



Report No 5

Promo-LEX Observation Mission for the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021

Observation period: 23 June – 7 July 2021

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The responsibility for the view shared in this Report belongs to Promo-LEX Association and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of donors. If there are any discrepancies between the text in Romanian language and its translation in another language, the Romanian version of the Report will prevail.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Legal Framework. During the observation period, the Constitutional Court issued three inadmissibility decisions for the non-constitutionality exceptions raised in electoral litigations. Though the High Court has not accepted the merits review of notifications, it referred to how some provisions of the Electoral Code should be interpreted. In this regard, Promo-LEX OM underlines that:

- the preferential treatment of women, introduced by Article 86(2) Electoral Code (fewer signatures that need to be collected to be registered as an independent candidate) is a discriminatory;
- the assumption that persons living on the left bank of the Nistru river are usually subjected to manipulations is biased;
- the establishment of polling stations by CEC on a territory that is not actually controlled by Republic of Moldova's authorities is not only unlawful, but also non-constitutional.

Given the public discussions whether it is lawful for CEC to publish the electoral rolls, Promo-LEX OM believes that the legal provisions on the accessibility of electoral rolls for voters do not violate the law on personal data processing. Publishing the electoral rolls that contain the voters' first and last names and the year of birth is a needed measure, proportional with the pursued public interest - of ensuring transparency and accuracy of electoral rolls. In addition, international standards state that publishing the electoral rolls and provision of a procedure for voters to correct the errors are two criteria that guarantee the accuracy of electoral rolls.

Electoral bodies. During the observation period, CEC met in seven meetings, of which three were ordinary and four - extraordinary. The meetings were conducted in a mixed format. Until 7 July 2021 CEC has accredited 2,442 observers, of which 1,800 are national and 642 are international. Promo-LEX Association accredited 1,186 observers (66% of the national observers). Compared with the same reference period of the Presidential Elections of November 2020, the number of observers accredited for the current elections increased by 249 people.

Note that, in spite of the insistent requests by CALC, CEC has not approved any decision to regulate the organised transportation of voters on the election day. CALC draw the attention that such a decision issued by CEC for the 2020 Presidential Elections resulted in fewer cases of organised transportation of voters reported by observers. Promo-LEX OM condemns such a negligent attitude of CEC towards the issue of organised transportation of voters on the election day. We believe that contenders use the organised transportation of voters to influence voters' choice, which affects the election integrity.

The number of ballot papers issued was determined, with insignificant differences, on the basis of the number of voters in the SVR who have a domicile/residence. A number of 5,000 ballot papers (the maximum number allowed by law) were printed for the 145 PSs set up abroad, except for 5 PSs. As for the activity of PEBs set up abroad, Promo-LEX OM found that on 7 July 2021 at least half of the bureaus had an even number of members, which is a violation of the law.

According to Promo-LEX OM findings, as of 7 July 2021 DEC had accredited at least 2,141 observers on behalf of eight contenders, by 60% fewer compared to the Presidential Elections of November 2020. According to our findings, most of them were accredited by PPS (38%), followed by BECS (27%), BERU (13%) and PAS (12%).

During the reference period, Promo-LEX observers visited 1,691 PEBs, of which only 1,347 PEBs (80%) were open during the working time. Observers also found that lower electoral bodies do not fully comply with anti-epidemic health measures. Thus, only 76% of DEC and only 27% of PEBs measure the body temperature of visitors.

Voter lists. According to Promo-LEX OM, the electoral rolls were transferred to PEBs with some deficiencies. Of the total 1,691 PSs visited during the reference period (when the electoral rolls should have been already at the polling stations), only 1,276 PEBs (75%) had received the electoral rolls by the date of the visit. Note that observers has access to the whole electoral rolls only in 1,019 PSs (80% of 1,276).

Observers also checked the rolls accuracy. In the 1,019 PSs that offered full access to electoral rolls, the most frequent errors found include: presence of deceased people on the list (12% of PSs), incorrect assigning of voters to another PS (5% of PSs), and errors with addresses (2% of PSs) etc.

Electoral disputes. During the reference period, CEC received on complaint. However, it has not issued solutions for any complaint, neither for the complaints submitted previously. Besides, according to the information available, CEC has so far settled only two of the four notifications filed on 2 June 2021.

According to Promo-LEX observers, DECs received at least five complaints and notifications during the monitored period. All of the complaints were filed against electoral bodies or their members and refer to appointing PEB members (2), campaigning by a PEB member (2) and drawing up the electoral rolls (1). Regarding the solutions issued by DEC, only one complained was accepted for review.

At least 6 complaints were filed with the Chisinau Court of Appeal against CEC actions and decisions. Three of them focus on the establishment of polling stations abroad, two — to registration/failure to register electoral contenders and one — to the registration of electoral symbol. Between 23 June and 7 July 2021 the Court of Appeal also issued solutions for 7 complaints. We also draw the attention to another complained, with regards to which the Chisinau Court of Appeal had not issued an opinion as of 7 July 2021. The complaint focuses on the establishment of polling stations for the voters from the left bank of the Nistru River and was submitted for merits review back in 18.06.2021.

At least five appeals and one request to solve the conflict of competence were filed to the Supreme Court of Justice. The Supreme Court of Justice issued the following solutions during the reference period: two decisions to reject the appeal and uphold the judgment issued by Chisinau Court of Appeal; through resolutions on inadmissibility of the appeal; one resolution rejecting the request to settle an alleged conflict of competences.

Public administration. Promo-LEX OM expresses its worry that on 8 July 2021, only three days before the election, the Government has not yet ensured full funding for the organisation and conduct of the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021. This can affect the quality of procedures on the election day, as the outstanding amount of MDL 22,468.0, expected to be approved at the Government meeting of 7 July 2021, was intended to cover the remuneration of electoral officials. Promo-LEX OM has always warned about this problem in its interim reports, stressing that officials' statements may not replace approved decisions.

Regarding the activity of local public authorities. As of 7 July 2021, Promo-LEX OM had visited 812 level-one ATUs. Regarding the extent to which ATUs fulfil their duties related to election organisation, we find that 719 mayoralties (89%) have approved decisions on venues for electoral posts, and at least 704 mayoralties (87%) passed decision on venues for meetings with voters. In addition, observers found that at least 329 mayoralties (40% of the 812 visited) received late the electoral rolls.

Electoral Contestants. During 22 June - 6 July 2021, the activism of electoral contenders had continuously increased, the number of activities has increased by 25% compared to the previous monitoring period. Most of the 1,456 activities observed, as in the previous observation period, were carried out by: PAS – 395 (27%), BECS 226 (15%) and BERU 172 (12%). The most popular activities are the distribution of electoral materials (52%) and electoral meetings (30%).

At least 31 electoral meetings were found abroad as a “face-to-face campaigning”, more than three times compared to the previous two weeks of observation. Of these, 13 (42%) were conducted by

PAS; PUN - 9 (29%); PPPDA – 6 (19%) and 3 (10%) – by PPDA. Most of them (74%) took place in Italy. No electoral meeting were reported for voters from the transnistrian region.

Observers reported at least 67 cases that can be qualified as the use of administrative resources for electoral promotion, with 18 cases involving PDM, 13 - BECS, 11 - PAS and PPPDA each, 9 - BERU and 5 cases - PPS. The following types of administrative resources were used: electoral meetings organised in state institutions during the working time - 29 cases (43%), taking credits for the works/services delivered from public money - 22 cases (33%) and engaging public sector employees in campaigning activities - 16 cases (24%).

Promo-LEX observers reported at least one case that can be regarded as a gift offering with electoral impact, involving PACE. At least seven cases were reported (PAS and BECS - 3 cases each, BERU - 1 case) of using the image/symbols of the state of the Republic of Moldova or of other states.

Promo-LEX OM also found at least five cases of electoral advertising that did not comply with printing requirements (2 cases – PACE and 1 case – PPDA, PUN, BECS each), as well as 64 cases of advertising in unauthorised places. At least three cases that can be regarded as violence during the election campaign were reported during the observation period. All of them involved AUR and BECS.

Electoral campaign funding. Promo-LEX OM analysed the contenders' financial reporting, and also estimated their expenses for the campaigning activities carried out between 21 May and 2 June 2021. It corresponds to the six weeks of election campaign to be reported to CEC. Nineteen of the 23 registered electoral contenders filed the financial reports for the fifth and sixth weeks of campaign. Regarding the accuracy of the reports filed to CEC, we find a low quality of the reported information.

During the reference period, 19 electoral contenders reported total financial expenses amounting to MDL 33,579,929. Of them, 36% were reported by BERU, 18% – by PAS, and 12% – by BECS and PPS each. Thus, 4 electoral contenders reported 78% of total revenues, and the remaining 11 electoral contenders – only 22%. The revenue sources are: donations from individuals (58%), money transfers from current accounts of 9 political parties (30%), donations from legal entities (6%) and donations of goods, works or services (6%). According to the findings, the donation limits were not exceeded.

At the same time, 19 electoral contenders reported the total financial expenses amounting to MDL 30,459,125. Of these, 37% were reported by BERU, 18% – by PAS, 13% – by PPŞ, but 12% – by BECS. Therefore, 80% of the total financial expenses were reported by 4 contenders, the other 20% – by 14 contenders. The main purposes of the expenses referred to political advertising (64%) and promotional materials (24%).

The electoral activities were estimated for each electoral contender from the registration in the electoral race until 2 July 2021. We note that for all 6 weeks of the election campaign, Promo-LEX estimated unreported expenses of at least MDL 10,859,900. Of these, for BECS – MDL 3,264,762 (30%); PPŞ – MDL 2,329,133 (21%); PDM – MDL 1,342,712 (12%) and for PAS – 1,007,578 (9%). Most of these relate to promotional materials (41%), followed by expenses for secondment/detachment of persons (15%) and headquarters (14%).

Hate speech and incitement to discrimination. From 21 June to 5 July 2021, Promo-LEX Association identified at least 43 cases of hate speech and incitement to discrimination in the public space, in the media and online in the Republic of Moldova. It is a 43% increase compared to the previous monitoring period (8-20 June 2021).

During the reporting period, at least 25 cases of hate speech or other forms of intolerant speech were generated by 11 candidates included in the electoral rolls of 8 electoral contenders: AUR – 6 cases; PPDA – 6 cases; BERU – 4 cases; POM – 3 cases; BECS – 3 cases; PACE, PPPDA, PUN – one case each. In addition, one case involved the PPN contender's representative.

On the other hand, in at least 10 cases, hate speech and incitement to discrimination in the public space targeted two candidates from BECS electoral rolls: Igor Dodon – in 7 cases and Vladimir

Voronin – in 3 cases. The other speeches affected members and supporters of BECS, PLD, the President of the Republic of Moldova, other politicians.

Electoral education and information. In the context of early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, the Promo-LEX Association continued the conduct of information and electoral education activities for voters. The activities targeted young voters, voters from the transnistrian region and the diaspora, as well as voters in general. In this respect, during the reporting period, 11 electoral debates were organised, the second motivational video spot was launched to encourage the voters' participation in the election, as well as 10 news reports and 3 TV/radios shows on electoral procedures and election campaign, etc. In addition, 4 organizations that received grants from Promo-LEX Association, carried out and advertised, particularly online, several activities of information, electoral education and apolitical mobilization of voters.

In respect of the conducted debates, Promo-LEX OM highlights some identified regulatory gaps: the possibility to formally complete the financial disclosure forms submitted to CEC during the registration process, without any consequences for candidates, as well as insufficient regulation of the candidate's 'representative' status at the debates. These situations affect the transparency of information regarding the electoral contenders, as well as the competitive nature of the elections.

During the reporting period, CICDE provided training to PEB members, IGP staff, observers and journalists. PEB members from country polling stations were trained offline, while those from abroad were trained online. Concerning information activities, CEC and CICDE established a Call Centre for the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021. CEC conducted a press briefing covering topics related to the electoral process. CICDE launched an online electoral quiz, several informative video materials, a podcast, etc.

INTRODUCTION

Report No 5 was developed as part of the Promo-LEX Observation Mission (OM) of the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021. The observation period of the events included in the Report was 23 June – 7 July 2021. The results of monitoring hate speech and incitement to discrimination are presented for the period 23 June – 5 July 2021, while the results of election campaign financing – for 21 May – 2 July 2021.

Altogether, Promo-LEX OM will present six interim reports and a Final Report on the observation on early parliamentary elections. On the election day, press releases will be issued on the conduct of the election, the results of the partial counting of votes and the assessment of protocols' accuracy. Promo-LEX OM reports aim at notifying the electoral bodies about the results of the real-time assessment of the quality of organizing and conducting election procedures; raising the accountability of electoral actors; informing the society about the positive and negative tendencies found during the electoral process; preventing possible violations of electoral law.

The Promo-LEX election observation methodology is based on international electoral standards and involves the observation of both long-term (election period) and short-term (election day) elections. The observation reports are developed by Promo-LEX OM central team based on their findings, including those reported by the long-term observers (LTOs) on the activity of all actors involved in the organization and conduct of the elections: electoral contenders, public authorities, electoral bodies, political parties, citizens who submit their own candidacy, as well as civil society.

During the electoral period, the monitoring of the electoral process is carried out by 43 LTOs. During field visits, Promo-LEX observers collect and analyze information resulting from interviews, meetings with interviewees and review of the official documents. The activity of electoral candidates/contenders is also monitored online. Promo-LEX also monitors hate speech and incitement to discrimination, using 7 monitors. LTO/monitors' findings are reported based on thematic templates and are stored on the web platform www.data.promolex.md, a secure system with limited access, managed by Promo-LEX.

On the election day, Observation Mission will delegate one short-term observer (STO) to about 600 polling stations (PSs), selected on the basis of a nationally representative sample, established by a sociological company. In addition, the electoral process in the other polling stations and their adjacent spaces will be monitored by 160 STOs, grouped and distributed nationwide in 80 mobile teams of observers.

The polling stations set up for voters in the Transnistrian region will be fully monitored by delegating a static STO to each of them. Particular attention will be paid to the electoral process monitoring in polling stations that will be opened abroad. For this purpose, Promo-LEX OM will delegate about 84 static STOs on the election day to abroad polling stations.

The activity of the observers is coordinated by the central team of the Mission, composed of 22 members. All Promo-LEX observers and monitors are trained in the workshops organized by the Observation Mission, including on compliance with protection measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The observers also sign and undertake to comply with the Code of Conduct¹ of the Promo-LEX Independent National Observatory, committing to act in good faith and in non-partisan way.

The OM of the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021 is a project of the Promo-LEX Association, carried out within the Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections.

The Promo-LEX OM is not a political opponent of the contenders involved in the electoral process, it is not an investigative body and does not assume the express obligation to prove the observed findings. However, the observers' reports are accompanied, as far as possible, by photo and video evidence, other documents, which can only be made available to law enforcement bodies, on the basis of appropriate requests, and in no case shall this be provided to electoral competitors. At the

¹ [The Code of Conduct](#) of the Promo-LEX Independent National Observatory.

same time, the violations, including the alleged ones, which are found in this report, must be treated by the electoral authorities as notifications and are to be examined according to the competence, in the light of the provisions of Article 22 (1) (q) and Article 68 (5) of the Electoral Code.

The Promo-LEX Mission manages the www.electorala.monitor.md web platform, where any citizen can report activities with electoral overtones. Relevant information from observers' reports are stored on the same platform. Citizens' notifications are verified by the mission observers during the next scheduled visit to the settlement, where the alert was recorded.

Promo-LEX is a public association that aims at developing democracy in the Republic of Moldova, including in the Transnistrian region, by promoting and protecting human rights, monitoring democratic processes and strengthening the civil society. The Association organizes Election Observation Missions in the Republic of Moldova since 2009, the current OM being the 21st. Also, the employees and members of the Association have extensive international experience and participated in election observations in the International Missions of Armenia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Montenegro, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Sweden, Ukraine, etc.

The international standards referred to in this report are those developed by the UN, OSCE, the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), the European Union and the Council of Europe. At the end, the report contains recommendations for public authorities, electoral bodies, electoral contenders, other stakeholders, to ensure the good organization and optimization of the electoral process.

The Election Observation Mission for the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021 is conducted by Promo-LEX Association with the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the 'Democracy, Transparency and Responsibility' Program, of the Council of Europe through 'Support for civic observation of the 2021 Early Parliamentary Elections in the polling stations set up abroad' Project, as well as of the Netherlands Embassy Office in Chisinau through 'Support for informing citizens and civic observation of the 2021 Early Parliamentary Elections in the polling stations set up for voters from the transnistrian region'. *'Hate speech' component is supported by Justice and Human Rights Department of Soros Foundation Moldova through 'Strengthening a platform for the development of human rights activism and education in the Republic of Moldova - stage IV'.*

The opinions expressed in the reports and press releases of the Promo-LEX OM belong to the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the donors.

I. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1.1. Transparency of electoral rolls versus personal data protection

According to Articles 44-45 of the Electoral Code, electoral rolls are lists, developed based on the SVR data, which include all citizens eligible to vote who have the domicile or the residence on the territory of a polling station. The following shall be written in the electoral roll:

- settlement and polling station number;
- voter's name and surname, year of birth;
- voter's domicile/residence;
- state identification number (IDNP);
- series and number of the ID documents.

The rolls are made available at the polling station venues and are also published on CEC website 20 days before the election day; they provide the name, surname and year of birth of every voter. CEC published the electoral rolls for the early election correspondingly and they can be identified by accessing the PS related to the domicile or residence address².

We would like to mention that the provision on publishing electoral rolls on CEC website was added to the Electoral Code back in June 2010. Before that, electoral rolls were only displayed at the venues of the polling stations. Moreover, until 2019 there was no provision that the lists made available should only mention every voter's name, surname, and year of birth.

Note that in 2013 the National Centre for Personal Data Protection (NCPDP) approved the Instruction on processing personal data under the electoral process³. According to this document, if personal data included in the electoral rolls are published on the official website of CEC or of the local authority, then technical solutions must be put in place in order to exclude the unrestricted access to such data, ensuring specialised technical measures aimed at information security, **protection measures to confirm undoubtedly the identity of the personal data subject** that is exerting his/her right to access or correct data, by excluding unauthorised access to data.

At the same time, the disclosure of personal data processed for electoral purposes by means of transmission, dissemination or any other method shall be prohibited, except for cases when the personal data subject gave his/her consent, when information is anonymised or when the law provides expressly for the receiver's or third party's right to get such data.

Thus, taking into account that the Electoral Code had been revised in 2013-2019 and the CEC Regulation on drafting, administration, dissemination and updating of electoral rolls was approved in 2014, we believe that CEC procedures and legal framework have been adjusted to the principles embodied in the NCPDP Instruction.

Note that **publication of the electoral roll is needed particularly in order to check it and correct the mistakes in it**. To this end, the Parliament stipulated in Article 45 of the Electoral Code that citizens and representatives of electoral contenders shall be provided with an opportunity to become familiar with the electoral rolls and to verify the accuracy of their compilation. They have the right to appeal against their names being incorrectly omitted or excluded from the list, as well as against other mistakes in the recorded data about themselves or about other voters at latest on election day.

² <https://liste.cec.md/>

³ Order of NCPDP No 03/1 of 28.02.2013 approving the Instruction on processing personal data under the electoral process.

At the same time, according to Item 16 of the Regulation on drafting, administration, dissemination and updating of electoral rolls provides that if the voter or the representative of an electoral contender identifies errors that can be only corrected by checking all the information about the voter from the full-data electoral roll, access to it may be granted only upon signing a confidentiality agreement. Free access to the full data included in the main electoral roll (IDNP, voter's domicile/residence, series and number of the ID documents) is granted only to the members of the respective electoral bureau and the voter can have access to his/her personal data.

Based on the aforementioned, we conclude that the electoral rolls are made accessible in a form that, on the one hand, allows the voter and the electoral contender to find errors in the list and, on the other hand, does not publish other personal data of the voters, which could be an attempt against the inviolability of private and family life⁴.

To conclude, Promo-LEX OM believes that publishing electoral rolls in this form is a necessary measure, which is proportionate to the purpose – check and update the electoral rolls.

We would also like to highlight that international standards⁵ also state that publishing the electoral rolls and provision of a procedure for voters to correct the errors are two criteria that guarantee the accuracy of electoral rolls.

1.2. Decisions of the Constitutional Court

During the observation period, the Constitutional Court issued three inadmissibility decisions for the non-constitutionality exceptions raised in electoral litigations. Though the High Court has not accepted the merits review of notifications, it referred to how some provisions of the Electoral Code should be interpreted. To this end, the Court highlighted in two of the three decisions that the reasons behind its all documents that have a jurisdiction nature, including the reasons behind the decisions, are generally binding. Thus:

a) **The first inadmissibility decision**⁶ was issued on 28 June 2021 regarding the non-constitutionality exception that was raised in relation with the fact that CEC returned without examination the appeal filed by BECS, where the latter requested the ascertaining of the use of administrative resources and appropriate sanctioning of PAS⁷. In this decision the Court reiterated the reasons presented in the Constitutional Court Decisions No 94 of 15 June 2021 and No 98 of 17 June 2021:

- the rule of law principle states that courts of the Republic of Moldova shall interpret and enforce laws as a part of a coherent legal system, not in an isolated manner that disregards other relevant provisions;
- public authorities and courts of law shall clarify, in each individual case, if they have to solve an appeal against the electoral body, an appeal against electoral contenders' actions/failure to act, a notification of electoral law violation, or a contraventional/criminal complaint or report. After this clarification, the public authority or the court of law must check its competence, decide which legal provisions are applicable in this case, interpret and apply them in a way that guarantees the effectiveness of the fundamental right to vote and to be elected.

b) **Another inadmissibility decision**⁸ was issued on 29 June 2021 regarding the non-constitutionality exception in the case of rejecting the registration application of the independent

⁴The purpose of the Law on Personal Data Protection, according to Article 1 is to ensure the protection of individuals' fundamental rights and freedoms in relation to processing personal data, especially the right to the inviolability of private and family life.

⁵ Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters, Item 1.2.

⁶ Decision of the Constitutional Court No 99 of 28.06.2021 on the inadmissibility of notification No 144g/2021 on the non-constitutionality exception of some provisions under Articles 71(1), 72(1), 73(2) and 73(7) of the Electoral Code.

⁷ Letter No CEC-8/4175 of 12 June 2021.

⁸ Decision of the Constitutional Court No 101 of 29.06.2021 on the inadmissibility of notification No 148g/2021 on the non-constitutionality exception of Article 86(2) of the Electoral Code (differentiated gender-based treatment when registering independent candidates for the parliamentary election).

candidate Ion Stegărescu⁹. In this decision the Court spoke of the *differentiated gender-based treatment when registering independent candidates for the parliamentary election* and highlighted the following reasons:

- the measures aimed at including women in the political life and ensuring a balance in the representation by sex in the power bodies represent positive obligations of the state, which result from international documents to which the Republic of Moldova is part of;
- preferential treatment of women, introduced by the contested rule (Article 86(2) of the Electoral Code), represents an affirmative action¹⁰, which aims at including women in the political life and achieving *a balance in the representation by sex in the Parliament*.

c) **Third inadmissibility decision**¹¹ was issued on 29 June 2021 regarding the non-constitutionality exception in the case which challenge the decision of CEC to establish the polling stations for the voters from the left bank of Nistru River¹². The Court highlighted the following in this decision:

- although the State has an interest in protecting the integrity of elections, the assumption that persons living on the left bank of the Nistru River are usually subjected to manipulations is biased. The Court cannot start from the presumption that people who live on the territory that is not controlled by Republic of Moldova's authorities cannot make a free choice. If the Court would act this way, it would prejudice the dignity of its citizens;
- the establishment of polling stations by CEC on a territory that is not actually controlled by Republic of Moldova's authorities is not only unlawful, but also non-constitutional;
- as regards the text 'at least 35 days before the elections' from the Article 32(1) of the Electoral Code, the Court found that it was regulated to ensure the predictability of elections and to make sure that voters will organise their vote in advance. Exceeding the term of 35 days provided for by the Article 32 of the Code does not exempt the Central Electoral Commission from the obligation to establish the polling stations for voters who live on the territory that is not controlled by Republic of Moldova's authorities;
- public authorities should guarantee the effectiveness of the fundamental right to vote and be elected in the areas that are actually controlled by them;
- public authorities should interpret the law in a way that ensures the effectiveness of the right to vote and be elected and that takes into account the international obligations of the Republic of Moldova in terms of observing the human rights (CCD No 98 of 17 June 2021, § 20).

