of voters and candidates through the commission of

offences referred to in this Act shall be seized in accordance with the provisions of a special law.

By virtue of the provision of Article 39 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) which entered into force on 12 March 2013, Article 48 was amended.

Article 49

The authorized prosecutor for the offences laid down in this Act shall be the State Attorney.

By virtue of the provision of Article 40 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, paragraph 1 was amended.

The State Audit Office and the State Election Commission shall, within the limits of their jurisdiction, notify the State Attorney's Office of any identified breach of this Act and deliver thereto all documents related to the case in question and all other data and facts at their disposal with an indication of the source and relating to the case in question.

By virtue of the provision of Article 40 of the Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13), which entered into force on 12 March 2013, in paragraph 2, a full stop was deleted at the end of the sentence and the words "and all other data and facts at their disposal with an indication of the source and relating to a the case in question." were inserted.

X. REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

Article 50

The State Election Commission shall issue instructions on the implementation of the provisions of this Act on financial reporting on election campaign financing.

XI. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 51

The Minister of Finance shall pass the ordinance specified in Article 10(6) of this Act not later than 60 days from the date of entry into force of this Act.

The Ordinance on the Method of Keeping Records of and Issuing Receipts for Membership Fees and Voluntary Contributions (Donations) (as published in Official Gazette Nos. 26/07 and 148/09) shall remain in force until the adoption of the Ordinance referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article.

The Minister of Finance shall pass the ordinance specified in Article 24(2) and Article 34(4) of this Act within 60 days from the date of entry into force of this Act.

Article 52

Upon the entry into force of this Act, the Act on the Financing of Political Parties, Independent Lists and Candidates (Official Gazette No. 1/07) shall cease to be valid.

Upon the entry into force of this Act, the Act on the Financing of Election Campaigns for the Election of the President of the Republic of Croatia (Official Gazette No. 105/04) shall cease to be valid.

Upon the entry into force of this Act, the provisions of Articles 31, 32, 33, 35 and 36 of the Act on Elections of Representatives to the Croatian Parliament (Official Gazette No. 116/99, 109/00, 53/03, 167/03, 44/06, 19/07 and 20/09) shall cease to be valid.

Upon the entry into force of this Act, the provision of Article 16 of the Act on the Election of the President of the Republic of Croatia (Official Gazette No. 22/92, 42/92, 71/97, 69/04, 44/06) shall cease to be valid.

Upon the entry into force of this Act, the provisions of Articles 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32 of the Act on Elections for Municipality Heads, City Mayors, County Prefects and Mayor of the City of Zagreb (Official Gazette No. 109/07 and 125/08) shall cease to be valid.

Upon the entry into force of this Act, the provision of Article 21 of the Act on the Election of Members of Representative Bodies of Local and Regional Self-Government Units (Official Gazette No. 33/01, 10/02, 155/02, 45/03, 43/04, 40/05, 44/06 and 109/07) shall cease to apply to the election of members of the representative bodies of local and regional self-government units, but shall remain applicable to elections for national minority councils.

Article 53

This Act shall enter into force on the eighth day following its publication in the Official Gazette.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

The Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 61/11) entered into force on 11 June 2011.

Article 5

This Act shall enter into force on the eighth day following its publication in the Official Gazette.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

The Act on Amendments to the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 27/13) entered into force on 12 March 2013.

Article 41

The Minister of Finance shall adopt the ordinance referred to in Article 10 and Article 22 of this Act, which means that the Minister will align the Ordinance on the Method of Keeping Records of and Issuing Receipts for Membership Fees and Voluntary Contributions

(donations), on Reports on Received Donations for the Financing of the Election Campaign and Reports on Costs of the Election Campaign and Financial Statements for the Financing of the Election Campaign (Official Gazette, No. 50/11 and 93/11) with the provisions of this Act within 30 days from the date of entry into force of this Act.

The Minister of Administration shall adopt the ordinance referred to in Article 22 of this Act within 30 days from the date of entry into force of this Act.

Article 42

National minority MPs nominated by a political party who opened a special account for the regular financing of their activities by the date of entry into force of this Act may continue with the financing of their regular activities through their account until the end of their term of office in the Croatian Parliament or, within 30 days from the date of entry into force of this Act, close the special account for regular annual financing and transfer the funds from the mentioned account into the central account of the political party that nominated them.

National minority MPs that will continue with the financing of their regular activities through a special account for regular annual financing shall be subject to all the provisions of the Act related to independent MPs.

Article 43

In the provisions of Articles 1, 10, 12, 14, 22, 23, in the title above Article 27 and in Article 27 and Article 45 of the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 24/11 and 61/11) the words “independent list” in the appropriate case and number shall be replaced by the words “independent list or a list of a group of voters” in the appropriate case and number.

Article 44

In the provisions of Articles 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 22, 23, in the title above Article 24, in the title above Article 27 and in the provisions of Articles 27, 28, 30, 32, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47 of the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 24/11 and 61/11) the words "independent member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit" in the appropriate number and case shall be replaced by the words "a member of a representative body of a local and regional self-government unit elected from a list of a group of voters" in the appropriate number and case.

Article 45

In the entire text of the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act (Official Gazette No. 24/11 and 61/11), except in Article 14, paragraph (3), subparagraphs (2), (4) and (5), the words “independent slate heads” in the appropriate case and number shall be replaced by the words “leader of an independent list or a leader of a list of a group of voters” in the appropriate case and number.

Article 46

The Legislation Committee of the Croatian Parliament is authorized to establish and issue a consolidated text of the Political Activity and Election Campaign Financing Act.

Article 47

This Act shall enter into force on the eighth day following its publication in the Official Gazette.