Thus, we find that following the considerations expressed by the Constitutional Court, both the courts and the Central Electoral Commission shall review the way they interpret and apply the Electoral Code.

⁹ Decision No 5037 of 18 June 2021 on the request to register Mr. Ion Stegărescu as independent candidate for the position of Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, the electoral symbol and to confirm the representative with the right to consultative vote within the Central Electoral Commission and of the person in charge of finances (treasurer).

¹⁰ According to the law No 5 of 9 February 2006 ensuring equal opportunities for women and men, the affirmative actions [Article 5(6)], that is, the actions with special and temporary actions that aim at accelerating the achievement of a real equality between women and men in order to eliminate and prevent the discrimination or the disadvantages that result from the attitudes, behaviours and existing structures, shall not be regarded as discriminatory.

¹¹ Decision of the Constitutional Court No 100 of 29.06.2021 on the inadmissibility of notification No 149g/2021 on the non-constitutionality exception of Article 32 of the Electoral Code (peculiarities of establishing and operating polling stations voters who live on the territory that is not controlled by the authorities of the Republic of Moldova).

¹² CEC Decision No 4965 of 5 June 2021 on the organisation of polling stations for voter from the localities on the left bank of Nistru River (Transnistria), Bender municipality and certain localities of Causeni district.

II. ELECTORAL BODIES

2.1. CEC Activity

During the reporting period the electoral authority met for 7 online and mixed meetings, of which 3 ordinary meetings and 4 extraordinary, during which 77 decisions related to the organization and conduct of the presidential election were adopted.

2.1.1. CEC decisions relevant for the organisation and conduct of the Parliamentary Elections

Out of 77 decisions on the organization and conduct of the elections, 49 (64%) are related to the accreditation of national and international observers. The other decisions targeted the registration of trusted persons, confirmation of people in charge of funding, determining the number of ballot papers, changing the list of candidates for the position of MP in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, the reports on the revenues and expenses of the electoral contenders during the electoral campaign, amendment of previous CEC decisions.

2.1.2. Accreditation of observers

During the reference period, CEC accredited 1,248 observers of whom 783 national observers and 465 international experts and observers (according to Annex 1). From the beginning of the electoral period and until 7 July 2021, a total number of 2,442 observers were accredited for early Parliamentary Elections, of whom 1,800 national observers and 642 international observers and experts. Promo-LEX Association accredited 1,186 observers (66% of the national observers).

Note that of the total number of 1,800 national observers, 158 are observers accredited by 6 electoral contenders for the polling stations from abroad¹³, as follows: BERU – 74; PAS – 48; PPDA – 13; PACE – 11; PPPDA – 8; PPCC – 4.

Compared with the same reference period of the Presidential Elections of November 2020, a total number of 2,193 observers were accredited, which means that the number of observers accredited for the current elections increased by 249 people¹⁴. We draw the attention particularly on the increase in the number of international observers – by about 330 people.

Note that in accordance with item 10 of the Regulation on the status of observers and the procedure for their accreditation, the deadline for submitting the applications regarding the accreditation of an observer is seven days before the election day.

2.1.3. Modification of the list of candidates

During the reference period of Report No 5, Promo-LEX OM found the modification of the list of candidates for the position of MP in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova in case of at least 11 contenders, or half of the total number of candidates who submitted lists¹⁵. Following the analysis of CEC decisions, we found that the changes that were about including/excluding the candidates and transferring them from one position to another were made with the observance of the legal requirements.

As regards the request of the contender PPN on the modification of the list of candidates for the position of MP in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, with the inclusion of Mihai Cristian

¹³ According to Article 68(2), at the request of electoral contenders, the Central Electoral Commission shall accredit per one observer for the monitoring of the elections in the polling stations established outside the Republic of Moldova.

¹⁴ [Report No 5](#). Promo-LEX Observation Mission of the Presidential Election in the Republic of Moldova of 1 November 2020, p. 15.

¹⁵ PAS, PACE, MPSN, PPDA, POM, PS, PLD, PDCM, PPS, BERU și BECS.

(Cristian Rizea), note that CEC rejected a request for the modification of Annex 1 to the Decision of Central Electoral Commission No 4958 of 4 June 2021 because Mihai Cristian do not meet all the legal requirements provided for in Article 82 of the EC and Article 2(6¹) of the Law 39/1994 on the status of the Member of Parliament¹⁶, that is, he cannot candidate in those elections¹⁷. At the same time, the Commission mentioned the Article 52(3) of the Electoral Code, according to which the electoral contenders are prohibited to engage people who are not citizens of the Republic of Moldova in electioneering activities, risking to be liable under the article 75(5)(d) of the EC.

Note that in compliance with the Articles 87 and 88 of the Electoral Code, the electoral contender could request the modification of the list of candidates (withdrawal of the list, replacement of a candidate, exclusion of a candidate, withdrawal of an independent candidate), by 26 June 2021.

2.1.4. Actions taken to combat corruption and the organised transportation of voters

To ensure the conditions for the good organisation and conduct of early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, on 27 June 2021, CEC sent to NAC, ISS, MIA, GPO, MFAEI and ANTA the letter No CEC-8/4428¹⁸ on the presentation of proposals about their duties regarding the actions that are to be taken to combat the corruption and the organised transportation of voters.

In its answer No 05/08-1945 of 28 June 2021, NAC informed CEC that according to the material competence granted through Article 401 of the Contravention Code and Article 269 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Centre is not empowered to examine the contraventions and to carry out the criminal prosecution in the cases (contraventional and/or criminal) concerning the corruption of voters an illicit funding of political parties or of electoral campaigns, breach the way of managing the funds of PPs and of electoral funds¹⁹.

At the same topic, through the letter No 2/519 of 28 June 2021, ISS informed CEC that, currently, the contraventional and criminal law do not provide for a proceeding that would establish the complex of injurious facts as regards the transportation of voters to the polling stations, which would find that the organised transportation is an offence of corrupting the voters provided for in Article 181/1 of the CC of the Republic of Moldova. It would be appropriate to document the phenomenon */in the context of counteracting/* in the general order of examining the notifications and complaints set by CEC. To prevent the corruption of voters through their organised transportation, without discriminating a certain category of voters, it would be appropriate to apply again of CEC Decision No 4390 of 20.10.2020, adjusted to the realities of the Parliamentary Elections of July 2021. Also, the institution underlined that the Service cannot apply the complex of special investigation measures to combat possible actions of corrupting the voters²⁰.

‘The National Auto Transport Agency’ informed CEC that, in compliance with the functional duties and to prevent and combat the illicit transportation of people on the election day, the inspectors of the Agency shall monitor the technical service of regular routes and the occasional ones on the national roads, the transportation with taxi in order to ensure the safe and conformable transportation of without restricting the access of people who want to vote, to the polling stations²¹.

On 30 June 2021, CEC sent to GPI, MIA, ANTA, GPO and APO the letter No CEC-8/4451²² on the presentation of considerations as regards the notifications of PPPDA and PAS on adopting a decision that would target the organised transportation of voters to the polling stations on the election day.

¹⁶ According to Article 82 of EC, candidates for the position of MP can be persons with the right to vote who have reached the age of 18 years by and on election day, own the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, do not fall under Article 2(6¹) of the Law No 39/1994 on the status of the Member of Parliament and meet all the requirements provided for by EC.

¹⁷ CEC Decision No 5095 of 28 June 2021.

¹⁸ Letter CEC-8/4428 of 27 June 2021.

¹⁹ NAC Decision No 05/08-1945 of 28 June 2021.

²⁰ ISS Letter No 2/519 of 28 June 2021.

²¹ Letter of ANTA No 02/1-1-6644 of 29 June 2021.

²² Letter CEC-8/4451 of 30 June 2021.

In its answer No 34/2-2274 of 2 July 2021, GPI CEC announced CEC that it did not support *the draft decision on certain aspects related to the participation in early Parliamentary Elections of voters who live in the localities from the left bank of Nistru River*. Moreover, MIA cannot be assigned to perform inappropriate tasks that involve obvious restrictions of the fundamental human right. Starting from the statement of the Constitutional Court according to which 'the organised transportation of voters is not an electoral violation, except for the case when it can be proved that the voter was pressed in order to be influenced', the Police will take all the necessary measures to document the possible attempts or organised transportation of voters as well as the possible attempts to corrupt the citizens who decided to cast their vote, on the basis of authenticated information/notifications and acting within the legal limits²³.

Note that, on 6 July 2021, CALC repeatedly requested²⁴ CEC to approve as a matter of priority a decision regarding the aspects related to the organised transportation of voters to the polling stations on the election day of 11 July 2021 and to ensure, in due time, the publication of the decision in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova. A decision approved by CEC on the monitoring and impeding the illicit transportation of voters is considered to be an optimal solution for ensuring free and correct elections. Also, the decision will help to strengthen the legal premises for delivering certain decisions by courts or for ascertaining certain violations by law enforcement bodies. Civil society organisations state in the request that approving such a decision in the context of 2020 Presidential Elections resulted into the decrease in the number of cases of organised transportation.

According to the Coalition, any lack of action aimed to prevent the organised transportation of voters will lead to the creation of additional premises to influence and/or constraint the voters from the left bank of Nistru River to cast their vote in a certain way and to the creation of additional risks to the security of these citizens.

Note that the topic of the draft decision on the organised transportation of voters to the polling stations on the day of early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, was included on the agenda of CEC's extraordinary meeting of 7 July 2021 only four days before the election day. The decision was not approved due to the lack of sufficient number of votes, being supported only by 4 members out of 7 who were present at the meeting.

Promo-LEX OM expresses its disagreement towards the irresponsible attitude of CEC towards the issue of organised transportation of voters on the election day. We believe that contenders use the organised transportation of voters to influence voters' choice, which affects the election integrity. Also, we want to draw the attention on the fact that the electoral body delayed the approval of this decision although CALC requested to solve the problem on 31 May 2021²⁵. Promo-LEX reiterated the call of 10 June 2021 in the Report No 3 on the observation of early Parliamentary Elections²⁶.

We want to remind that for the Presidential Elections of November 2020, on 7 October 2020 (about 24 days before the elections), CEC developed and sent to electoral contenders, law enforcement bodies and to observers the Circular letter No CEC 8/3014 on illicit transportation of voters. Later, on 20 October 2020 (about 11 days before the election day), CEC approved the decision on certain aspects related to the organised transportation of voters to the polling stations on the day of Presidential Elections.

2.1.5. Notifying CEC about surveys

According to the data placed on CEC's page, during the reference period of the report, CEC received a request for information from the Association of Sociologists and Demographers on the conduct of a

²³ Letter of GPI [No 34/2-2274](#) of 2 July.

²⁴ [The repeated call of CALC](#) in relation to CEC on adopting the decision aimed at preventing the organised transportation of voters on the election day of 6 June 2021.

²⁵ [Request](#) to the Central Electoral Commission on the operation of video registration system during the election day, and on preventing the organised transportation of voters on the election day.

²⁶ [Report No 3](#). Promo-LEX OM of Early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, p. 15.

sociological survey close to early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021²⁷. Following the analysis of the request, Promo-LEX OM found the compliance of the document with the Article 70(10) of the EC.

2.2. Activity of Level-Two Electoral Constituency Councils

2.2.1. Compliance with the activity schedule

According to the information presented by the observers, of the total of those 110 visits made during the working hours, during 108 visits (98%) of level-two DEC's were open and only in case of two visits the office of DEC No 15 Dubasari and No 27 Riscani was closed.

At the same time, we mention that during the relevant period, the meetings of level-two DEC's were carried out with the physical presence of the members, except one single meeting that was carried out by DEC No 19, Glodeni.

2.2.2. Determining the number of ballot papers

In compliance with the Item 71 of the Schedule for the organisation and conduct of early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, all those 35 municipal and district electoral constituency councils adopted, within the set time limit, the decisions on determining the number of ballot papers.

Annex 1 comprises the analysis of data about the number of ballot papers, compared to the number of voters in the SRV according to the latest data provided by CEC on 21 June 2021. We remind that the number of printed ballot papers is compared with the number of votes included on the main electoral lists.

The general conclusion is that the number of ballot papers was determined, with insignificant differences, on the basis of the number of voters in the SRV who have a domicile/residence. Like in the case of Presidential Elections, in the case of Chisinau, where the share of people who vote on additional rolls is higher, it was found a major difference of printed ballot papers. Also, twice less ballot papers than the number of voters registered in the SRV were printed for the transnistrian region. At the same time, for the same elections, the difference of 502 ballot papers in the case of Taraclia, seems inexplicable.

As regards the number of ballot papers for the polling stations from abroad, CEC decided to print 726,700 ballot papers – with 55,200 less than for the second round of Presidential Elections²⁸. We mention that of the total number of 150 PSs, in the case of 145 PSs (96%) there were printed 5,000 ballot papers (maximum number legally admitted), in the case of 4 PSs²⁹ (3%) there were printed 300 ballot papers and for the PS 38/17 (Abu Dhabi) there were printed 500 ballot papers³⁰.

2.2.3. Changes to DEC membership

During the observation period, Promo-LEX found at least a case when the nominal membership of level-two DEC (No 19 Glodeni) was changed. The change was made following the resignation of the DEC member appointed by PPPDA.

²⁷ Notification of the Association of Sociologists and Demographers from the Republic of Moldova of 21 June 2021.

²⁸ We remind that during the Presidential Elections of 2020 it was registered the highest participation rate of voters from the Republic of Moldova abroad – 263,177 voters.

²⁹ PS 38/2 (Baku city), 38/12 (Beijing city), 38/94 (Tokyo city), 38/144 (Drochia town).

³⁰ According to the protocols on vote counting results for the Presidential Elections of November 2020, the voter turnout was: PS 38/2 (Baku city) – 53 voters; 38/12 (Beijing city) – 19 voters; 38/94 (Tokyo city) – 30 voters; 38/144 (Doha city) – 66 voters; 38/17 (Abu Dhabi city) – 176 voters.

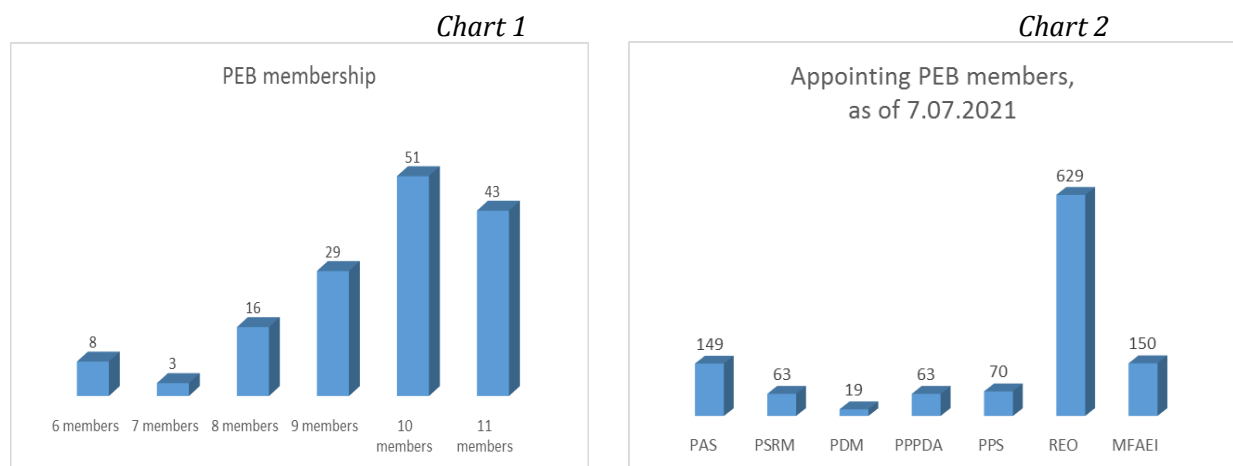
2.2.4. The establishment and the membership of precinct electoral bureaus from abroad

On 23 June 2021, by CEC Decision No 5060, the electoral authority ordered the establishment of 150 polling stations abroad³¹. Based on the *above* mentioned Decision, on 30 June, DEC No 38 for the polling stations established abroad adopted the Decision No 16 amending the Annex to the Decision No 8 of 15 June 2021 on the establishment of electoral bureaus abroad. Later, Annex to the Decision No 8 of 15 June 2021 on the establishment of electoral bureaus was amended on 5 and respectively, on 7 July 2021 by completing the nominal membership of certain PEBs.

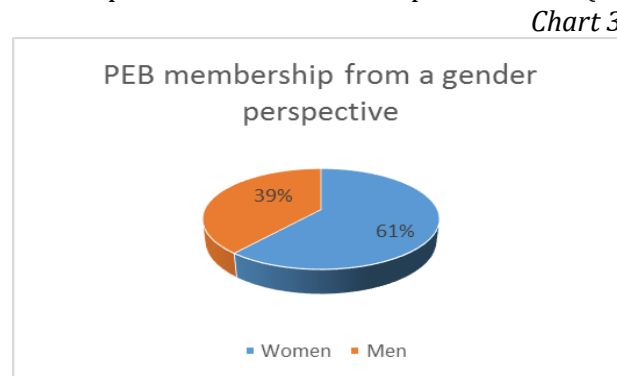
According to Article 31(5) of the Electoral Code, the PEB from abroad shall have a chairperson appointed by the head of the diplomatic mission or of the consular office under them, of the staff of other institutions of the diplomatic service or, at the proposal of CEC, from REO, with the approval of MFAEI and from 6-10 representatives of the parties and other socio-political organisations represented in the Parliament, per one appointed by each party or other socio-political organisation.

Promo-LEX OM analysed the Decision No 16 of 30 June and Decision No 21 of 7 July 2021. Following the analysis of the *above* mentioned decisions, Promo-LEX OM found that 75 PEBs still have an even number of members (against the legal provisions), and other 75 PEBs have an uneven number of members (see Chart 1). Thus we can state that three days before the elections, the membership of half of the polling stations from abroad is not full.

The appointment of members in the electoral body by the entities that have this right is reflected in Chart 2.



Also, we found an increase in the presence of women compared to men (see Chart 3).



³¹ CEC Decision No [5060](#) of 23 June 2021.

2.2.5. Accreditation of observers and registration of representatives with the right to consultative vote

According to Promo-LEX OM observers, as of 7 July 2021 DEC had accredited at least 2,141 observers on behalf of eight contenders, by 60% fewer compared to the Presidential Elections of November 2020 when 5,306 observers were accredited. According to our findings, most of them were accredited by PPS (38%), followed by BECS (27%), BERU (13%) and PAS (12%). Also, the lower electoral bodies registered at least 93 representative with the right to consultative vote (Table 1).

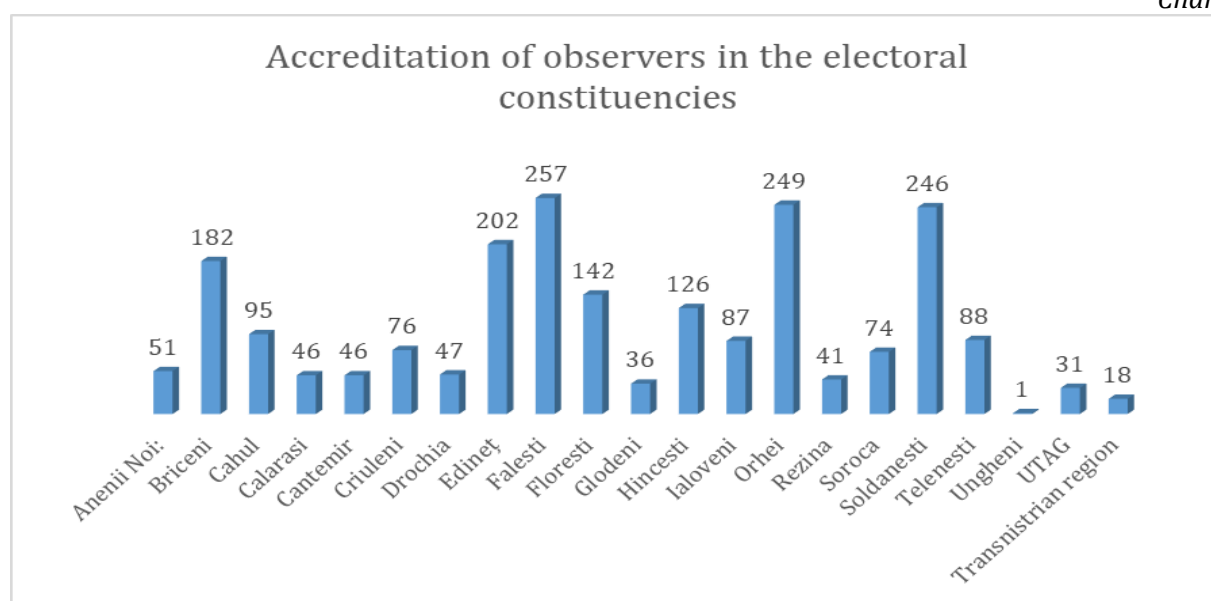
Table 1. Number of observers and of representatives with the right to consultative vote (DEC)

Applicant for accreditation	PPS	PAS	BECS	PDM	BERU	PPCC	PUN	PPPDA
No of observers	821	254	581	65	279	75	16	50
No of representatives with the right to consultative vote	1	42	42	-	5	3	-	-

The accreditation of observers in the electoral constituencies is presented in Chart 4.

From geographic point of view, we found that many observers were accredited in Falesti (257), Orhei (249), Soldanesti (246), Edinet (202), Briceni (182), Floresti (142), Hancesti (126), Drochia (76), Cahul (95), Ialoveni (87), Telenești (88), Anenii Noi (51), Cantemir (46), Rezina (41), Soroca (74), Ungheni (1), Glodeni (36), Hincesti (126), and Transnistrian region (18).

Chart 4



2.2.6. The activity of the level-two DEC amidst the pandemic

To ensure the observance of COVID-19 protection measures within the electoral bodies, the electoral authority ensured level-two DEC with supplies and equipment (masks, gloves, face shields, disinfectants)³².

During the visits to level-two DEC, Promo-LEX observers assessed including the protection and prevention measures against COVID-19 infection. As regards this topic, the observers reported the following:

³²CEC Decision No 5000 of 15 June 2021 and 5085 of 28 June 2021.

With regards to the register for monitoring the temperature of electoral officials. Out of the 37 level-two DEC's visited during the observation period, 5 councils³³ (13%) do not have a register for monitoring the temperature of electoral officials.

With regards to measuring the temperature of DEC visitors. At least 9 electoral councils³⁴ (24%) do not measure the temperature of DEC visitors.

With regards to displaying information about the health protection measures. There is no information about the health protection measures during COVID-19 pandemic displayed in the offices of at least 3 electoral councils³⁵ (8%).

2.3. Activity of precinct electoral bureaus

2.3.1. Compliance with the activity schedule

A number of 1,691 PEBs were observed during the reference period of the Report No 5. Of these, according to Promo-LEX observers, only 1,347 bureaus (80%) were open during the working hours. In 1,342 cases (99%), the PEB meetings were carried out with the physical presence of the members and only in 5 cases the meetings were organised online.

In addition, Promo-LEX OM reported the modification to the membership of at least 188 PEBs. Among the causes of these modifications we note: the absence at two consecutive meetings (7 cases); at request (201 cases); refusal to execute DEC decisions (one case); other cases (19 cases). The information about the applicant for modification is presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Changes to PEB membership

Changes to PEB membership			
No. of excluded members	Initiator of the modification	No. of included members	Appointment of the new member
49	CEC REO	48	CEC REO
57	LPA	55	LPA
31	PAS	32	PAS
35	PDM	34	PDM
21	PPPDA	23	PPPDA
45	PPS	45	PPS
35	PSRM	36	PSRM

2.3.2. PEB activity under pandemic conditions

To enforce the Law No 69 of 21 May 2020 on the establishment of measures during the state of emergency in public health, on 28 June, CEC ordered to equip the electoral bodies with COVID-19 protective supplies and equipment. According to Annex 1 to CEC Decision No 5000³⁶ of 15 June 2021 and Annex 5 to CEC Decision No 5085³⁷ of 28 June, each electoral bureau was to be equipped with protective masks, gloves, face shield, protective clothing, disinfectant for hands/surfaces (for voters).

According to the reports of the observers on the activity of the electoral body under conditions pandemic conditions, the degree of compliance with COVID-19 protection and prevention measures by PEB was poor in several cases.

³³ DEC No 1 Chisinau, No 7 Cahul, No 12 Criuleni, No 15 Dubasari, No 16 Edinet.

³⁴ DEC No 1 Chisinau, No 5 Basarabasca, No 12 Criuleni, No 14 Drochia, No 15 Dubasari, No 16 Edinet, No 23 Nisporeni, No 33 Taraclia, No 36 ATUG.

³⁵ DEC No 1 Chisinau, No 12 Criuleni, No 33 Taraclia.

³⁶ CEC Decision No 5000 of 15 June 2021.

³⁷ CEC Decision No 5085 of 28 June 2021.

With regards to the register for monitoring the temperature of electoral officials. At least 621 electoral bureaus (46% out of the total of 1,347 electoral bureaus that were open during the visits) have a register for monitoring the temperature of electoral officials and only 471 (76%) of them fill it in.

With regards to measuring the temperature of PEB visitors. Only 361 electoral bureaus (27%) measure the temperature of PEB visitors.

With regards to displaying information about the health protection measures. Information about the health protection measures during COVID-19 pandemic is displayed in the offices of at least 1061 electoral bureaus (79%).

With regards to confirmed infection cases among the electoral officials. At least 6 PEB members were found to be infected with COVID-19. Note that the activity of electoral bodies was not affected.

2.3.3. Changing the polling station office

According to Promo-LEX observers, in at least one case (PS 1/277, Bâc v., Bubuieci com.) APL notified CEC on the absence of venues which might be used as office for the polling station on the election day. Thus, in order to organise and conduct the Parliamentary Election, CEC decided to install a mobile tent endowed according to the requirements, with the observance of the rules for preventing and combating COVID-19 infection.

We note that initially, the polling station was established in the Health Care Centre of the Bâc v.

2.3.4. Involvement of PEB members in electioneering activities

Promo-LEX observers reported that on 24 June 2021, the 1/92 PEB Chairperson was noted to act as an electioneerer. Dressed in a red T-shirt with the imprinted symbol BECS, he was sharing newspapers and electoral materials of the respective contender.

III.VOTER LISTS

3.1. Limited access for observers to electoral rolls

Of the total 1,691 PSs visited during the reference period, only 1,276 had received the electoral rolls by the time of the visit. Out of those, in only 1 019 PSs (86%) the observers had access to the complete electoral rolls (see Annex 3). We remind that, according to Article 68(5) of Electoral Code, the observers are granted access to all electoral information, electoral rolls, minutes drawn up by the electoral bodies, etc.

Article 45 of Electoral Code provides that electoral rolls shall be available in the polling stations 20 days before the election day (from 21 June 2021, inclusively). At the same time, according to the observers, at least 98 PSs received their electoral rolls with delay.

3.2. Identified errors

According to Promo-LEX OM observers and based on discussions with the members of the bureaus, the following deficiencies were found regarding the quality and the content of electoral rolls:

- deceased people introduced in the rolls (120 cases);
- address errors (22 cases);
- incorrect assigning of voters to another PS from the same community (38 cases);
- incorrect assignment of the voter to the PS of another community (13 cases);
- absence of voters in the main rolls (11 cases).

Promo-LEX OM notes that many problems related to the electoral rolls continue from an election to another, which indicate certain system problems in ensuring accuracy and correctness of the SVR content.

We also mention that Promo-LEX observers reported at least one notification submitted to DEC No. 18 Floresti on the incorrect drawing up of electoral rolls from DEC No. 18/01, i.e. according to the alphabetical order and not to the names of the streets as provided by Article 44(3) of Electoral Code.

IV. ELECTORAL DISPUTES

4.1. Complaints and notifications submitted to electoral bodies

District Electoral Councils. According to Promo-LEX observers, during 23 June – 7 July 2021, DECs received at least **five complaints and notifications** (DEC 1 Chisinau – 2; DEC 17 Falesti – 1; DEC 18 Floresti – 2), most of them submitted by voters.

All of the complaints were filed against electoral bodies or their members (PEB 1/92 – 2, DEC 17, DEC 18, PEB 18/1) and refer to appointing PEB members (2), campaigning by a PEB member (2) and drawing up the electoral rolls (1).

As regarding the **solutions issued by CEC**, we mention that, related to three complaints, DEC issued within 1-3 days a letter of remission to examination according to PEB's authority, a rejection letter for the complaint as being submitted outside the legal deadlines, and a decision upholding the complaint and repeal of the PEB decision. At the same time, there was no answer regarding one notification, while for another one a briefing note was drawn up.

Central Electoral Commission. During the monitored period, CEC **received a complaint** submitted by PUN against PPS. However, the Commission did not issue any solution regarding that complaint, as well as a another one submitted in the previous monitoring period. *We draw attention to the failure to mitigate the complaint and the significant exceeding of legal deadline of examination of the complaint submitted by PACE against PAS on 18 June 2021. We highlight that, according to Article 73 of Electoral Code, the complaints have to be settled not later than the election day.*

Meanwhile, CEC received two advisory opinions regarding two complaints³⁸ remitted for examination and settlement according to the authority to the Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensuring Equality³⁹. According to these opinions, the messages examined by the Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensuring Equality⁴⁰ cannot be viewed as inciting to discrimination, but as political messages, which dislike, but are part of the political pluralism included in the criticism of political opinions of electoral contenders.

Promo-LEX OM has a positive opinion on the remission for analysis to the Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensuring Equality of the messages supposed to be discriminating.

We note that, according to the information available, CEC has so far settled only two of the four notifications filed on 2 June 2021. Within 31 following the examination of these notifications, CEC sent letters⁴¹ to PAS and to the President of the Republic of Moldova, through which they drew attention to the need of observing legal provisions on the equal participation of electoral contenders (Article 51(1) of Electoral code) and the prohibition to use the image of the state institution or public administration for electoral advertising (Article 52(8) of Electoral Code).

³⁸ [Complaint](#) CEC-10AP/4 of 8 June 2021 in the case of BECS against PPCC; [Complaint](#) CEC-10AP/5 of 8 June 2021 AUR against BECS.

³⁹ [Advisory opinion](#) of 25 June 2021 in the case No. 120/21 BECS against PPCC; [Advisory opinion](#) of 25 June 2021 in the case No. 119/21 AUR against BECS.

⁴⁰ **Messages in the BECS booklets:** 'Today, when the risk of destroying the Moldovan state hovers over the country'; 'A group of incompetent and unionist politicians tend to get the power with the Western support'; 'Right-wing parties need destabilisation, division and conflict'; 'If the right-wing parties will get the power, Moldova will no longer exist'; 'Let's impede the transformation of our country into a Western colony with no rights'; 'Let's oppose to the danger of unionism'. **PPCC declarations about BECS:** 'They became conscious promoters of the unionism and accomplices in the falsification of the increase of the supposed authority of a xenophobic political organisation'; 'They offer media support to the Alliance for the Union of Romanians Political Party'; 'they behave like hidden accomplices of the unionism and fascism'; 'they would undertake actions for attempting to the independence, multinationality and neutrality of the Republic of Moldova'; 'they would have favoured the most dangerous and misanthropic version of the unionism'.

⁴¹ [Letter](#) No. CEC-8/4383 of 3 July 2021, [Letter](#) No. CEC 4382 of 3 July 2021.

Considering that two notifications have been settled within 31 days, and two other notifications have not yet been settled, we reiterate the need to settle the notifications or requests alleging the violation of electoral provisions within short time limits.

4.2. Electoral litigations

During the reference period, **at least 6 complaints were filed with the Chisinau Court of Appeal** against the actions and decisions of the Central Electoral Commission. Most of the complaints submitted refer to the establishment of polling stations abroad (three complaints submitted by AUR, NOI, PPDA) and the registration/de-registration of electoral contenders (two complaints submitted by PPN) or the electoral symbol (one complaint submitted by NOI).

At the same time, during 23 June – 7 July 2021 the Court of Appeal issued the following **solutions**:

- the resolution⁴² for a complaint rejecting the request to start the enforcement of the decision of the Chisinau Court of Appeal partially annulling the decisions on the establishment of polling stations abroad.
- for other five complaints, they issued decisions rejecting the actions as being unfounded⁴³;
- regarding a complaint, they issued a decision⁴⁴ obliging CEC to examine the request to register as a candidate for the MP's position.

As for the **legal deadlines**, we point out that the Chisinau Court of Appeal has issued solutions on six complaints within the time limit provided in Article 73(1) of Electoral Code up to five days, and in the case of two complaints – within nine, and, respectively, ten days. We underline that in both cases with exceeded examination deadline of the complaint the objection of unconstitutionality was raised.

We also draw the attention to another complaint, with regards to which the Chisinau Court of Appeal had not issued an opinion as of 7 July 2021. The complaint focuses on the establishment of polling stations for the voters from the left bank of the Nistru River and was submitted for merits review back in 18.06.2021. In this case, we find a significant exceeding of legal deadlines provide for in Electoral Code.

Nonetheless, on 8 July 2021 (only three days before the election day), outside the actual reporting period, the Chisinau Court of Appeal issued the judgment admitting the complaint submitted and partially annulled the Annex to the CEC Decision No. 4965 of 5 June and CEC Decision No. 4999, in the part where it surpasses the number of 12 polling stations. We mention that the decision of the Court of Appeal may be appealed to the Supreme Court.

We highlight that, according to Article 73 of Electoral Code, the complaints have to be settled not later than the election day, with the right to appeal included.

During the reference period, **at least five appeals have been submitted to the Supreme Court**, two of which regarding the registration/de-registration of the electoral contenders (submitted by PPN and M.Cristian, as well as I.Stegărescu), two regarding the establishment of the polling stations abroad (submitted by AUR and NOI) and two regarding the change of the name of the political party and of the electoral symbol (both submitted by NOI). At the same time, the Supreme Court issued a decision on a request regarding the settlement of the conflict of jurisdiction.

The **solutions** adopted by the Supreme Court during the reference period are the following:

- two decisions to reject the appeal and uphold the judgment issued by Chisinau Court of Appeal⁴⁵;

⁴² [Resolution](#) of 2 July 2021 in the case of PPDA against CEC.

⁴³ [Decision](#) of 28 June 2021 in the case of NOI against CEC; [Decision](#) of 1 July 2021 in the case I. Stegărescu vs CEC; [Decision](#) of 27 June 2021 in the case of AUR and NOI against CEC; [Decision](#) 6 July in the case of PPN against CEC; [Decision](#) of 3 July in the case NOI against CEC.

⁴⁴ [Decision](#) of 25 June 2021 in the case of PPN and M. Cristian against CEC.

⁴⁵ [Decision](#) of 1 July in the case BECS against; [Decision](#) of 2 July 2021 in the case NOI against CEC.

- three resolutions of inadmissibility of the appeals⁴⁶;
- one resolution rejecting the request to settle an alleged conflict of competences as unfounded⁴⁷.

As for the **legal deadlines**, we point out that the Chisinau Court of Appeal has issued solutions on three complaints within the time limit provided in Article 74(7) of Electoral Code up to five days, and in the case of two complaints – within nine, and, respectively, ten days. Regarding the last complaint, we note that an objection of unconstitutionality was raised during its examination, which was settled within five days.

4.3. The method of empowerment of the courts' judgments by CEC

The courts issued judgments annulling CEC decisions and acts and obliging CEC to review a complaint and a request of registration as a candidate.

a. **The first decision refers to the opening of polling stations abroad.** By the Decision of the Court of Appeal of 17 June 2021⁴⁸ and the Decision of the SCJ of 22 June 2021⁴⁹, the CEC Decisions No. 4966 of 5 June 2021 and No. 4974 of 8 June 2021 have been annulled. Following the courts' decisions, on 23 June 2021, CEC approved the Decision No. 4966 Amending the Central Electoral Commission's Decision No. 4966 of 5 June 2021⁵⁰, by which the Annex with 150 polling stations has been approved.

We remind that the courts motivated their decisions including by the lack of an effective and efficient cooperation between CEC and MFAEI, superficial and formal treatment of important information in the prior notice of MFAEI, the failure to identify information imposed by the legislator in order to establish with maximum accuracy the necessary number of polling stations abroad. The courts also ruled that the discretion forces the authority to act in good faith within the established limits, in each case, by Articles 30 and 31 of Electoral Code and with the observance of the goal for which he was entitled.

Nonetheless, the CEC Decision of 23 June 2021 includes in the descriptive part only the motivation for limiting the number of polling stations that shall be established⁵¹ and the reference to the MFAEI opinion of 23 June 2021⁵².

Thus, considering the above mentioned and that during the CEC meeting of 23 June 2021 details regarding the way of identifying the information imposed by the legislator were not presented in order to establish the precise number of polling stations needed abroad, we conclude that the court's judgments were formally enforced by the electoral authority.

In this context, we mention that the Ombudsman recommended in the notice⁵³ to review the list of polling stations abroad for the Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, by increasing the number of polling stations according to the assessments submitted by MFAEI and the initial list of the Central Electoral Commission of 4 June 2021. The Ombudsman was to be informed within three days about the results of reviewing the notice. From public information it seems that the Commission has not reviewed the respective notice.

At the same time, at 29 June the Ombudsman submitted a request⁵⁴ to the Prosecutor General to examine the actions/inactions of CEC and MFAEI, from the perspective of the crime components

⁴⁶ [Resolution](#) of 30 June in the case PPN and Mihai Cristian against CEC; [Resolution](#) of 5 July 2021 in the case I. Stegărescu against CEC; [Resolution](#) of 1 July 2021 in the case AUR and NOI against CEC.

⁴⁷ [Resolution](#) of 25 June 2021 on the request of NOI related to the settlement of a supposed conflict of competence.

⁴⁸ [Decision](#) of the Court of Appeal of 17 June 2021.

⁴⁹ [Decision](#) of the Supreme Court of Justice of 22 June 2021.

⁵⁰ [Decision](#) No. 4966 of 23 June 2021 Amending the Central Electoral Commission's Decision No. 4966 of 5 June 2021.

⁵¹ By the Central Electoral Commission's Decision No. 4816/2021 expenses for the activity of 150 precinct electoral bureaus from abroad have been estimated and planned.

⁵² The [MFAEI notice](#) of 23 June 2021 communicates about fulfilling the condition regarding the consent of competent authorities of the foreign countries, as well as the validation of the possibility to ensure the logistic aspects of the voting process.

⁵³ [Ombudsman Notice](#) No. 07-4/25 of 24 June 2021 under Article 24 of Law No. 52 of 03.04.2014.

⁵⁴ [Ombudsman Request](#) No. 12-9/44 of 29 June 2021.

signs ‘impeding the free exercise of the electoral right’ and ‘neglect of duty’. In the request it is mentioned that CEC, based on the decision of Chisinau Court of Appeal of 17 June and the decision of the Supreme Court of Justice of 22 July 2021, and as a result of the additional consultations with the decision makers within MFAEI, has not taken into account the reasons for establishing a sufficient number of polling stations abroad while reviewing the list of polling stations outside the country for the Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, so that they cover all the requests of the citizens of the Republic of Moldova and create optimal conditions for every citizen to vote.

In this context, we remind that according to the court’s decisions, establishing the number of polling stations abroad is a **problem of opportunity** falling within the remit of authorities competent for the organisation of elections. These have to be better located to meet the practical possibilities and needs of the organisation of voting abroad.

In order to avoid similar situations during the following elections, we consider that the establishment of polling stations broad, the cooperation method between the authorities engaged shall be include in regulatory acts. In addition, we believe that setting up a clear mechanism for estimating the number of necessary polling stations abroad, and, respectively, for estimating the most precise possible the necessary expenses for these polling stations could help avoid litigations on this subject and the delays in the process of constituting the polling stations.

b. The second decision refers to obliging CEC to examine the request to register as a candidate for the MP’s position. By the Decision of the Court of Appeal 25 June 2021⁵⁵ and the Resolution of the SCJ of 30 June 2021⁵⁶, the Commission was obliged to review the request of 02 June 2021 for the registration as a candidate for the MPs’ position submitted by Mihai Cristian from ‘NOI’ Political Party in the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021.

We remind that the court ruled that once Mihai Cristian, by the request (informative report) No. CEC-7/12879, registered on 02 June 2021, required to be registered as a candidate for an MP’s position in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova from ‘NOI’ Political Party in the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, the Central Electoral Commission had to settle the request within the legal deadline and issue the individual administrative act according to Article 132 of Administrative Code. At the same time, the court noted that there is no response from CEC to the respective request of 02 June 2021 in the materials of the case.

The public materials do not make it clear if the Commission has particularly examined the respective request for registration as an electoral contender after the final and irrevocable Decisions of the Chisinau Court of Appeal (after 30 June 2021).

However, CEC ruled tangentially on this request in the Decision No. 5095 of 28.06.2021 on the request for amending the list of candidates of PPN⁵⁷. By the request for amending the list of 25 June it is also requested to include the candidate Mihai Cristian on the 2d position and, respectively, to register him as a candidate for the MP’s position. Thus, the Commission found that Mihai Cristian does not meet the legal requirements for running in this election, and, particularly, under the conditions of Article 82 of Electoral Code, he is not a citizen of the Republic of Moldova. Moreover, the Commission noted Article 52(3) of Electoral Code, according to which electoral contenders are prohibited to involve non-citizens of the Republic of Moldova in electioneering actions, under the risk to be liable according to Article 75(5)(d) of Electoral Code.

c. The third decision refers to the mandatory request to the Commission to examine a complaint on the merits. By the Decision of the Court of Appeal of 17 June 2021⁵⁸ and the Decision of the SCJ of 1 July 2021, the response⁵⁹ to the BECS complaint against PAS of 09.06.2021 was annulled. Therefore, the Commission was obliged to examine the complaint on the merits, by issuing

⁵⁵ [Decision](#) of the Court of Appeal of 25 June 2021.

⁵⁶ [Resolution](#) of the SCJ of 30 June 2021.

⁵⁷ [CEC Decision](#) No 5095 of 28.06.2021.

⁵⁸ [Decision](#) of the Court of Appeal of 17 June 2021.

⁵⁹ [CEC Letter](#) No. 4175 of 12 June 2021.

the decision according to the provisions of the Regulation on the procedure of examination and settlement of complaints by the electoral bodies during the election period.

The court noted that the complaint submitted by BECS on 09 June 2021 was incorrectly returned by CEC, in the person of the president, on grounds that the public authority is not empowered to examine complaints regarding the actions/inactions of electoral contenders. Therefore, CEC had to examine the respective complaint during their meeting and under the item 26 of the Regulation on the procedure of examination and settlement of the complaints by the electoral bodies during the election period. After examining the complaint, CEC had to issue one of the following decisions: a) to fully or partially admit the complaint and acknowledge the violations of the provisions of the electoral law; b) to fully reject the complaint, as being unfounded, for the lack of evidence or due to the overrun of the submission deadline.

From the moment when the Decision of the Chisinau Court of Appeal remained definitive and irrevocable, the review of the respective complaint was included in the agenda and examined only during the CEC meeting of 7 July 2021. Nonetheless, the proposed draft decision did not collect the necessary number of votes

During the CEC meeting, the PAS representative with the right to consultative vote alleged in his support the overrun of the 3 – days deadline for the appeal of the supposed violation, the moment when electioneering materials were printed being used as benchmark. We point out that, according to Article 72(1) of Electoral Code, the submission deadline for the complaint is calculated from the next day after the action has been committed, the inaction has been identified or the decision has been adopted. In this context, the dissemination and broadcasting of such kind of materials instead of printing the electioneering material may be considered as violation in this case.

Thus, we find that the settlement of the complaint and enforcement of the courts' judgments, as well as the failure to adopt a judgment allowing or refusing the complaint have been delayed. Taking into account the lack of a solution for this complaint after four days before the election day, we reiterate the provision set up in Article 73 of Electoral Code, according to which the complaints shall be settled not later than the election day.

V. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

5.1. Government's failure to allocate MDL 22 468.0 to cover the expenses for paying the allocations to electoral officials

Promo-LEX OM finds that by 7 July 2021 inclusively, the Government of the Republic of Moldova has not approved the allocation of MDL 22 468.0 from its reserve fund meant for the organisation and conduct of early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021. According to the briefing note to the draft decision, the respective amount was meant for covering the expenses for paying the allocations to electoral officials⁶⁰.

We remind that, even if CEC established an initial estimate of expenses amounting to MDL 125 046.7, after the Government allocated the amount of MDL 70 000.0, the electoral authority required additionally only the amount of MDL 22 468.0 for the good organisation and conduct of elections. The reduction of the estimate of expenses was possible under the conditions when MFAEI assumed the expenses related to the organisation of the voting process abroad, as well as due to the fact that the MHLSP ensured the anti-Covid equipment from their own reserve funds.

Unfortunately, the Government did not approve in its meeting of 7 July 2021 the draft decision providing for this amount, due to the absence of the quorum, as only two members of the Government with the right to vote participated in the meeting⁶¹. Promo-LEX OM believes that there are reasonable doubts concerning the grounds alleged by the members of the Government with the right to vote for their absence during the meeting. Given that previous attendance in meetings was ensured on-line, such an attitude may be viewed as a form of boycott⁶². Promo-LEX OM reminds its concern in the first report of the mission which was reiterated in the next ones, concerning the uncertainty and unpredictability in conducting the procedures given the failure to financially cover the election expenses within due delay. We find that verbal guaranties of the officials cannot justify the uncertainty occurred just three days before the elections, which concerns the guarantee of paying electoral officials.

At the same time, we mention that the CEC president talked in an interview of 7 July 2021 about the possibility to send the Government to court for failure to realise its duties⁶³.

5.2. Activities for the organisation of elections with the participation of local public authorities

Following the 1 759 visits performed by the observers during the reference period of the Report No. 5, Promo-LEX OM keeps finding gaps in the fulfillment by LPAs of duties related to ensuring a transparent and fair electoral process. Thus, after 2 236 visits from the beginning of the observation mission in 812 first-level ATUs, regarding the LPAs' activity in the context of early Parliamentary Elections, the observers reported:

Concerning the decision on ensuring places for electoral posters. 93 mayoralties (11%) did not decide on ensuring spaces for electoral posters. 363 mayoralties (48% of 749 that issued the provision) did not publish at the LPA's office the decisions on ensuring spaces for electoral posters. At the same time, in 182 (22%) spaces for electoral posters were not arranged, and in 425 communities (60% of

⁶⁰ Government's [draft decision](#).

⁶¹ [Meeting](#) of the Government of the Republic of Moldova of 7 July 2021.

⁶² For instance, [according to public information](#), at least one Government's member – the acting minister of Defence, Victor Gaiciuc, participated both on 7 and 8 of July 2021 in different public events. However, he did not attend the meeting of 7 July 2021 on the grounds that he was in hospital.

⁶³ [Dorin Cimil \(CEC\)](#) attributes the disputes concerning the polling stations and the organised transportation to the Parliament.

705 LPAs) there was insufficient space for electoral advertising of the electoral contenders (minimum 1 m² per electoral contender).

Concerning the decision on providing venues for meetings with voters. At least 108 mayoralities (13%) did not decide on providing venues for the meetings with voters. 363 mayoralities (48% of 743) did not publish at the LPA's office the respective decisions.

Concerning the use of venues for meetings. During the Report's reference period, at least 212 communities have been used the venues for the meetings with voters. The venues have been used by BECS (159 – for free / 2 – MDL 300), BERU (54 for free), PAS (178 – for free/ 1 – MDL 200, 1 – MDL 1 500), PPPDA (21 – for free), PPŞ (66 – for free/1– MDL 150/1 – MDL 300), PPCC (8 – for free), PACE (16 – for free/2 – MDL 300/1 – MDL 500/1 – 700 de lei), PUN (5 – for free/1 – MDL 200), PDCM (1 – for free), PDM (26 – for free/1 – MDL 150/1 – 300, AUR (2 – for free), PS (1 – for free).

Concerning the basic electoral rolls received. At least 329 mayoralities (40% out of the total number of 812) received their basic electoral rolls outside the legal term. We mention that, according to item 58 of the Calendar program, basic electoral rolls have to be transmitted, in three copies, to the LPA to be realised by 29 June inclusively.

5.3. National campaign 'After voting, go get your vaccine'

On 7 July 2021, the MHLSP, along with the National Public Health Agency, with the support of WHO, launched the national campaign 'After voting, go get your vaccine'⁶⁴. Thus, the health care authorities encourage all the citizens of the Republic of Moldova, after having voted, to vaccinate against COVID-19 at the vaccination units according to their address, which shall work in extended regime, during 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

According to the state secretary of MHLSP, the institution shall conduct information measures for the prevention of COVID-19 infection and the benefits of vaccination within all polling stations. Promo-LEX OM welcomes this campaign and encourages the vaccination. At the same time, we believe that all these activities have to be conducted without creating barriers, hindering the voting procedure or disrupting the activity of the electoral body.

⁶⁴ [National campaign](#) 'After voting, go get your vaccine', launched by the MHLSP on 7 July 2021.

VI. ELECTORAL CONTESTANTS

6.1. Activities of promotion during the election campaign

During 22 June – 6 July 2021 at least 1 456 electoral activities carried out by 23 registered electoral contenders were reported (see table 3). According to Promo-LEX observers, the most active was PAS (27%), followed by BECS (15%) and BERU (12%).

Table 3. Campaigning activities of electoral contenders

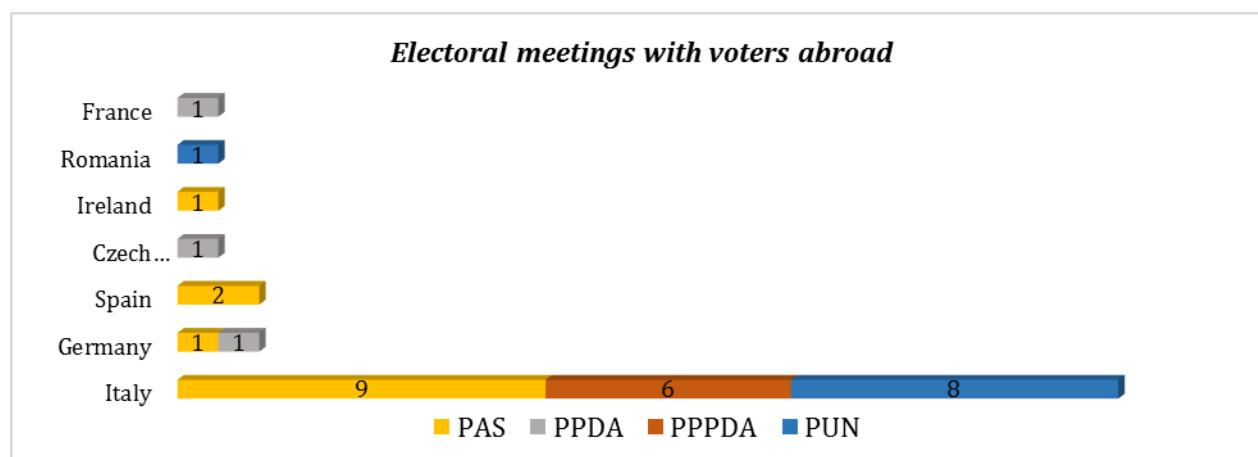
Activities	PAS	BECS	BERU	PDM	PPDA	PPS	PPCC	PAGE	PUN	AUR	PPDA	PDCM	PVE	PPN	PS	PLD	PPPO	PRM	Others	Total
Dissemination of materials	192	128	114	55	54	49	55	45	15	19	5	7	4	2	4		1	4		753
Electoral meetings	146	54	47	62	55	28	7	6	15		7	4	1	1	1	4	2			440
Door-to-door activities	37	19	6	13	3	1	14	3	10											106
Electoral debates	3	3	4	4	3	2	5	4	3	5	4	3	5	5	3	4	3	1	17	81
Press conferences	4	5	1	2	6		1	7												26
Concerts		14							1											15
Protests/flashmobs	8				1			4		1										14
People's/car marches	5	2					2													9
Others		1		1	1	4		1												8
Total	395	226	172	137	123	84	84	70	44	25	16	14	10	8	8	8	6	5	21	1 456

The most popular activities carried out by contenders for electoral promotion purposes were dissemination of electoral materials (52%) and electoral meetings (30%).

When distributing the events reported according to the place of their occurrence, we note that, according to Promo-LEX observers, the most – 26% – were reported for Chisinau municipality, followed by Anenii Noi – 6%, and Causeni – 5% of total events reported during the observation period.

Election campaign activities for voters from abroad. During the reporting period, at least 31 electoral meetings with voters who live abroad were conducted. Of these, PAS held 13, PUN – 9, PPPDA – 6, PPDA – 3 (see Chart 5). All the activities took the form of ‘face to face electioneering’.

Chart 5



In one case, three candidates from the PACE lists, including the head of the party, claimed obstruction of the meeting with representatives of the diaspora in Sankt Petersburg, Russian Federation. In this context, on the morning of 4 July, Gheorghe Cavaliuc, head of PACE, announced on social media that he had been detained at Sheremetyevo Airport in Moscow⁶⁵. On the other hand, MFAEI found intentional non-compliance with entry rules into the territory of Russian Federation⁶⁶.

Another case observed by Promo-LEX OM regarding the election campaign activities in Russian Federation is related to the initiative of 'Dar pentru Moldova' team (a project launched on 15 March 2020 with the stated purpose to help Moldovan citizens living in the Russian Federation)⁶⁷ to distribute 'free vouchers' worth 1,000 rubles to the citizens of the Republic of Moldova on 11 July 2021, election day. The places for collecting 'the gifts' are located near the polling stations.

The initiative was announced on 5 July 2021 by Mihail Cornea, 'Dar pentru Moldova' Team Manager. Coincidence or not, a person with the same name and surname – Mihail Cornea – was assigned as a member of PEB 38/24 by the CEC from the Register of Electoral Official⁶⁸ in Russian Federation, located in Moscow Region, Mitisi (МЦ Импульс, Силикатная, 12 – the same address, where on 4 July 2021 the 'Dar pentru Moldova' team and Mihail Cornea organised the Family Fest, using the same visibility materials –T-shirts – as in the events organized by BECS in the Republic of Moldova)⁶⁹.

We believe that the electoral authority has to examine the possible involvement of PEB members in the election campaign, including from the perspective of offering gifts, in case if Mihail Cornea – manager of 'Dar pentru Moldova' and Mihail Cornea – member of PEB 38/24, appointed by the CEC from the REO – is confirmed to be the same person.

We remind that in the context of the second round of 2020 presidential election, the same 'team' organised a public event with free admission for citizens of the Republic of Moldova in Moscow, during which messages in support of the electoral program of the candidate Igor Dodon were conveyed⁷⁰.

Election campaign activities for voters in the transnistrian region. Unlike voters in the diaspora, no election meetings were reported for voters from the transnistrian region. In this context, we mention that on 23 June 2021, AUR attempted to travel by AUR bus in the transnistrian region through Varnita checkpoint. Similarly to the situation on 21 June 2021, their access was restricted by representatives of the military forces of the transnistrian regime. As a result, given AUR's refusal to abandon the attempt to travel to the region, the bus and AUR representatives were blocked at the checkpoint until the next day.

6.2. Activities that can qualify as use of administrative resources for electoral purposes

During the observation period, at least 67 cases that can be considered as use of administrative resources⁷¹ for electoral purposes were identified, of which in 18 cases PDM was involved, BECS – in 13 cases, PAS and PPPDA – in 11 cases each, BERU – in 9, PPS – in 5, as follows:

⁶⁵ [Press Briefing](#) organised by Building Europe at Home Party on 'Detention of Gheorghe Cavaliuc at Moscow Airport'.

⁶⁶ [Press clarifications](#). Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration.

⁶⁷ Friends, [Dar pentru Moldova Team](#) has prepared surprises for our compatriots in Moscow and Sankt Petersburg.

⁶⁸ [Polling](#) stations from abroad, displayed on the CEC official website.

⁶⁹ [Family Fest](#) in Mitisi, organised by 'Dar pentru Moldova' Team on 4 July 2021.

⁷⁰ [Report no. 7](#). Promo-LEX OM of the Presidential Election in the Republic of Moldova of 1 (15) November 2020, p.23.

⁷¹ According to [Venice Commission and OSCE](#), *Administrative resources are human, financial, material, in natura (e.g. benefits under social programs, including in-kind goods and resources) and other immaterial resources enjoyed by both incumbents and civil servants in elections, deriving from their control over public sector: staff, financial allocations, access to public facilities as well as resources enjoyed in the form of prestige or public presence that stem from their position and which may turn into political endorsements or other forms of support.*

- *Involving the public sector employees in election campaign activities* – 16 cases, of which PAS is involved in 6 cases, PDM – in 5 cases, BECS – in 3 cases and PPPDA – in 2 cases (see Table 4).

Table 4. Involving the public sector employees in election campaign activities during their working hours

Contender	No	Locality	Date	Event details
BECS	1	Dondușeni, Briceni	29.06.2021	Oleg Jitari, mayor of the locality, participated in an electoral meeting.
	2	Basarabeasca, Basarabeasca	30.06.2021	Piotr Puscari, president of the district council, participated in an electoral meeting.
	3	Basarabeasca, Basarabeasca	02.07.2021	Piotr Puscari, president of the district council, and Valentin Cimpoes, mayor of the town, participated in an electoral meeting.
PAS	1	Ungheni, Ungheni	24.06.2021	Vasile Gaviuc, mayor of Zagarancea village, disseminated electoral materials.
	2	Cimișlia, Cimișlia	24.06.2021	Efim Strogoteanu, mayor of Ecaterinovca village, participated in an electoral meeting.
	3	Ungheni, Petrești	25.06.2021	Vasile Gaviuc, mayor of Zagarancea village, disseminated electoral materials.
	4	Dondușeni, Cernoleuca	01.07.2021	Ala Mazureac, mayor of the locality, participated in an electoral meeting.
	5	Cimișlia, Gradiste	01.07.2021	Nina Nistrean, mayor of the locality, participated in an electoral meeting.
	6	Cantemir, Vișniovca	05.07.2021	Olga Pac, mayor of the locality, in a live on the website of mayoralty on social networks, urged voters to go to the polls, mentioning that she will support PAS.
PDM	1	Briceni, Tabani	25.06.2021	Igor Bolduma, mayor of the locality, participated in an electoral meeting.
	2	Briceni, Caracușenii Vechi	25.06.2021	Gheorghe Lungu, mayor of the locality, participated in an electoral meeting.
	3	Briceni, Criva	25.06.2021	Vadim Gorobcov, mayor of the locality, participated in an electoral meeting.
	4	Ungheni, Ungheni	28.06.2021	Tatiana Lazar, vice-president of the district, participated in an electoral meeting.
	5	Cimișlia, Cenac	02.07.2021	Oleg Sandu, mayor of locality, and Iurie Raileanu, director of SE Posta Moldovei Cimislia, participated in an electoral meeting.
PPPDA	1	Anenii Noi, Calfa	25.06.2021	Ludmila Ceaglic, mayor of the locality, participated in an electoral meeting.
	2	Anenii Noi, Cobusca Nouă	02.07.2021	Adrian Dragutan, mayor of the locality, participated in an electoral meeting.

- *Taking credit for works/services provided from public money* – 22 cases, of which 9 cases involved BECS, PDM – in 7 cases, PPS – in 4 cases and PPPDA and BERU – one case each.

Thus, in case of BECS, between 24 June – 2 July 2021, PSRM territorial organizations published on social media at least 3 cases where during press briefings, the presidents, mayors and councilors of the LPA - at the same time members of the territorial organizations of PSRM (Anenii Noi⁷², Soroca⁷³, Falesti⁷⁴) – presented a brief activity report at local level, mentioning several works/services implemented on public money (road repairs, financial and material aid, etc.), emphasizing the importance of PSRM PMs contribution to these results.

On 26 June 2021, during an electoral meeting in Falesti, Igor Dodon, BECS candidate, published on social media information about the issues discussed during the meeting, namely: “The faction of the Socialist Party in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova ensured the allocation of funds for several projects in Falesti and localities of the district, such as: building of the stadium in the Railway Station neighborhood, rehabilitation of the stadium near the secondary school “Ion Creanga”, change of the pump of the heating system “A.S. Puskin” secondary school, street lighting in Egorovca, Fagadau, Albinetul Vechi, Hancesti, Hiliuti, Taxobeni localities and others. At the same time, I

⁷² [Press release](#) TO Anenii Noi of 24 June 2021.

⁷³ [Press Briefing](#) of TO PSRM Soroca of 30 June 2021.

⁷⁴ [Video spot](#) with records from the TO PSRM Falesti press briefing.

noticed that last year, within the “Drumuri bune” project, launched during the period when I was the president of the country, were rehabilitated about 40 km of road in Falesti district’. We note that the respective works were implemented on public money.

On 27 June 2021, during an electoral meeting in Stefan Voda, Igor Dodon, BECS candidate, published on social media information about the issues discussed during the meeting: ‘We talked about the projects carried out in the district with the support of the parliamentary faction of PSRM, such as the rehabilitation of about 20 km of road in Stefan Voda district and the allocation of over 5 million lei for various projects in 2021: street lighting in Olanesti and Carahasani, the change of the water tower in Brezoaia, the renovation and provision with furniture and other necessary things of the schools and kindergartens in the district, etc.’. We note that the respective works were implemented on public money.

On 29 June 2021, were printed newspapers (Romanian and Russian) in a cumulative circulation of 200,000 copies for Chisinau municipality, where PSRM assumes the merits for the works/services implemented by the Mayoralty and the Chisinau Council on public money (repair of the roads, parks, purchase of public transport, etc.).

Between 24 June and 5 July 2021, BECS printed A4 posters for several districts, as well as for Chisinau districts. Their circulation is about 2,000 - 3,000 per ATU. The content of these materials is limited to the works and services implemented at the level of LPA on public money. However, these posters mention that the stated results were obtained by the PSRM representatives in the Parliament and in the local/municipal councils. Thus, for example, in the case of Chisinau Municipality, Ciocana district, it was mentioned about the repair of the blocks of flats stairs (I. Vieru street), the street lighting (Sadoveanu, Dragan and Voluntarilor streets), the arrangement of alleys and squares (Mircea cel Batran Blvd, Maria Dragan) etc. In another case, for example, in Drochia, PSRM took credit for the repair of the hospital and schools (Drochia, Surii Noi, Cotovo), the repair of roads (Maramonovca, Suri, Cotovo, Baroncea).

On 1 July 2021, during an electoral meeting in Drochia, Zinaida Greceanii, credited PSRM for several projects implemented on public money, including at the level of LPA, mentioning: ‘People are grateful to the Socialist Party team, which in the last two years difficult conditions, has managed to obtain support for many infrastructure and social projects in Drochia district. For some, this may seem insignificant, but in addition to good roads, street lighting, water and sewage, sometimes the purchase of a washing machine for a nursing home, a heater or TV for the children's ward of the hospital, equipment for the health center, chairs for schools – is much more important than the imposing expenses in the city’⁷⁵.

On 2 July 2021⁷⁶, during an electoral meeting in Basarabeasca, Igor Dodon credited PSRM for allocating funds from the public budget for several projects in Basarabeasca district such as: construction of the sewerage and wastewater treatment plants in Sadaclia and Iordanovca, rehabilitation of educational institutions, of roads and parks.

In case of PDM, between 24 June – 1 July 2021, on social media, PDM published 7 video spots in which the party candidates credited PDM for several works/services implemented on public money, as follows: purchase of ambulances⁷⁷, financial aid allocated to pensioners of MDL 600⁷⁸, connecting localities to water and sewerage⁷⁹, doubling the childbirth allowance up to MDL 6000⁸⁰, road construction and street lighting⁸¹, increasing teachers' salaries⁸², ‘Prima Casa’ project and the purchase of housing by 6000 young people⁸³.

⁷⁵ [PSRM posting](#) of 1 July 2021: Zinaida Greceanii had a meeting with the residents of Drochia district.

⁷⁶ [PSRM posting](#) of 2 July 2021: Igor Dodon, Bogdan Tirdea and Constantin Staris discussed important infrastructure projects with residents from Basarabeasca.

⁷⁷ [Video Spot](#) of PDM on purchase of ambulances.

⁷⁸ [Video Spot](#) of PDM on financial aid allocated to pensioners of MDL 600.

⁷⁹ [Video Spot](#) of PDM on connecting to water and sewerage.

⁸⁰ [Video Spot](#) of PDM on doubling the childbirth allowance up to MDL 6000.

⁸¹ [Video Spot](#) of PDM on road construction and street lighting.

In case of PPS, on 30 June 2021, on Ilan Sor Youtube channel, PPS candidate, were published three video spots in which PPS took credit for street lighting⁸⁴, repair of local roads⁸⁵ and repair/reconstruction of kindergartens⁸⁶ – projects implemented at LPA level from public money. The respective video spots were taken over by PPS and distributed on social networks.

In the same day, on 30 June 2021, Corneliu Padnevici, PPS candidate, published on social media pictures of a local road repair works (Solcani, Soroca) from public money, crediting PPS for its repair. Thus, in the posting it is mentioned that ‘it is an ambitious project, worth two million MDL, which confirms that the SOR Party keeps its promises and works to build Europe in Moldova’.

In case of PPPDA, on 4 July 2021, during an electoral meeting in Hirbovat, Anenii Noi, PPPDA took credit for projects implemented from public money. Thus, on social media, it was mentioned: ‘We talked about the achievements of the DA Platform for Hirbovat: and about the law of Alexandru Slusari, through which the village residents will benefit from the compensation of the communal service costs (350 m³ of gas per month during the cold season, 100 kW per month, etc.), we discussed the allocation of 450 thousand MDL for the repair of the village cultural center (amendment to the budget law for 2021 proposed by Mr. Slusari)’.

In case of BERU, on 25 June 2021, were published BERU newspapers in a print run of 350,000 copies. In the respective newspaper, are published pictures of several locations in municipality Balti until and after the completion of road repair or landscaping works. Next to the pictures it is mentioned: ‘We present to you just a small part of changes that Renato Usatii has done as the mayor of Balti’, thus taking credit for works/services performed mostly from public money.

- *Organising electoral meetings in state institutions with employees of these institutions during their working hours* – 29 cases, of which PPPDA and BERU are involved in 8 cases each, PDM – in 6 cases, PAS – in 5 cases, PPS and BECS – in one case each (see Annex 4). Distributed by institutions, the meetings took place in: hospitals/family doctors' centers – 14 cases, kindergartens – 6 cases, schools – 5 cases, LPA offices – 2 cases, autonomous administrations – 2 cases.

6.3. Activities that can qualify as electoral gift giving

During the observation period, was reported at least one case – involving PACE – that could be considered as electoral gift giving. Thus, note that on 28 June 2021, in Recea village, Riscani, a well was consecrated and put into operation, rebuilt by PACE representatives. So, on the well roof and on its walls the abbreviated name of the party – PACE, was engraved. However, three days later, on 1 July 2021, the engraving with PACE symbol was removed by unidentified persons.

6.4. Cases that can qualify as promotion by using images of public authorities

According to Article 52 (8) of Electoral Code, it is stated that images representing state institutions or public authorities of the country, other states or international organisations cannot be used for the purpose of electoral advertising. Also, the combinations of colours and/or sounds that invoke national symbols of the Republic of Moldova or any other state, the use of materials with historical personalities of the Republic of Moldova or from abroad, symbols of other foreign countries or international organisations, or the image of some foreign officials is prohibited.

On this topic, however, as mentioned in the context of previous observation missions, in the opinion of Promo-LEX, the legislator must review the content of those prohibitions, so that they are more

⁸² [Video Spot](#) of PDM on increasing teachers' salaries.

⁸³ [Video Spot](#) of PDM on ‘Prima Casa’ project.

⁸⁴ [Video](#) published on Ilan Sor Youtube channel, PPS candidate, and distributed by PPS on social networks: In 2019, I promised. In 2021, over 100 localities are illuminated.

⁸⁵ [Video](#) published on Ilan Sor Youtube channel, PPS candidate, and distributed by PPS on social networks: In 2019, I promised. Currently, 80% of the roads in Orhei are renovated.

⁸⁶ [Video](#) published on Ilan Sor Youtube channel, PPS candidate, and distributed by PPS on social networks: In 2019, I promised. In 2021, several kindergartens were renovated and equipped with everything they need.

accurate, more explicit and mandatorily take into account the general framework regulating freedom of expression. If the prohibitions are inappropriate and practically inapplicable, the legislator may consider repealing them.

Thus, we note that during the monitored period at least 7 cases were reported (3 – PAS, 3 – BECS, one case – BERU) where images/state symbols of the Republic of Moldova, image of public authorities or other states were used as follows:

In the case of PAS, on 23 June 2021, Igor Grosu, PAS candidate, distributed through social media the meeting with the Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Republic of Moldova, Steven Mark Fisher, expressing his conviction that after the elections we will have a clean and honest Parliament, a professional and responsible Government that will work for the people and for the welfare of the country.

On 28 June 2021, Igor Grosu, PAS candidate, distributed through social media the meeting with the US Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova, Dereck J. Hogan, noting that the Republic of Moldova needs and relies on the support of the US and the American people for the development of the country, justice reforming and democracy strengthening.

On 25 and 29 June 2021, as well as on 1 July 2021, PAS published newspapers with the electoral platform of the party, in a print run of 400,000 copies (in Romanian and Russian). In the mentioned version of the newspaper, on the penultimate page, the image of Maia Sandu as PAS leader in the period 2016–2020 was used, as well as an image from her inauguration as President of the Republic of Moldova (the same version used in newspapers of 4 June 2021).

In the case of BERU, on 25 June 2021, Renato Usatii, BERU candidate, distributed through social media the meeting with the US Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova, Dereck J. Hogan, mentioning that they discussed ‘the current political situation in the country and the BERU policy of concrete facts in the future Parliament’.

In the case of BECS, on 2 July 2021, Igor Dodon, BECS candidate, shared on social media the meeting with the Ambassador of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Moldova, Oleg Vasnetsov, mentioning also the negotiation of a new batch of Sputnik V vaccine delivery.

On the same day, Igor Dodon, BECS candidate, shared on social media the meeting with the US Ambassador to Moldova, Dereck J. Hogan, noting that concern was expressed regarding the interference of external factors in the electoral process. In particular, reference was made to ‘Mr Hogan's visits to the Central Electoral Commission, in the midst of the election campaign, which could be described as an attempt to influence political processes in the Republic of Moldova’.

On 6 July 2021, Igor Dodon, BECS candidate, shared on the social media the Summit dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the CCP in online format, organized under the auspices of Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China. In the posting, were published pictures of the participants (members of PSRM) and the organizer – Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China. According to the posting, Igor Dodon gave a speech at the summit, after which he gave an interview on the domestic and foreign policy of the Republic of Moldova, paying special attention to the development of bilateral cooperation with the PRC.

6.5. Outdoor/promotional/online advertising

During the observation period, at least 2,685 cases of using advertising materials in case of 19 electoral contenders were reported (see table 5). According to observers, the most cases involved activities of promoting PAS – 28%, BECS – 16% and BERU – 12%.

Table 5. Data on the use of advertising by electoral contenders

Advertising used	PAS	BECS	BERU	PPDA	PDM	PPŞ	PPCC	PACE	PUN	AUR	PLD	PS	V. Valico	PDCM	PPDA	PVE	PRM	PPN	PPPO	Total
Newspapers, leaflets, brochures, posters	316	155	135	108	111	63	74	46	29	22		5		7	4	3	4	1	1	1084
Vests, t-shirts, bags, caps	240	126	112	63	55	40	49	36	18	15		4		2	5	4		1		770
Banners	84	39	27	37	13	17	6	17	24	8		3			2	2				279
Tents	47	67	32	20	15	29	5	11	1	5		2								234
Sponsored advertising	48	2	18	21	10	11	14	13		7	25	5	21	7						202
Video spots	6	18		6	18	7		2			10			1						68
Street billboards	12	10		3		10	1	3				6		2	1					48
Total	753	417	324	258	222	177	149	128	72	57	35	25	21	19	12	9	4	2	1	2685

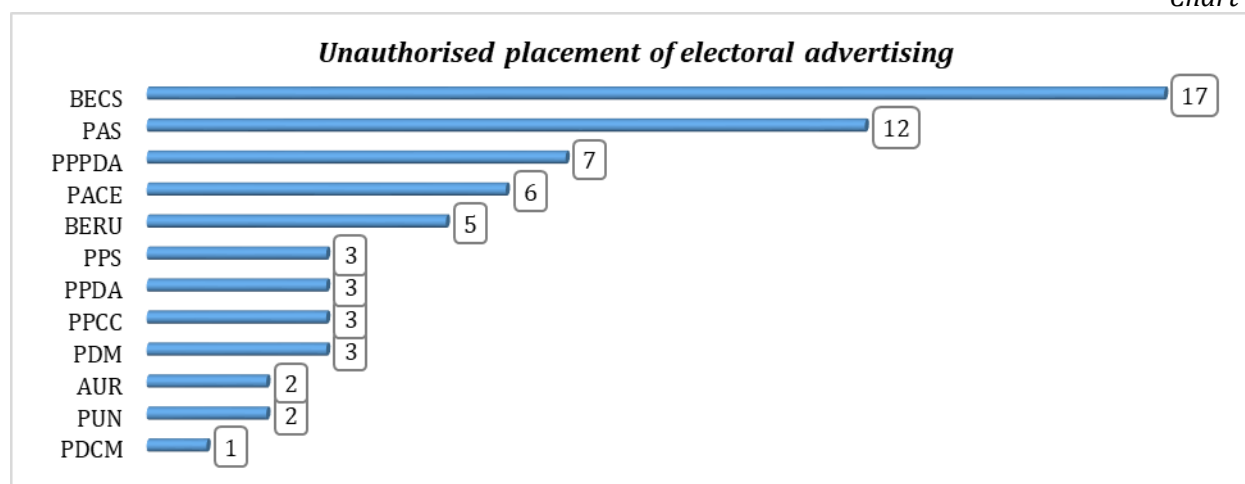
Electoral materials (newspapers, posters, leaflets) – 38%, visibility materials (vests, bags etc.) – 24%, and street tents – 16% were the types of advertising most frequently used during the campaign.

6.6. Cases that can be qualified as use of electoral advertising in violation of the law

According to Article 70(6) of the Electoral Code, electoral contenders shall be liable for the content of published or aired electoral materials. Each advertising material shall bear: the name of the electoral contender, date of publishing, turnout, name of the Publishing House. At the same time, in accordance with Section 14 of the *Regulation on the Location of Electoral Advertising and Political Promotion Materials on Advertising Billboards*⁸⁷, the placement of election posters is prohibited in other places than those set by the law.

Based on the reports of Promo-LEX OM observers, there were identified *at least 4* cases of use of electoral advertising without observing the requirements regarding advertising materials (2 cases – PACE⁸⁸, one case – PPDA⁸⁹, one case – PUN⁹⁰, one case – BECS⁹¹) and *64 cases* of placing the advertising in unauthorised places (see chart 6).

Chart 6



⁸⁷ [CEC Decision](#) No 3328 of 28.04.2015 approving the Regulation on the Location of Electoral Advertising and Political Promotion Materials on Advertising Billboards.

⁸⁸ Distribution of A4 and A5 posters – invitations to events organized by the contender – without printing data (printing date, name of publishing house and print run).

⁸⁹ Distribution by PPDA of A4 posters with the message ‘Stop the theft’, without printing date, the print run and the name of the publishing house.

⁹⁰ Distribution of PUN stickers, without printing data.

⁹¹ Distribution by BECS of A4 posters with information on modification of some legislative provisions (at the proposal of the BECS candidate Vitalii Evtodiev), without printing date, print run and the publishing house that provided the printing service.

6.7. Situations that can be qualified as the use of violence in the election campaign

During the observation period, at least three cases were reported that could be considered as use of violence during the election campaign. All of them involved AUR and BECS.

In the first case, on 23 June 2021, AUR representatives had a repeated attempt to travel by bus with the AUR symbol in the transnistrian region, but this time through Varnita checkpoint. As on 21 June 2021, their access was restricted by representatives of the military forces of the transnistrian regime. As a result, given AUR's refusal to abandon the attempt to travel to the region, the bus and AUR representatives were blocked at the checkpoint until the next day.

In the second case, on 4 July 2021, we note that BECS organised a people's march with prior notification of the authorities about the event. AUR representatives attempted to block the march by lining up in a row in front of the BECS participants' column, with a huge tricolor on Stefan cel Mare si Sfanta boulevard. The protesters were removed from the way of march participants by the law enforcement authority. During the intervention of law enforcement authority, Dorin Chirtoaca, AUR candidate, rushed into the crowd, intending to reach the BECS leaders – Igor Dodon and Vladimir Voronin. His attempt was blocked by the law enforcement authority.

At least in one case, during an attempt to unblock the route, a law enforcement officer used the tear gas after being hit in the face by an AUR representative⁹². Also, a law enforcement officer was attacked from behind and knocked to the ground by a an AUR representative⁹³. The police announced the initiation of criminal investigations on the described situations.

In the third case, occurred on 7 July 2021, AUR representatives went to the PSRM headquarters in Chisinau with the purpose of inviting Igor Dodon, BECS candidate, to electoral debates. The AUR representatives came with the Romanian flag in front of the PSRM headquarters chanting 'Dodon, traitor'. The Socialists formed a protective cordon to block the access of AUR representatives to the PSRM headquarters. Several police officers positioned themselves between the two camps, to ensure order. At a certain moment, altercations broke out, after which Dorin Chirtoaca, AUR candidate, was hit by Alexandr Oddinov, PSRM representative.

⁹² [Altercations between](#) law enforcement authority and AUR representatives.

⁹³ [The attack](#) on law enforcement authority by AUR representatives.

VII. ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUNDING

7.1. Submission of the political party's report at the beginning of the electoral campaign

According to Article 43(7) of the Electoral Code, the political parties that will make transfers into the „Electoral Fund” account shall submit a financial report on the balance of the parties' funds. Point 45 of CEC Schedule⁹⁴ stipulates that the report shall be submitted at the date when the electoral contender starts the electoral campaign.

Until 2 July 2021, for the 22 registered electoral contenders that fall within the scope of these provisions, 10 reports⁹⁵ were published on CEC website for the political parties that intended to make transfers on the 'Electoral Fund' account (see Annex 5). Of them, we reiterate that with regards to the financial support to BERU, the said reports were submitted by both constituents of the bloc (PN and PP), whereas in the case of the other electoral bloc registered in the electoral run – BECS – the report was submitted only by PSRM (PCRM has not reported this report).

In addition, note that in its report submitted to CEC on 2 July 2021, PRM reported the transfer of MDL 8 thousand from the current account of PRM into the 'Electoral Fund' account. However, contrary to the legal framework, we find that before publishing this report, the party's report that should have been submitted at the beginning of the electoral campaign if transfers were intended to be made from the party's current account into 'Electoral Fund' account had not been placed on the CEC site.

7.2. Opening bank accounts and appointing treasurers

The following situation related to compliance of electoral contenders with the relevant legal provisions on electoral campaign funding was noticed during the observed period:

- *person in charge of the electoral contender's finances (treasurer)*⁹⁶. According to the data published on the official CEC website, and the decisions on registering electoral contenders, of the 23 registered electoral contenders only 22 published information on the appointment of the treasurer (NOI Party has not appointed a treasurer - see Annex 5).
- *opening or failure to open the 'Electoral Fund' account*⁹⁷. According to the data published on the official CEC website, 18 of the 23 registered electoral contenders⁹⁸ opened the 'Electoral Fund' account (see Annex 5).
- *report 3 days after opening the 'Electoral Fund' account*⁹⁹. During the observed period, the reports submitted within 3 days after opening the 'Electoral Fund' account by 7 electoral contenders were published on the official CEC website (see Annex 5).
- *weekly reporting to CEC on the Financing of election campaign*¹⁰⁰. The reports on the funding of the electoral campaign that should have been submitted on the fifth campaign week, i.e. until 25 June 2021, were submitted by 18 of the 23 registered electoral contenders.

⁹⁴ [The schedule](#) for organising and conducting early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, approved by CEC Decision No. 4817 of 5 May 2021.

⁹⁵ PPCC, BERU, PPS, PAS, BECS, PDM, PPPDA and PDCM.

⁹⁶ Point 46 of [CEC Schedule](#) states: electoral contenders shall confirm the persons in charge of finances (treasurer) once or immediately after getting registered.

⁹⁷ According to article 41(2) of the Electoral Code, the electoral contender shall inform CEC about opening or failure to open the 'Electoral Fund' account. Point 47 of CEC Schedule states that within three days of electoral contenders registration, they shall submit information on opening or failure to open the 'Electoral Fund' account.

⁹⁸ MPSN, PVE, PPM, NOI and Veaceslav Valico (IC) have not opened an 'Electoral Fund' account.

⁹⁹ Article 43(1) of the Electoral Code.

¹⁰⁰ Article 43(1) and (6) of the Electoral Code. According to CEC Schedule, the deadlines for report submission were set on 21 May 2021, 28 May 2021 and 4 June 2021.

Three contenders (PRM, PPN and NOI) submitted information on not opening an 'Electoral Fund' account and not incurring any expenses for campaigning. With regards to NOI, note that the information was submitted on 1 July 2021 - after the warning made by CEC on the need to submit the report.

Independent candidates Veaceslav Valico did not publish information on electoral campaign funding as of 25 June 2021.

MPSN informed CEC on 11 June that it will not have any expenses during the electoral campaign and, respectively, with not open an 'Electoral Fund' account.

The reports on the funding of the electoral campaign that should have been submitted on the sixth campaign week, i.e. until 2 June 2021, were submitted by 18 of the 23 registered electoral contenders¹⁰¹. With regards to PPDA, however, we find that only the general table from the report on electoral campaign funding was published on the CEC website, without any attachments. Only after the annexes were submitted, on 6 July 2021, the data were published fully.

The report of PPN had not been published as of the date of Report No 5 of the Observation Mission. The data on the funding of the electoral campaign of independent candidate Veaceslav Valico were lacking as of 2 July 2021.

Regarding the accuracy of the reports filed to CEC, we find a low quality of the reported information. Thus, after submitting the report by the legal deadline, some contenders submit latter corrective reports. On the average, most contenders submitted at least one corrective report (there were cases when the same report was corrected four times) - which makes it more difficult to follow and monitor the expenses reported by contenders of the electoral campaign.

7.3. Management by CEC of the reporting on the funding of the electoral campaign

By CEC Decision No 5061¹⁰², 5105¹⁰³ and 5157¹⁰⁴, CEC took note of the information on the funding of the electoral campaign, submitted by electoral contenders as of 11, 18 and 25 June 2021. Thus, the electoral authority made the following findings:

➤ *income accumulated by electoral contenders contrary to Article 41(1)*, according to which to finance the election campaigns it is allowed to use only the financial resources from the work, entrepreneurial, scientific or creation activity.

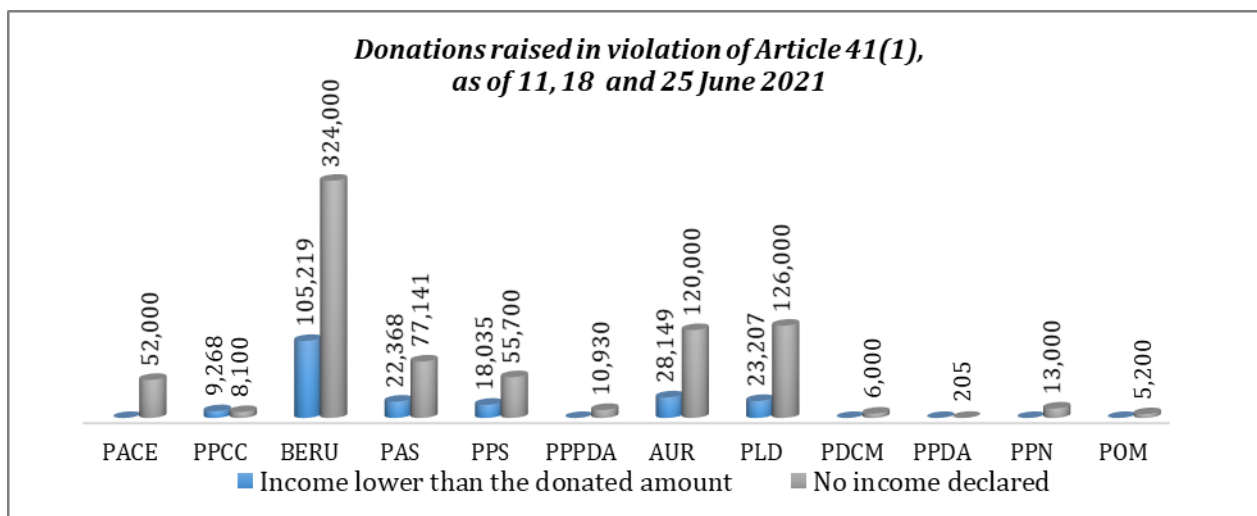
In the financial report submitted on 11, 18 and 25 June 2021, a number of 118 donors were identified that, though earning less than the donated amount/not declaring any income over the past three years, made donations to electoral contenders. The total amount donated by those individuals was MDL 1,004,523 (see Chart 7).

¹⁰¹ PVE, without opening an 'Electoral Fund' account, declared revenue from donations in goods, objects, works or services (MDL 2 805).

¹⁰² CEC [Decision](#) No 5061 of 25 June 2021 on the reports of income and expenses of the election contenders during the election campaign for the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, as of 11 June 2021.

¹⁰³ CEC [Decision](#) No 5105 of 30 June 2021 on the reports of income and expenses of the election contenders during the election campaign for the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, as of 18 June 2021.

¹⁰⁴ CEC [Decision](#) No 5155 of 6 July 2021 on the reports of income and expenses of the election contenders during the election campaign for the early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, as of 25 June 2021.



Like in the case of the 2020 Presidential elections, CEC found a lack of lawful mechanisms to manage the donations made for electoral campaigns and correlate them with the income declared by donors.

- *The income accumulated by electoral contenders in violation of Article 41(3)(e) of the Electoral Code, which prohibits any cash or in-kind support for the electoral campaign by legal entities that during three years prior to the beginning of the electoral campaign had concluded public procurement agreements for works, goods or services within the purpose of Law No 131/2015 on Public Procurement.*

According to the financial reports of 11, 18 and 25 June 2021, two electoral contenders reported financial revenue from three legal entities that had public procurements within the purpose of Law No 131/2015 on Public Procurements, as follows: PPPDA – MDL 55,000 (from Lactis SA and Grisan Hamb SA) and PDCM – MDL 120,000 (from Companado SRL and Led Market SRL). Note that these financial revenues were returned to donors by the electoral contenders.

- *using the revenue from the 'Electoral Fund' account in violation of Article 41(2)(i) of the Electoral Code, which states that the funds from the electoral fund may be used only after declaring them in writing to CEC.*

In the case of four electoral contenders (PPPDA, PAS, PPDA and PACE), CEC found that the report on the funds placed on the 'Electoral Fund' account were submitted with a delay.

In the context of the aforementioned, on 30 June 2021, CEC warned NOI and POM on the need to submit the information on electoral campaign funding as of 18 June 2021, and on 6 July POM was warned repeatedly on the same subject. CEC also warned AUR about the incorrect reporting of donations from individuals, nationals of the Republic of Moldova staying abroad (they were reported as donations from individuals in the country).

In the case of contenders that submitted the report as of 25 June 2021 with a delay (PPN, PPPO and POM), they were warned on the need to submit the reports in due time.

7.4. Election contenders' revenues and expenses reflected in financial reports on election campaign financing submitted to CEC

Article 43(1) of the Electoral Code states that during the electoral campaign for Parliamentary elections, electoral contenders shall submit, on a weekly basis, to CEC a report on the funds raised and expenses made during the campaign.

According to the information published on the official site of CEC, 18¹⁰⁵ electoral contenders published the reports for the fifth week of campaign, and for the sixth - 18¹⁰⁶ electoral contenders (between the two weeks the difference was made by two contenders: PPN submitted the report on the fifth week, but not on the sixth, and PRM submitted the report on the sixth week, for the fifth only informing CEC on the lack of any campaign-related expenses). In the case of PVE, the submitted report contained only revenue from donations in goods, objects, works and services.

7.4.1. Reported revenues and their origin

Since the beginning of the campaign and until 2 July 2021, 19 electoral contenders¹⁰⁷ (see Chart 8) declared **MDL 33 579 929** in total revenue (including donations in goods, objects, works or services). Of them, 36% were declared by BERU, 18% - by PAS, and 12% - by BECS and PPŞ each. Thus, 4 electoral contenders reported 78% of total revenues, and the remaining 15 electoral contenders – 22% of total reported revenues (see Chart 9).

Chart 8

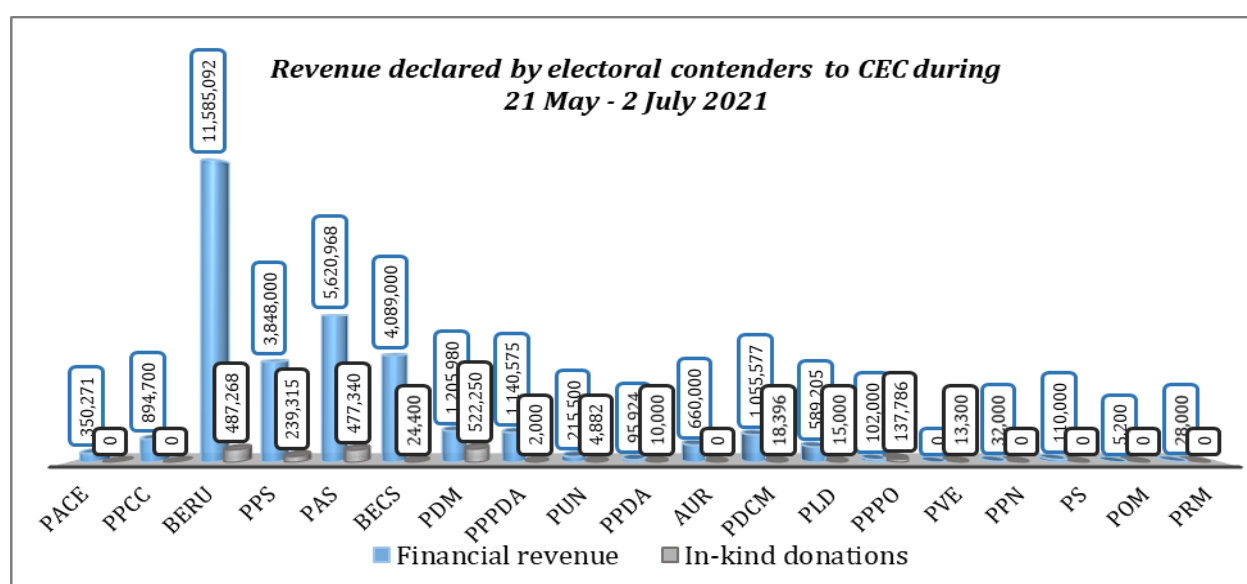
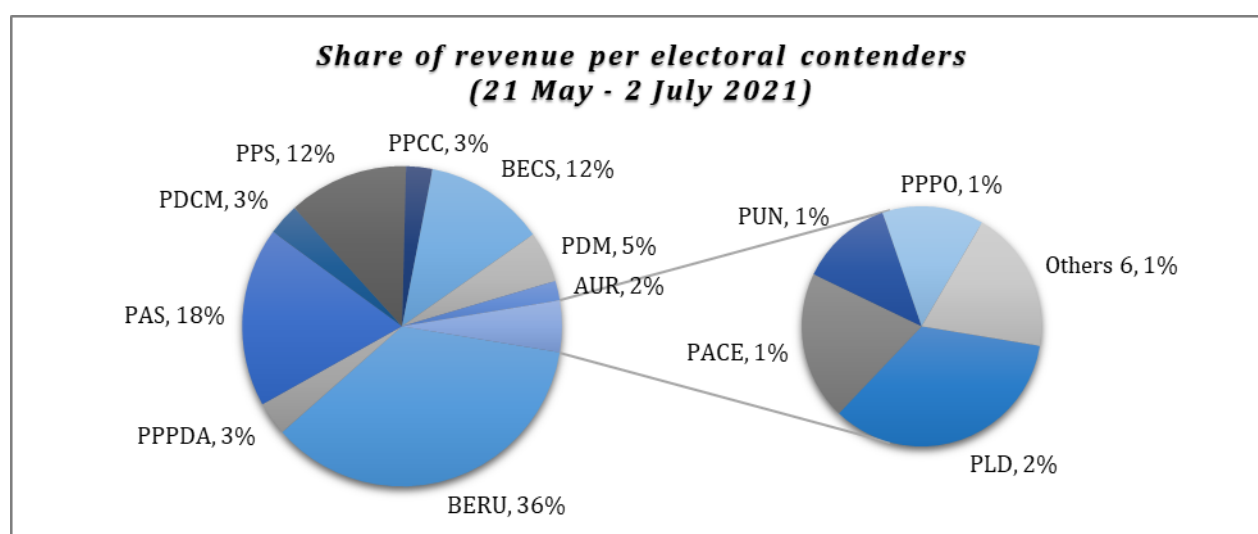


Chart 9



¹⁰⁵ PACE, PPCC, BERU, PPŞ, PAS, BECS, PDM, PPPDA, PUN, PPDA, AUR, PDCM, PPN, PVE, PLD, PPPO, POM and PS.

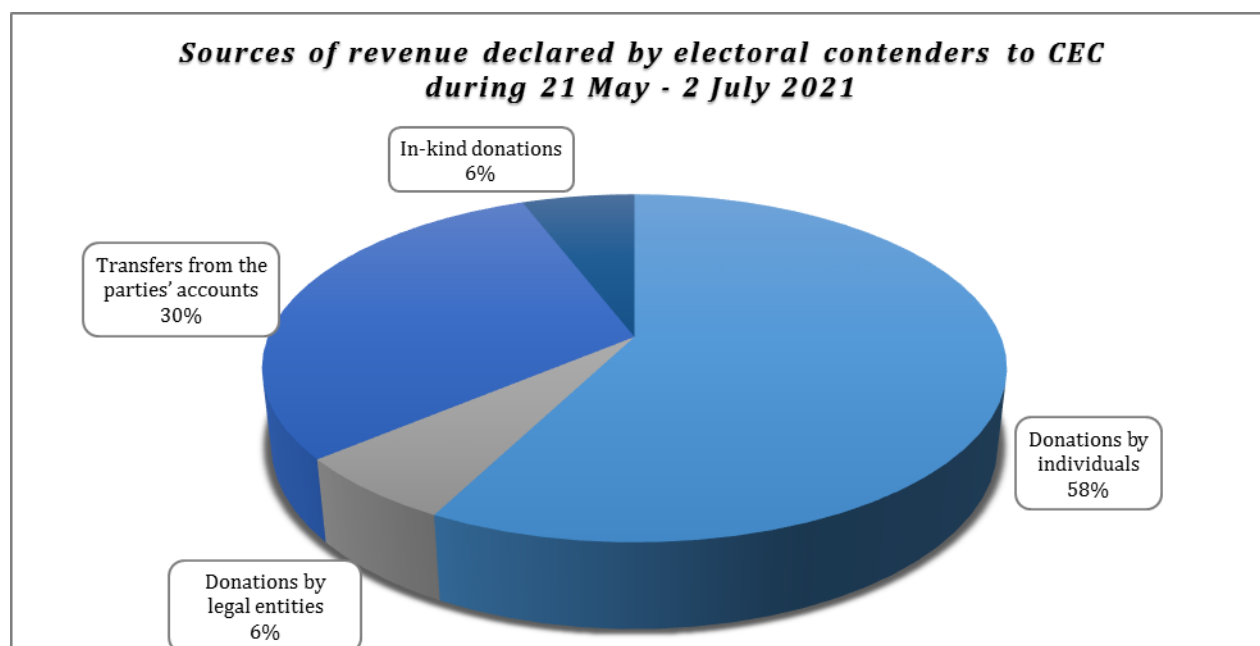
¹⁰⁶ PACE, PPCC, BERU, PPŞ, PAS, BECS, PDM, PPPDA, PUN, PPDA, AUR, PDCM, PVE, PLD, PPPO, PRM and POM.

¹⁰⁷ PACE, PPCC, BERU, PPŞ, PAS, BECS, PDM, PPPDA, PUN, PDA, AUR, PDCM, PLD, PPPO and PVE.

The reported revenues were raised from the following sources (see Chart 10):

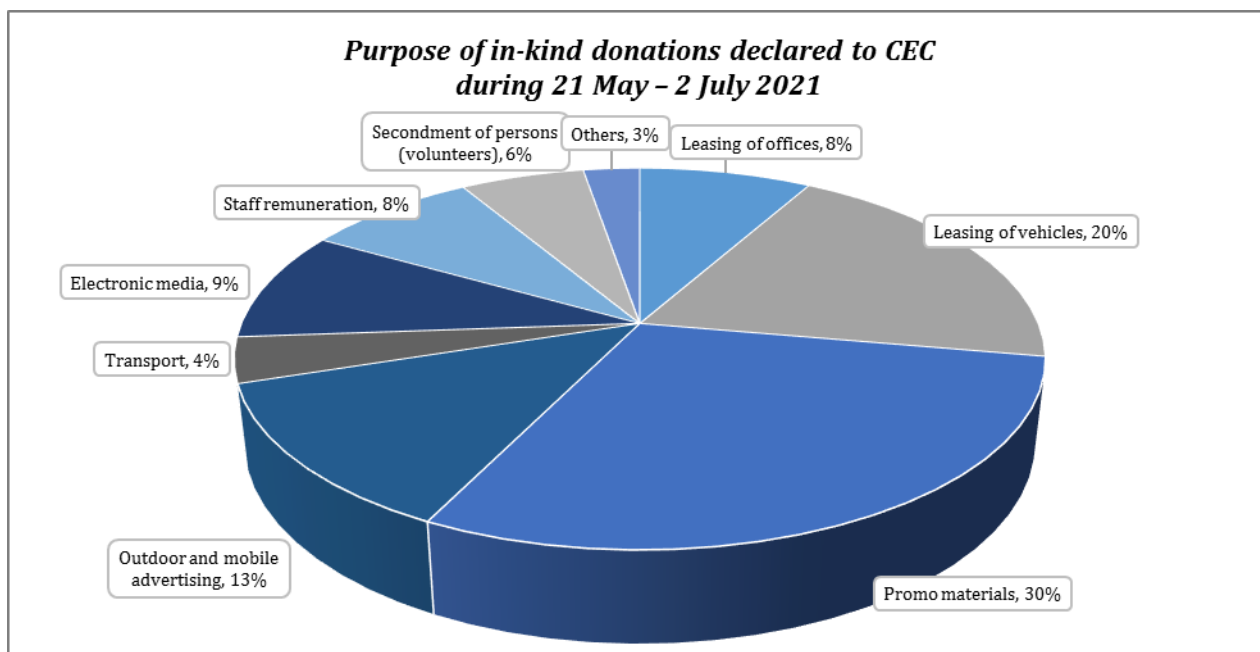
- 58% (MDL 19,338,845) were raised from donations made by individuals, including citizens of the Republic of Moldova living abroad (MDL 1,757,610).
- 30% (MDL 10,179,600) were raised by transferring money from the current account of 9 political parties (PN, PPŞ, PPCC, PAS, PSRM, PDM, PPPDA, PDCM and PRM) on the 'Electoral Fund' account of 9 electoral contenders – PPCC (MDL 600), BERU (MDL 2,700,000), PPŞ (MDL 1,100,000), PAS (MDL 507,000), BECS (MDL 4,089,000), PDM (MDL 1,120,000), PPPDA (MDL 455,000), PDCM (MDL 200,000) and PRM (MDL 8,000). In the case of BECS, we find that 99% of the funds raised during the electoral campaign come from transfers from the current account of PSRM into the 'Electoral Fund' account of BECS (1% - donations in commodities, works or services). However, we reiterate that, contrary to the legal framework, PRM did not publish the party's report that should have been submitted at the beginning of the electoral campaign if transfers were intended to be made from the party's current account into 'Electoral Fund'.
- 6% (MDL 2,109,547) were raised from donations made by legal entities. Nine electoral contenders (PACE, PPCC, BERU, PPŞ, PAS, PDM, PPPDA, PDCM and PS) had such revenues.
- 6% (MDL 1,951,937) of donations were made in commodities, works or services. 12 electoral contenders (BERU, PPŞ, PAS, BECS, PDM, PPPDA, PUN, PPDA, PDCM, PLD, PPPO and PVE) had such revenues. PVE did not open an 'Electoral Fund' account, reporting to CEC revenue only from donations in commodities, works or services (MDL 13,300).

Chart 10



Following the verification of the donations, reflected in the reports of 25 June and 2 July 2021 received by the candidates in the 'Electoral Fund' account, it was found that the legal thresholds established for both donations of individuals (transfer and cash) and of legal entities (transfer) were noticed.

Regarding the reported in-kind donations, note that after grouping them according to the intended use, it was found that 30% of them were for printed materials, 20% - rental fees for transport vehicles, 13% - for outdoor and mobile advertising, and 9% - for electronic advertising (see Chart 11).

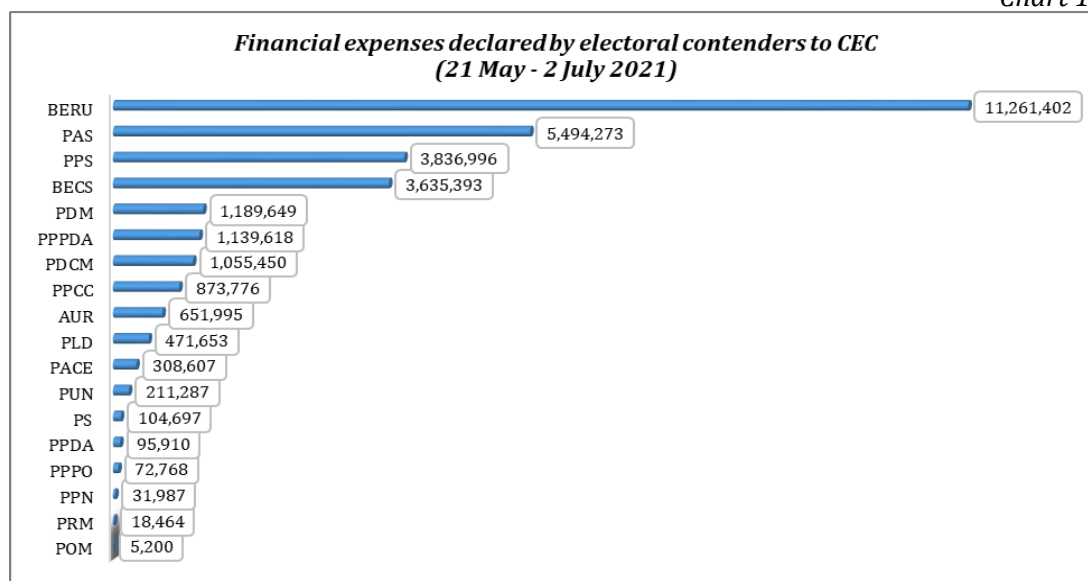


With regards to in-kind donations or free services provided, we reiterate the need to state in the balance sheet, in the financial turnover section, both the source of funding (listing the individuals or legal entities that made the donations and the source of those donations), and in the expenses (purposes of expenses). At the same time, CEC should regulate clearly and comprehensively how donations shall be declared.

7.4.2. Reported expenses and their intended use

Between 21 May and 2 July 2021, 18 electoral contenders¹⁰⁸ reported total funds worth **MDL 30,459,125**¹⁰⁹. Of these, 37% of the declared financial expenses were reported by BERU, 18% - by PAS, 13% - by PPS, and 12% - by BECS (see Chart 12). Thus, 4 electoral contenders reported 80% of total expenses, and the remaining 14 electoral contenders - only 20%.

Chart 12

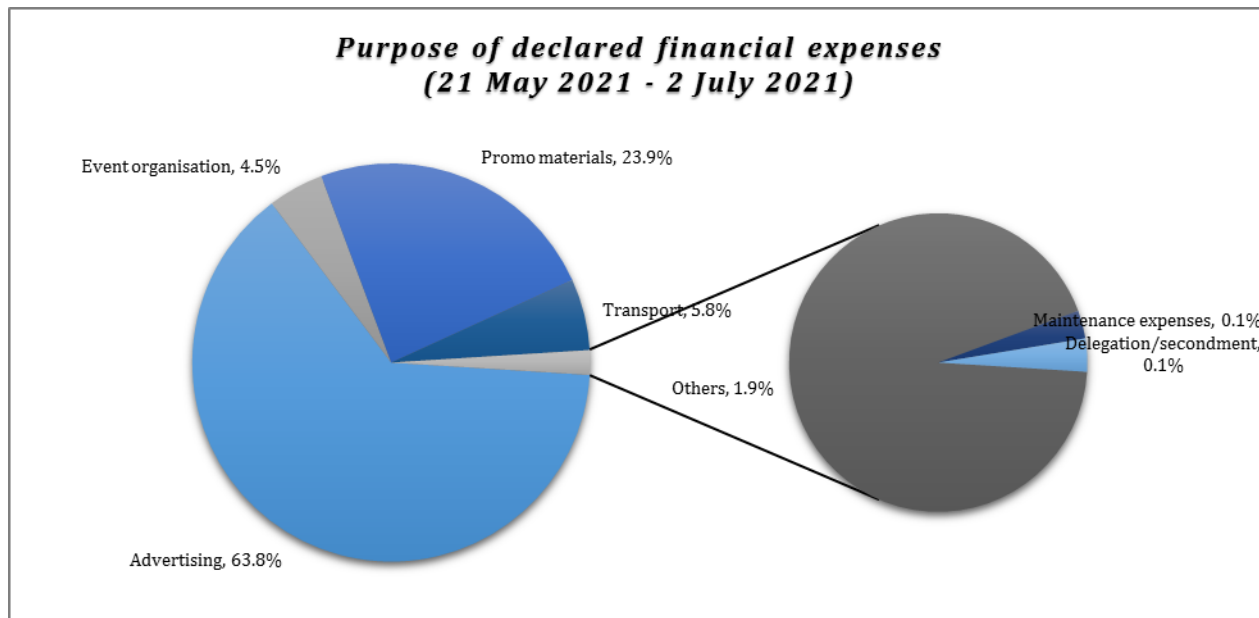


¹⁰⁸ POM, PRM, PPN, PPPO, PPDA, PS, PUN, PACE, PLD, AUR, PPCC, PDCM, PPPDA, PDM, BECS, PPS, PAS and BERU.

¹⁰⁹The reported expenses also included the amount of MDL 1,951,937 raised by contenders from donations of commodities, works or services, which were not included on the total financial expenses.

The Chart 13 contains the expenses declared to CEC according to their intended use. Thus, we found that of the total reported expenses, 64% were made for election advertising purposes, and 24% – for promotional materials (electoral program, posters, leaflets, etc.), and 6% - for transport.

Chart 13



7.5. Election contenders' expenses estimated by Promo-LEX

Promo-LEX estimates for the activities performed by contenders cover the period between May 2021 and 2 July 2021 (six weeks of electoral campaign, reported to CEC on 28 May 2021, 4, 11, 18, 25 June 2021 and 2 July 2021). The electoral activities were estimated for each electoral contender from the registration in the electoral race until 2 July 2021.

Subsequently, the expenses estimated by Promo-LEX were compared with the expenses reported to CEC in the reports on election campaign financing (including in-kind donations). As a result, eight categories of expenses were identified based on which the Promo-LEX estimates differ significantly from the data in the reports on election campaign financing submitted to CEC. The biggest differences are related to the expenses incurred by electoral contenders as a result of engaging electioneers (volunteers) in the electoral campaign (only one electoral contender reported such expenses – PPPO).

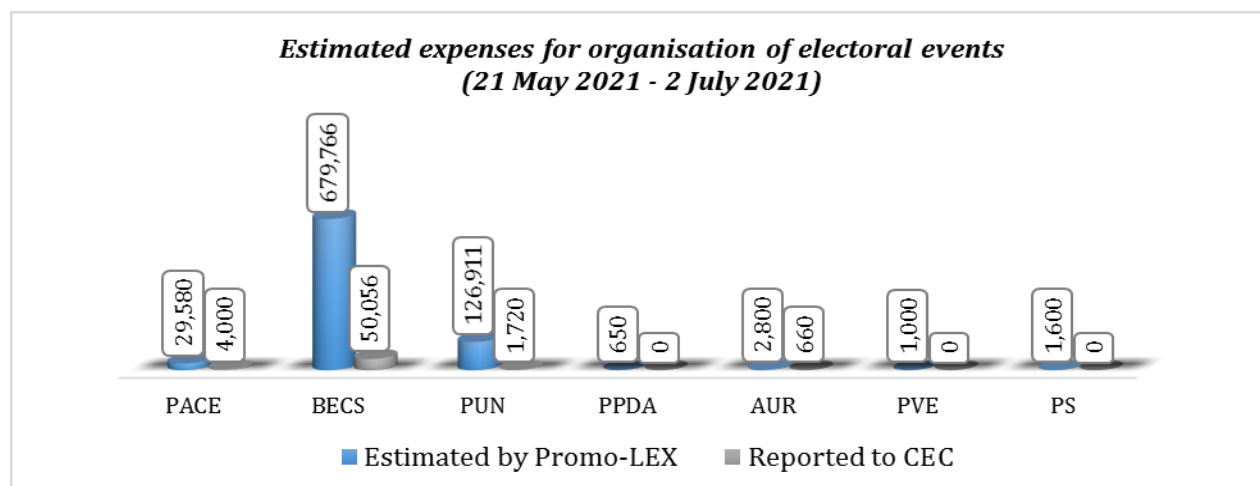
With regards to this aspect, we note that all electoral contenders, the estimated expenses of which differ from the information declared to CEC (expenses estimated by Promo-LEX as unreported) are invited to report the total expenses incurred during the electoral campaign in the final campaign report the latest, which shall be submitted with the electoral authority by 9 July 2021 (two days before the election day).

In this context we note that Promo-LEX estimates the expenses using the minimum market prices identified for the services, commodities and works used by contenders for campaigning purposes. However, we believe that there can be differences between the costs applied by Promo-LEX and those indicated by electoral contenders (both when reporting the financial expenses and expenses from in-kind donations).

7.5.1. Estimation of expenses for electoral events

Based on the reporting forms of LTO, for the period between 21 May – 2 July 2021, Promo-LEX estimated unreported expenses in relation to 7 electoral contenders for the organisation of electoral events¹¹⁰ in the amount of minimum **MDL 785,871** (see Chart 14).

Chart 14

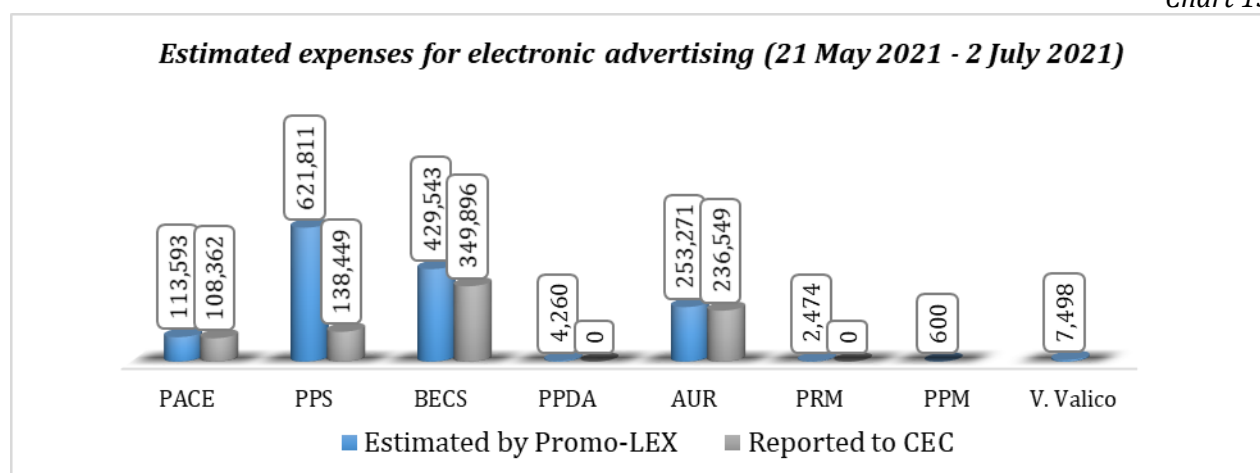


As a result, we found that the highest share of unreported expenses for the organisation of events was estimated for BECS (MDL 629,710), PUN (MDL 125,191), PACE (MDL 25,580), AUR (MDL 2,140), PS (MDL 1,600), PVE (MDL 1,000) and PPDA (MDL 650).

7.5.2. Estimation of advertising expenses by means of electronic media

Between 21 May – 2 June 2021, Promo-LEX observers reported activities promoting the electoral contenders through social media: posting sponsored advertising, editing electoral video spots¹¹¹, publishing online banners¹¹² and organising press conferences¹¹³. As a result, the total amount of unreported expenses in relation to 8 electoral contenders was estimated to minimum **MDL 599,795** (see Chart 15).

Chart 15



¹¹⁰ Expenses for the props used during the events (sound, lights), for renting the premises, moderator, animators, media coverage of the event, etc.

¹¹¹ PAS – at least four professionally edited video spots; BECS – 4, PPS – 7, AUR – 2.

¹¹² Online banners on the internet pages were reported for BERU, PAS, PPCC, BECS, PPS, AUR, PPPDA, PDCM, PACE and PDM.

¹¹³ PPŞ (4), BECS (18), PACE (8), PPDA (1) etc.

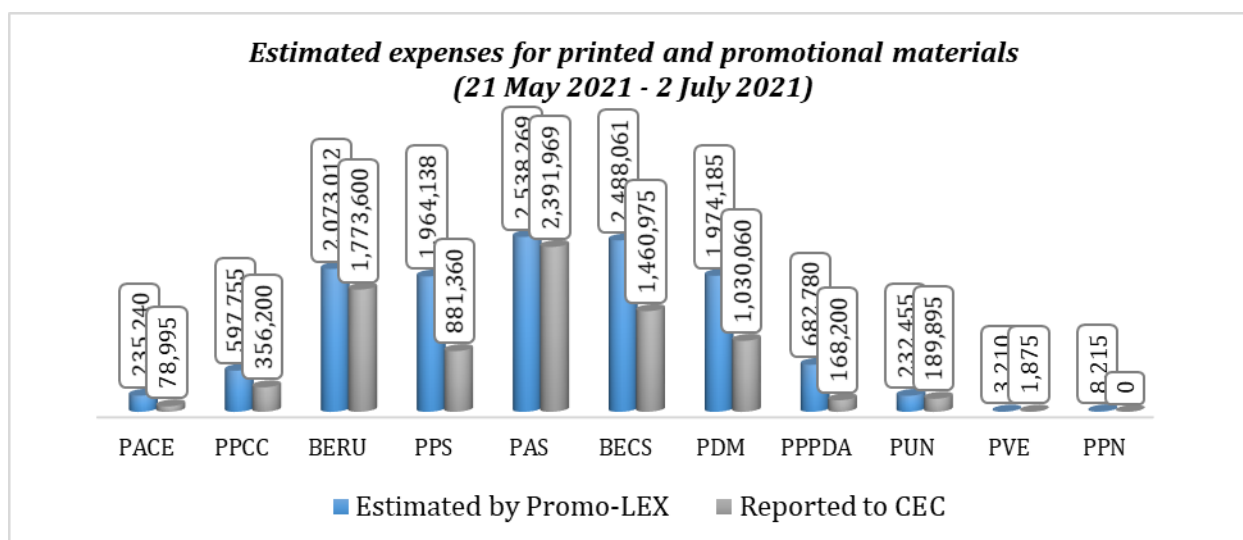
As a result, we found that the highest share of unreported expenses for the electoral advertising through electronic means was estimated for PPS (MDL 483,362), BECS (MDL 79,647), AUR (MDL 16,722), Veaceslav Valico (CI) (MDL 7,498), PACE (MDL 5,231), PPDA (MDL 4,260), PRM (MDL 2,474) and PPM (MDL 600).

7.5.3. Estimation of expenses for promotional materials

Promo-LEX observers reported that the electoral contenders disseminated printed materials (newspapers, posters, flyers, etc.) and promotional materials (t-shirts, vests, bags, caps, etc. – with the logo of the contender), printed in the context of the electoral campaign for Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021. We mention that according to the legal framework, each advertising material shall bear the name of the electoral candidate, the date of publishing, the print run and the name of the publishing house¹¹⁴, information that is also collected and reported by observers.

The total amount of unreported expenses in relation to 11 electoral contenders was estimated to minimum **MDL 4,464,192** (see Chart 16) – money that was spent for printed and promotional electoral materials reported between 21 May – 2 July 2021.

Chart 16



As a result, we found that the highest share of unreported expenses for promotional materials was estimated for PPS (MDL 1,082,779), BECS (MDL 1,027,086), PDM (944,125), PPPDA (514,580), BERU (299,412), PPCC (241,555), PACE (156,245), PAS (146,300), PUN (42,560), PPN (8,215) and PVE (1,335).

7.5.4. Estimation of expenses for outdoor and mobile advertising

The expenses for outdoor and mobile advertising take into account all the data from the territory about tents, banners, outdoor boards, billboards, etc. used by the electoral contenders for electioneering purposes.

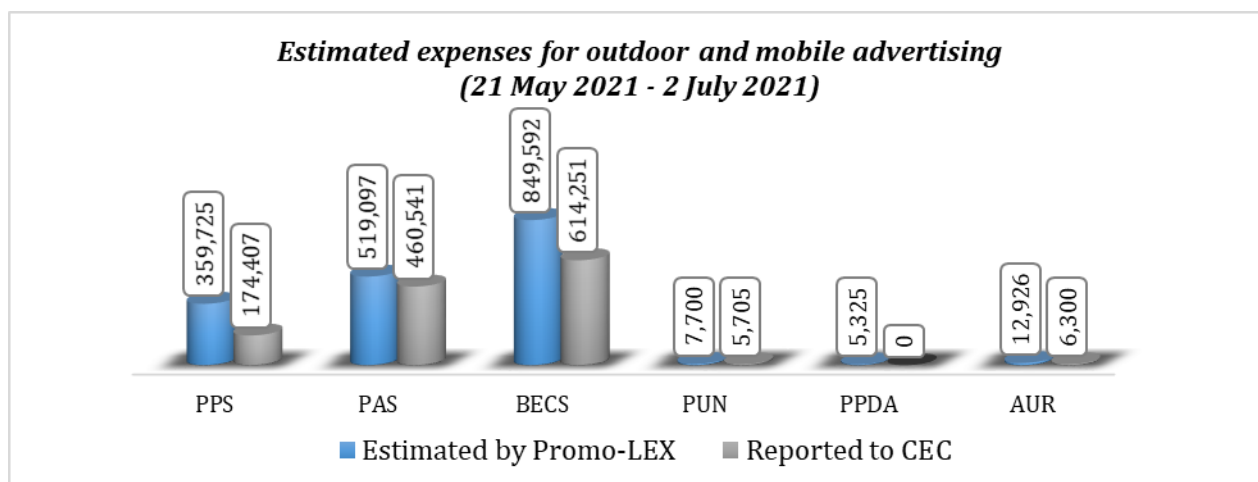
On the basis of the reports of the Promo-LEX observers, for the period between 21 May – 2 July 2021, unreported expenses were estimated in relation to 6 electoral contenders¹¹⁵ for outdoor and

¹¹⁴ Article 70(6) of the [Electoral Code](#).

¹¹⁵ In the case of BECS, at least 107 billboards, 231 banners for tents and 1,100 small banners were reported. In the case of PAS, at least 52 billboards, 23 outdoor boards, 600 small banners and 275 banners for tents were reported. In the case of PPS, at least 50 billboards, 109 banners for tents and 21 small banners were reported. In the case of PPDA – 1 billboard. In the case of PUN – 50 street banners.

mobile advertising in the amount of at least **MDL 493,162** (see Chart 17).

Chart 17



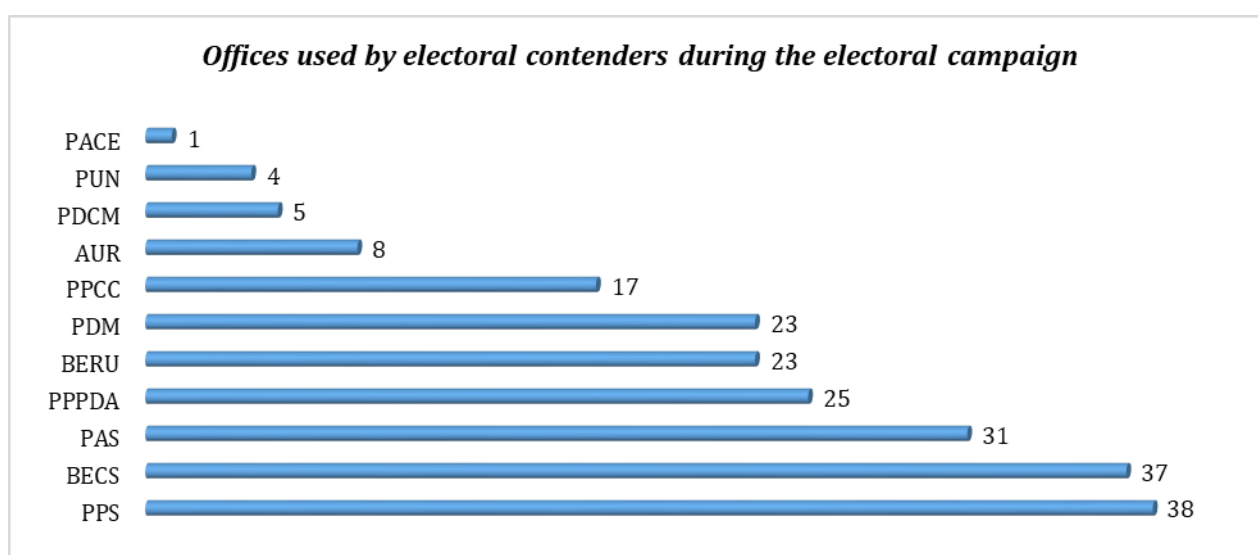
As a result, we found that the highest share of unreported expenses for outdoor and mobile advertising was estimated for BECS (MDL 235,341), PPS (MDL 185,318), PAS (MDL 58,556), AUR (MDL 6,626), PPDA (MDL 5,325) and PUN (MDL 1995).

7.5.5. Estimation of expenses for premises and telecommunication services

During the electoral campaign, the Promo-LEX observers reported the use of premises for electoral purposes by 11 electoral contenders. In order to ensure a uniform approach regarding all the electoral contenders, the expenses estimated for premises and telecommunication services were estimated for the period between the date when the contender was registered in the electoral race and 2 July 2021 (deadline for submitting the report for the sixth week of campaign).

Thus, the observers identified 212 premises used by 11 electoral contenders for organising, managing and conducting the electoral campaign (see Chart 18).

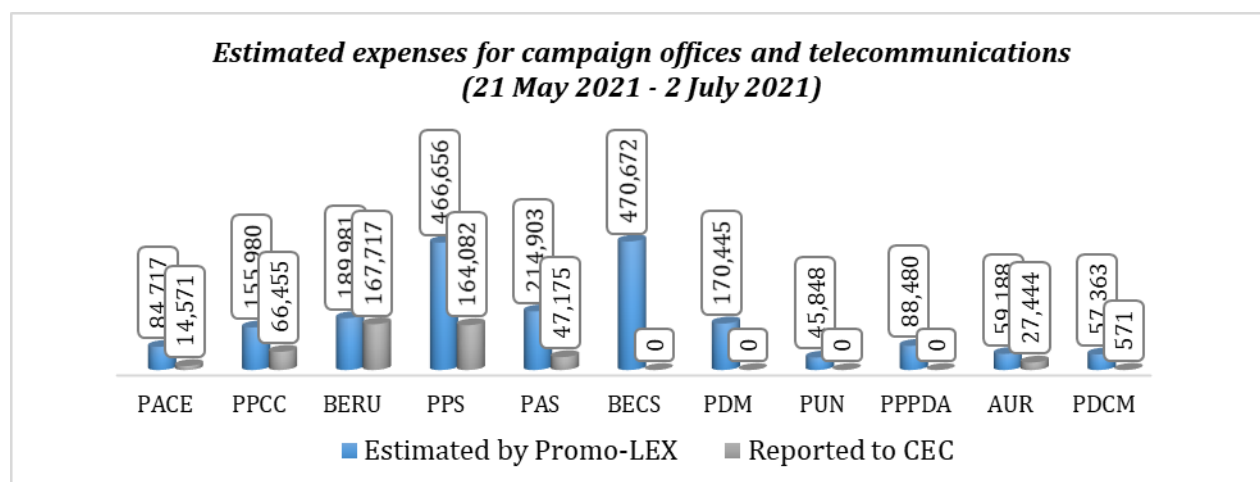
Chart 18



On the basis of the premises identified and reported by the observers, Promo-LEX estimated the

costs incurred by the electoral contenders for those premises¹¹⁶, including the telecommunication expenses¹¹⁷ for each premise. As a result, the total amount of unreported expenses in relation to 11 electoral contenders was estimated to minimum **MDL 1,516,219** (see Chart 19).

Chart 19

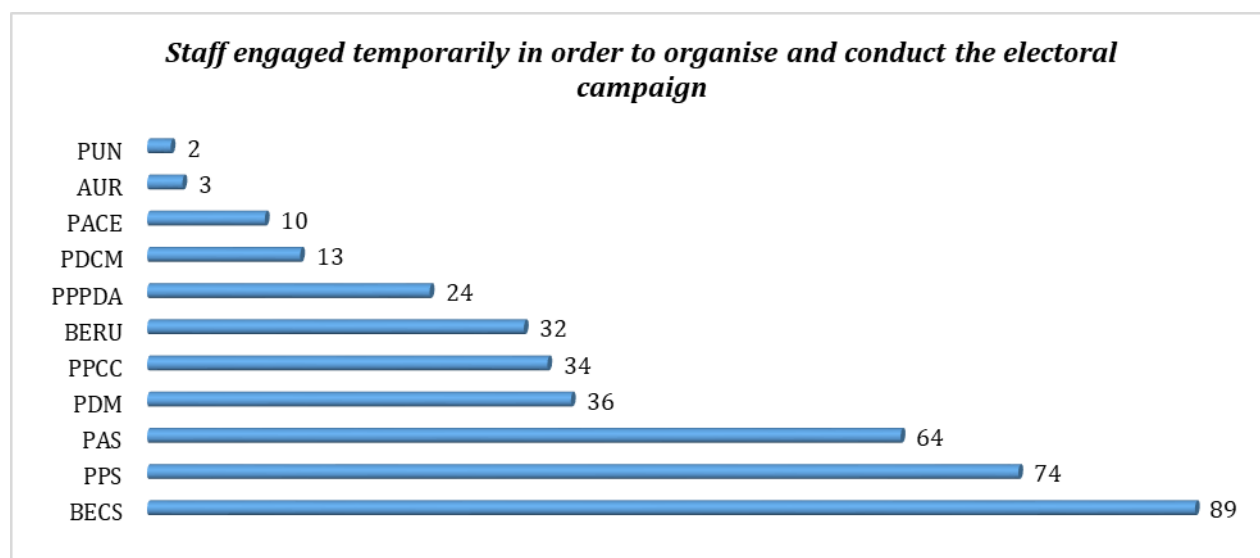


Thus, we found that the highest share of unreported expenses for campaign premises and telecommunication services was estimated for BECS (MDL 470,672), PPS (MDL 302,575), PDM (MDL 170,445), PAS (MDL 167,728), PPCC (MDL 89,525), PPPDA (MDL 88,480), PACE (MDL 70,146), PDCM (MDL 56,792), PUN (MDL 45,848), AUR (MDL 31,745) and BERU (MDL 22,265).

7.5.6. Estimation of the expenses of the electoral contenders for the remuneration of staff engaged in the electoral campaign

During the electoral campaign, the Promo-LEX observers reported that the electoral contenders engaged temporarily certain people in order to organise, manage and conduct the electoral campaign. Thus, 11 electoral contenders engaged at least 381 people (see Chart 20).

Chart 20

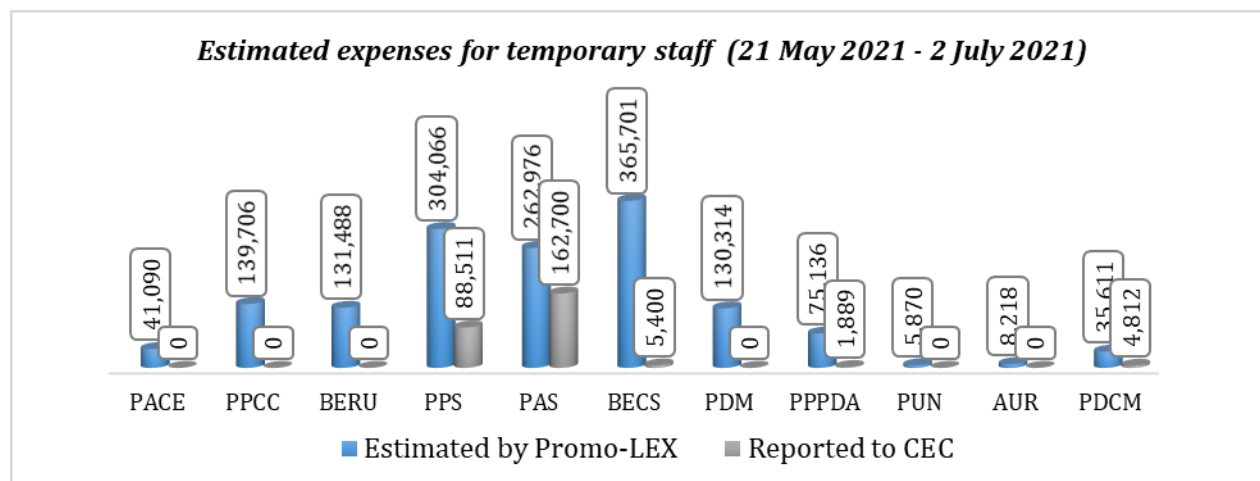


¹¹⁶ The costs were estimated on the basis of the minimum tariff for renting a square meter in the locality where the premise is located, multiplied to the total surface of that premise. Additionally, they took into account the expenses for electricity, water and gas (MDL 300).

¹¹⁷ In order to estimate the costs of telecommunication services for each premise they applied the minimum tariff for an internet subscription - MDL 200 per month and minimum tariff - MDL 12 per month.

On the basis of the information reported by the observers, Promo-LEX estimated the costs incurred by the electoral contenders for the remuneration of those people¹¹⁸. As a result, the total amount of unreported expenses in relation to 11 electoral contenders was estimated to minimum MDL 1,236,865 (see Chart 21).

Chart 21

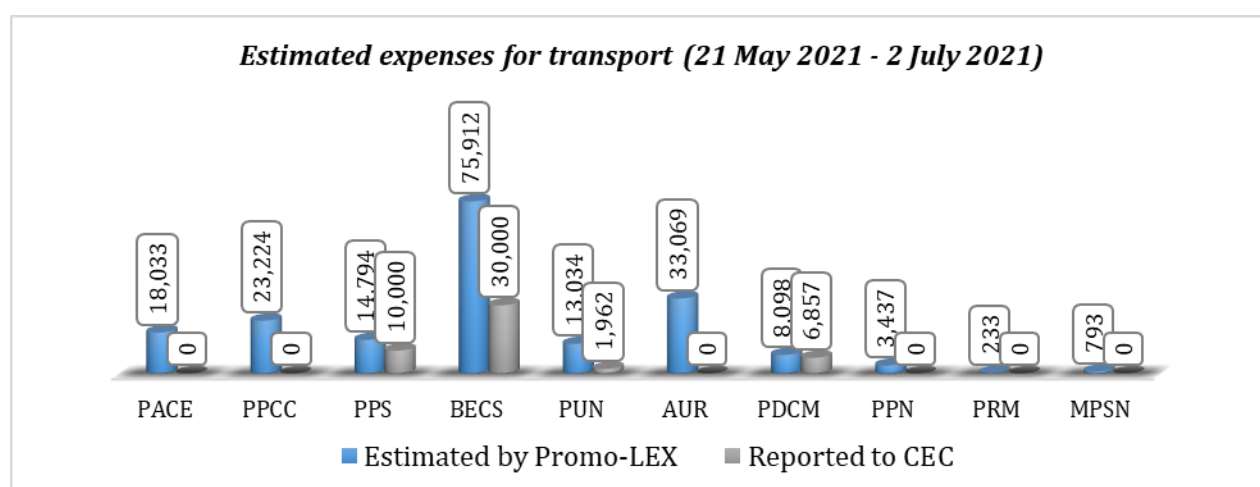


Thus, we found that the highest share of unreported expenses for the staff that engaged temporarily in electioneering activities was estimated for BECS (MDL 360,301), PPS (MDL 215,555), PPCC (MDL 139,706), BERU (MDL 131,488), PDM (MDL 130,314), PAS (MDL 100,276), PPPDA (MDL 73,247), PACE (MDL 41,090), PDCM (MDL 30,799), AUR (MDL 8,218) and PUN (MDL 5,870).

7.5.7. Estimation of transport expenses

During the monitored period, the Promo-LEX observers reported campaign activities that implied the travel of electoral contenders or of people delegated/seconded by them both in the localities of the Republic of Moldova and abroad, which involved transport expenses (at least for fuel and/or airline tickets)¹¹⁹. As a result, the total amount of unreported expenses in relation to 10 electoral contenders was estimated to at least **MDL 141 809** (see Chart 22).

Chart 22



Therefore, we found that the highest share of unreported transport expenses were estimated for

¹¹⁸ The costs were estimated on the basis of the minimum amount of guaranteed monthly salary in the real sector, calculated for each reported person.

¹¹⁹ PAS, PACE, BECS, PUN, PPDA and PPPDA held electoral meetings abroad.

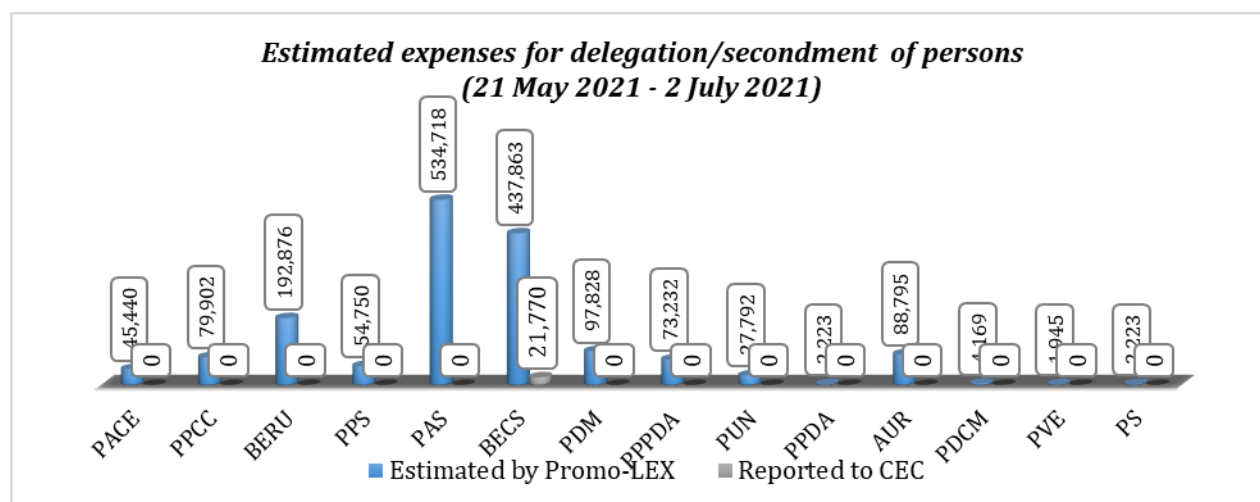
BECS (45,912), AUR (33,069), PPCC (23,224), PACE (18,033), PUN (11,072), PPS (4,794), PPN (3,437), PDCM (1,241), MPSN (793) and PRM (233).

7.5.8. Estimation of delegation/secondment expenses

The estimation of the delegation/secondment expenses is done based on the cases reported by the observers with the involvement of the electioneers in electoral campaign activities for a certain election contender (1 electioneer/1 day – 1 case). The minimum estimated cost of those expenses is determined on the basis of the minimum guaranteed salary in the real sector.¹²⁰ Thus, note that in 2021, the minimum wage is MDL 2,935, and an hour of work costs a minimum of MDL 17,37.

During the reporting period, the total amount of unreported expenses for involving electioneers in electoral campaign activities in relation to 14 electoral contenders was estimated to at least **MDL 1,621,988** (see Chart 23).

Chart 23



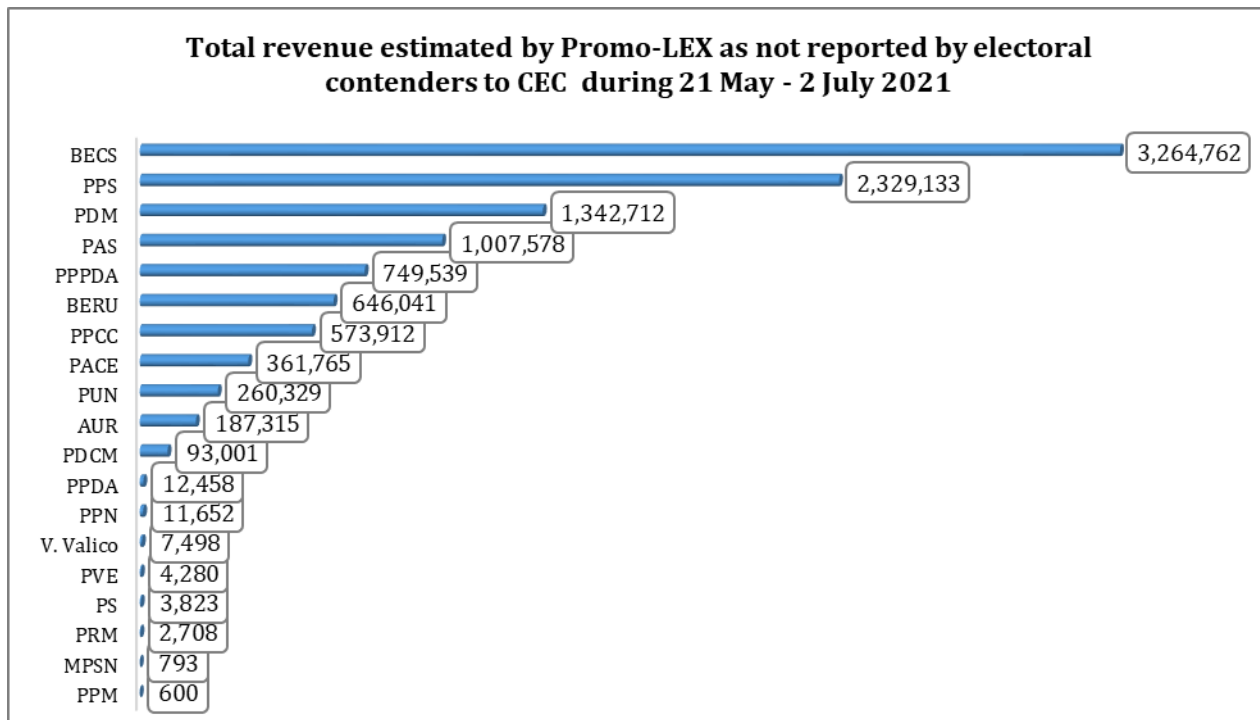
Thus, we found that the highest share of unreported expenses for delegation/secondment was estimated for PAS (534,718), BECS (416,093), BERU (192,876), PDM (97,828), AUR (88,795), PPCC (79,902), PPPDA (73,232), PPS (54,750), PACE (45,440), PUN (27,792), PDCM (4,169), PPDA (2,223), PS (2,223) and PVE (1,945).

7.5.9. Conclusions regarding the expenses estimated by Promo-LEX

In the context of the aforementioned, we found that for those six of electoral campaign, Promo-LEX estimated unreported expenses of at least **MDL 10,859,900** (see Chart 24). Of them, in 30% is involved BECS, 21% – PPS, 12% – PDM and 9% –.

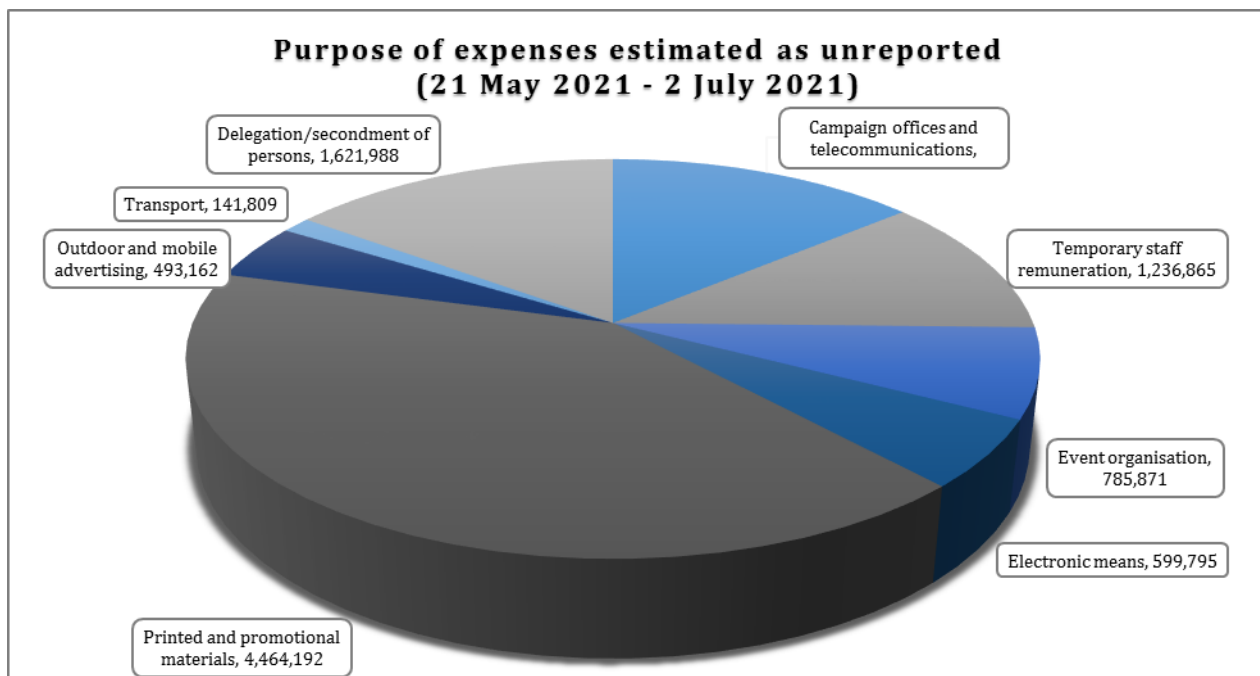
¹²⁰ [Government Decision](#) No 165 of 9 March 2010 on the minimum guaranteed salary in the real sector.

Chart 24



Depending on the purpose of unreported expenses, we found that most of them were for promotional materials (41%), followed by expenses for delegation/secondment (15%) and premises (14%) – see Chart 25.

Chart 25



VIII. HATE SPEECH AND INCITEMENT TO DISCRIMINATION

8.1. General findings

Space of manifestation. Most cases of hate speech, incitement to discrimination or other forms of intolerance were registered in the online environment (social media - 31 cases, online media – 6 cases). Another four cases were registered during the TV shows and two cases – during two public events.

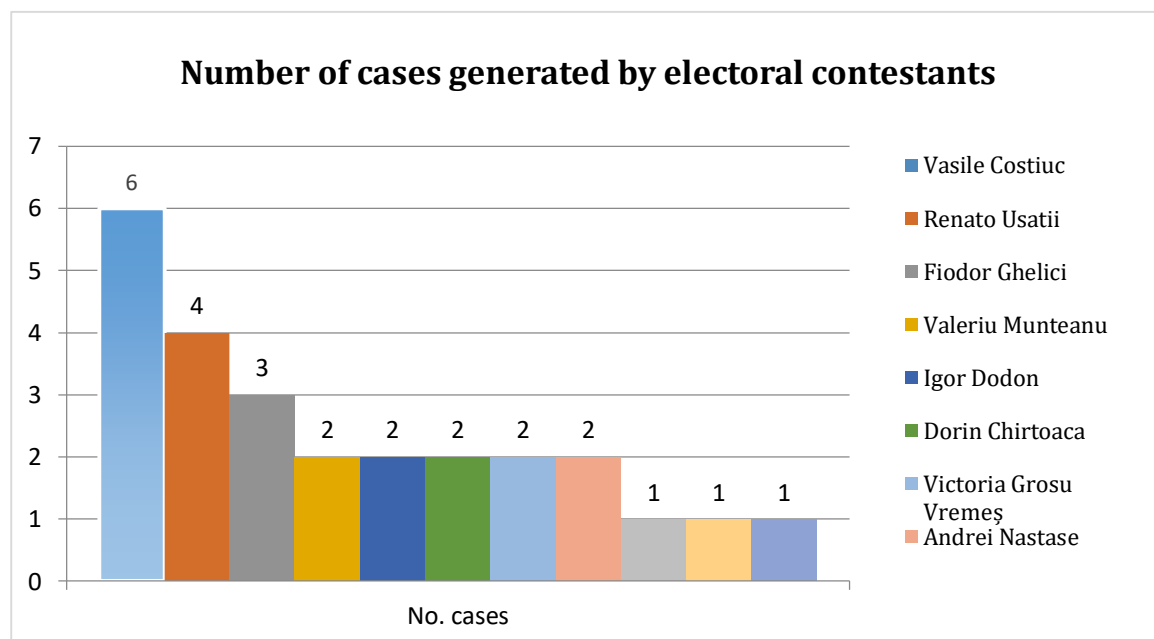
The criteria that underlined the hate speech. Criteria such political affiliation, sex/gender most often underlined the cases of hate speech, incitement to discrimination or other forms of intolerance. Other criteria that underlined the registered cases were: age, professional activity, disability, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, opinion and colour.

Affected groups. The groups that were most affected by the hate speech, incitement to discrimination and other forms of intolerance were: electoral contenders, politicians, members of political parties and their supporters, as well as women. Other social groups affected by this type of speech were: men, older people, people with disabilities, unionists, Roma people, LGBTI people and Russian speakers.

8.2. Intolerance generated by electoral contenders/politicians

During the reporting period, at least 26 cases of hate speech or other forms of intolerant speech were generated by 11 candidates included in the electoral rolls of 8 electoral contenders (see Chart 26). Of these, one case was generated by the representative of PPN – Cristian Rizea (Mihai Cristian).

Chart 26



Vasile Costiuc, candidate for the position of MP on the electoral rolls of PPDA, used intolerant messages, ageist and sexist speech and incitement to violence against his political opponents and their supporters.

Following the electoral debated organised by the National TV Channel Moldova 1 on 25 June 2021, attended by Vasile Costiuc and by the representative of PPN – Cristian Rizea, Vasile Costiuc transmitted a video material¹²¹.

This material was published on the Facebook page of PPDA and reveals a conversation between those two and between their supporters. In this context, Vasile Costiuc used insults, discriminatory language and associations with animals against NOI representative – Cristian Rizea.

This scumbag, this junkie (note: drug user) this, look at him, he is red because of drugs. [...] you should carry him in your arms like a stupid... Throw him the hell to Romania. These are handicapped people. He had two doses through the nose because together with Plahotniuc, in the studio of Pro TV, admitted, I have witnesses, that he was using drugs. Take out this rat! Take the rat out of here, it stinks all over Moldova 1.

The association with a ‘stupid bride’ is a sexist language and is used in order to ridicule Cristian Rizea. Also, the expression ‘these are handicapped people’ represents a discriminatory language against the supporters of NOI, and the association with the ‘rat’ dehumanises Cristian Rizea. The hate message delivered by Vasile Costiuc is accompanied by incitement to violence against Cristian Rizea through the statement ‘Throw him the hell to Romania’.

Renato Usatii, candidate of BERU for the position of MP, used insults and discriminatory language against his political opponents. An example of this kind is the message transmitted via a video material, made public on his personal Facebook page, on 23 June 2021¹²².

Renato Usatii used the expressions ‘insane’, ‘you should all go to Costiujeni’ and ‘retarded’, thus associating the candidates for the position of MP and the members of AUR with people with mental illnesses. The aim of the association, on one hand, is to denigrate the counter-candidates and on the other hand, to devalue their intellectual abilities.

Dear mad people, I can't call you the other way because you should all go to Costiujeni (note: Clinical Psychiatric Hospital from Moldova), the second part of criminals should all go to jail. [...] All these stupid, corrupt people, all these criminals from AUR – a Nazy party, a party of retarded should go to Costiujeni and some of them – to jail.

Also, Renato Usatii associates AUR with fascism, thus promoting and justifying hate against members of this party.

Fiodor Ghelici, activist and candidate of PO for the position of MP, used both gender prejudices and stereotypes as well as discriminatory language by associating BECS supporters with mental illnesses and using ageist speech.

The statements of Fiodor Ghelici made during the online show ‘СУББОТА с ГЕЛИЧЕМ’¹²³ [lit. Sunday with Ghelici], published on 3 July 2021, targeted Vladimir Voronin and contained ageist speech (on the basis of age). Fiodor Ghelici, through these information, continues to promote the idea that older people cannot engage in the political and social life.

Vladimir Voronin is the first name on the list of PCRM – I think they elected him in order to bury in the Parliament. [...] I thin they want to be something solemn – the MP Vladimir Voronin, died suddenly because of COVID and now they carry him out of the Parliament.

On 4 July 2021, BECS organised the march ‘I love Moldova’ in Chisinau¹²⁴. In the same day the contender AUR organised a counter-manifestation. The manifestation took place at the crossroads of Stefan cel Mare si Sfant Boulevard with Mitropolit Banulescu Bodoni, thus hindering the movement of

¹²¹ <https://www.facebook.com/PartidulDemocratiaAcasa/videos/750735335736231>

¹²² <https://www.facebook.com/RU1.md/videos/535033304525576/>

¹²³ https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=116579610671359&id=100069579609073

¹²⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/dodon.igor1/videos/277613034143968>

the participants on Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard. Law enforcement responded to clear the streets. In this context, during the event, Igor Dodon, candidate of BECS for the position of MP, said:

Igor Dodon: *'Did you see how we walked over the unionists? Look at them, let them try again and we will walk over them. Do you agree or not?'*

The crowd: *'Yees!'*

Igor Dodon: *'I think they should be prohibited by law to walk with flags of foreign countries across the centre of Chisinau. Who agrees? Lift your hands.'*

The crowd: *Lift their hands.*

Thus, Igor Dodon used the hate speech against unionists and members of AUR. The threat to 'walk over' the unionists and engaging the public to conform and justify this threat is a speech that promotes, justifies and incites to hate against unionists. Also, Igor Dodon incited to hate when he stated that unionism should be punished by law and when he asked participants to support this idea during the march.

8.3. Intolerance promoted against the electoral contenders/politicians

Out of 43 cases of intolerant messages registered by Promo-LEX, in 10 cases were targeted two candidates of BECS: Igor Dodon – in 7 cases and Vladimir Voronin – in 3 cases.

In 7 cases out of 10, both Igor Dodon and Vladimir Voronin were associated with the image of a woman (woman - bride, woman – wife/lover, woman dressed in skimpy outfits, etc.). The aim of these associations is to ridicule both candidates for the position of MP and to promote a negative stereotyped image according to which women do not have abilities and skills to engage in the political life and their presence is reduced only to the physical one. As a result, the sexist context of this association is automatically projected on the general image of women.

In two cases, Igor Dodon was victim of dehumanisation being associated with animals. On one hand, the use of these forms of expression denigrated Igor Dodon and on the other hand, the dehumanisation determines the transformation of the image of Igor Dodon into an easy to attack target.

Members and supporters of BECS, PLD, the group represented by politicians and Maia Sandu, the President of the Republic of Moldova, were targeted in other six cases.

IX. ELECTORAL EDUCATION ŞI INFORMATION

9.1. Promo-LEX campaign for electoral information and education and apolitical mobilization of citizens of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote

In the context of early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021, the Promo-LEX Association organised electoral information and education activities for voters. The activities targeted young voters, voters from the transnistrian region and the diaspora, as well as voters in general.

In partnership with television channel 'Dnestr TV', radio station 'Новая Волна' [lit. New Wave], television channel 'ELITA TV', Civil Association Media Creation and Innovation Academy (the portal ZonaDeSecuritate.md) and Civil Association 'ROCKIT Academy', information and online apolitical mobilization activities were carried out for the voters from the left bank of Nistru River. In this respect, during the reporting period, 5 information posts¹²⁵, 10 reports¹²⁶ and 3 TV/radio shows on electoral procedures and electoral campaign¹²⁷ were produced and promoted.

The Promo-LEX Association, in partnership with ProTV Chisinau channel, Radio Free Europe Moldova, Anticoruptie.md portal, the online publication NewsMaker, IPN Press Agency and the portal Privescu.eu, organised 11 electoral debates to facilitate a platform for debates between electoral contenders and voters^{128,129}. The debates were carried out at ProTV Chisinau channel. The debates were attended by the electoral contenders registered in the race for the position of the Member of Parliament of the Republic of Moldova. A total number of 15 electoral debates will be organised during 21 June – 9 July 2021.

In the context of the organised debates, Promo-LEX OM found at least two problematic aspects that should be regulated additionally by the electoral authority following these elections. First, the public statements of certain candidates reveal that they filled in formally the financial disclosure forms submitted with CEC during the registration. This finding affected the transparency and integrity of the electoral process.

Second, we want to draw the attention on the lack of an exhaustive clarification in the regulatory acts of CEC regarding the status of 'representative' of the candidates with the right to participate in elections. The lack of an explicit definition allows to engage in debates third party persons who have nothing to do with the electoral campaign itself. This way, the idea of debates as a platform where political ideas and electoral programs are challenged, is distorted.

On 1 July 2021, Promo-LEX launched the second motivational video spot that encourage young people to vote¹³⁰. The spot will be promoted on social media and on 9 TV channels with national and regional coverage.

The organisations that received grants from Promo-LEX Association also carried out various activities of voters information, electoral education and apolitical mobilisation, as follows:

- The Civil Association 'Rockit Academy' produced 11 information video spots about the key events during the electoral campaign¹³¹, 3 video spots about the electoral campaigns¹³², 10

¹²⁵ For example, [the post](#) 'You should not allow anyone to influence and defraud your vote on 11 July!' of 06.07.2021.

¹²⁶ For example, the [video report](#) Security Zone 'Promises of the 23 candidates to the voters from the transnistrian region' of 02.07.2021.

¹²⁷ For example, the [show](#) 'AŞA CUM ESTE [lit. Things as they are]: Who and how does influence the voter's decision? How does electoral campaign affect the quality of vote? How will be divided the 101 seats in the new Parliament?' of 05.07.2021.

¹²⁸ [Debate](#) of 29.06.2021.

¹²⁹ [Debate](#) of 02.07.2021.

¹³⁰ [Video spot](#) 'We will vote all on 11 July!' of 01.07.2021.

¹³¹ For example, [video piece of news](#) KOMETA 'Three parties in the sight of the Central Electoral Commission (CEC)' of 06.07.2021.

¹³² For example, [video piece of news](#) KOMETA 'Hot atmosphere during electoral debates "You vote at PRO TV"' of

video clips on the topic 'Know Your Candidate'¹³³ and 14 posts containing the statements of electoral candidates¹³⁴.

- The Civil Association 'Association for Participatory Democracy' (ADEPT) produced a vlog with Dorin Galben for voters from diaspora¹³⁵, a video branded 'Banca de Bancuri' about the importance of voting¹³⁶, a video branded 'Ziarul de garda' aimed to mobilise the voters from diaspora¹³⁷, completed and updated the page about early Parliamentary Elections with relevant information (alegeri.md)¹³⁸. Also, a post aimed at informing and mobilising the voters from diaspora was produced¹³⁹.
- ICS „Reforma Art” SRL (Jurnal TV) broadcast on TV and on radio and promoted on social media a video for the mobilisation of voters¹⁴⁰, 7 video spots that explain the electoral process and the duties of the Parliament¹⁴¹ and 10 testimonials of Jurnal TV presenters that urge people to vote¹⁴².
- 'Interact Media' SRL (Agora.md portal) carried out 11 LIVE events with the participation of electoral contenders¹⁴³, 52 pieces of news about the early Parliamentary Elections¹⁴⁴, 4 video materials about the electoral campaign¹⁴⁵, 12 retrospective materials and the analysis of electoral rolls¹⁴⁶ and 15 materials that present the electoral contenders¹⁴⁷.

9.2. Training and information activities organised for voters by CEC and CICDE

Training activities. During the reporting period, CICDE provided training to PEB members, IGP staff, observers and journalists.

During 23-30 June, CICDE carried out trainings for over 4,000 PEB members engaged in the organisation and conduct of Parliamentary Elections. For PEB members from 36 constituencies throughout the country the training was organised in physical format. A live conference was organised on the Youtube channel of the institution for members of PEB established abroad. Also, note that during 2-4 July, CICDE organised a series of webinars for PEB members from abroad.

Between 23-25 June 2021, CICDE together with GPI, trained 312 police employees who will ensure the public order during the entire electoral period (they will also ensure the security of electoral materials used by lower electoral bodies).

On 3 July, under a project conducted with the support of UNDP Moldova and of USAID Moldova and in partnership with CEC, CICDE organised 'Electoral coaching for journalists: 11 tips for 11 July'. The event was attended by about 30 journalists, representatives of written and online media and was aimed at informing them about the electoral processes for early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021.

29.06.2021.

¹³³For example, [video piece of news](#) KOMETA 'Get to know Oleg Brega' of 29.07.2021.

¹³⁴ For example, [piece of news](#) KOMETA 'Heated exchange between the candidate of DA Platform, Dinu Plangau and the leader of "Renato Usatii" EB resulted into a threatening answer from the latter' of 07.07.2021.

¹³⁵ [Vlog](#) conducted by Dorin Galben entitled 'We asked the voters in the country if those from diaspora should vote' of 29.06.2021.

¹³⁶ [Video](#) produced by Banca de Bancuri entitled 'How to dress when you go to vote? Voting day like a holiday' of 05.07.2021.

¹³⁷ [Video](#) produced by Ziarul de Garda 'Incitement to engagement: Diaspora calls you to vote' of 05.07.2021.

¹³⁸ [Page](#) dedicated to early Parliamentary Elections.

¹³⁹ Instagram [story](#) of Dorin Galben for the mobilisation of voters on 07.07.2021.

¹⁴⁰ [Video](#) 'I can no longer! I will go to vote!'.

¹⁴¹ For example, [explanatory video](#) 'Duties of the Parliament'.

¹⁴² For example, [testimonial video](#) 'Vasile Luchianu: I can no longer! I will go to vote!'.

¹⁴³ For example, [LIVE with Veaceslav Platon](#) of 05.07.2021.

¹⁴⁴ For example, [piece of news](#) 'Three electoral contenders warned by CEC: They did not submit the reports of electoral campaign funding on time' of 06.07.2021.

¹⁴⁵ For example, [video material](#) 'Presidency and parliamentary elections. Between messages, insinuations and accusations during the electoral campaign' of 28.06.2021.

¹⁴⁶ For example, [retrospective material](#) 'Does the size matter? The longest ballot paper was in form of a notepad with six pages. How did their length vary for different parliamentary elections' of 29.06.2021.

¹⁴⁷ For example, [presentation material](#) 'Slogans, protests, fallen governments. The road of the Action and Solidarity Party from the idea to create until the desire to rule the country' of 29.06.2021.

On 7 July 2021, CICDE organised the webinar 'Status of the observer from nongovernmental organisations during the elections'.

Information activities. On 23 June 2021, CEC launched the Call Center for early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July this year, with the unique telephone number (+373) 22 880101. The Center has 12 operators and will operate during 23 June - 13 July 2021. During this period the operators of the Centre will provide information to voters and assistance to people in charge of managing the electoral rolls under LPAs, as well as to members of lower electoral bodies.

In 29 June 2021, CEC organised a press briefing about the organisation of early Parliamentary Elections with focus on: establishment of PSs abroad and for the voters from the left bank of Nistru River; transportation of voters; monitoring of elections; electoral campaign funding; complaints submitted with CEC; organisation of elections during the pandemic as well as the training of electoral subjects.

CICDE, on its Facebook page, posted 5 memes with information about the places where citizens from abroad can vote; how can vote people with special needs; requirements for becoming an observer, as well as two memes urging people to vote. Also, the institution posted two video materials about casting the vote among citizens of the Republic of Moldova from the left bank of Nistru River during the early Parliamentary Elections of July 2021 and about hate speech during the electoral campaign.

During the reference period, CICDE created and launched an electoral Quiz regarding the Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021. Also, CICDE developed a podcast about the hate speech during the electoral period under the electoral education campaign 'Learn With Us, Choose on Your Own', for the early Parliamentary Elections.

To inform the voters, the electoral authority developed and published three video materials containing information about the protection measures when casting the vote, the importance of vote and about the importance of checking the accuracy of data in the electoral rolls.

At the same time we note that the electoral authority continues to publish information about the accredited observers, number of days left until the Parliamentary Elections, about traveling conditions to the PSs from abroad, the printing of ballot papers as well as about the meeting of the electoral body.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Government of the Republic of Moldova:

1. Approve, as a matter of emergency, the Government Decision on the allocation of the funds necessary to cover the expenses required by CEC for the organisation and conduct of early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021.

To the Central Electoral Commission and other Lower-Level Electoral Bodies:

2. Take action in cases of hate speech and incitement to discrimination registered in the public space during the electoral campaign that are against the Code of Conduct and Regulation on the coverage of electoral campaign for early Parliamentary Elections of 11 July 2021.
3. Settle, in a short time, the complaints, notifications or applications that invoke the violation of electoral provisions, but no later than the Election Day.
4. Ensure, in due time, the electoral bureaus established abroad with members, according to the membership approved by decisions on their establishment. Use the reserve of officials from the Register of Electoral Officials.
5. Examine the financial disclosure forms submitted by the candidates and submit them for examination according to the competence if there are doubts about the reliability of the submitted information.
6. Amend the CEC Regulations on the media coverage of electoral campaign in the Republic of Moldova as regards the participation of the candidates' 'representatives' in debates. Develop an explicit definition of the status of 'representative'.

To the electoral contenders:

7. Not admit the use of violence or intimidation during the electioneering process.
8. Condemn the hate speech and break the association with intolerant messages generated by the candidates and supporters.
9. Report the total expenses incurred during the electoral campaign at the latest in the final campaign report that is to be submitted with the electoral authority by 9 July 2021.

ABBREVIATIONS

para. – paragraph

ANTA – National Auto Transport Agency

LPA – Local Public Authorities

Art. – Article

PSA – Public Service Agency

AUR – ‘ALLIANCE FOR THE UNION OF ROMANIANS’ Political Party

EB – Electoral Bloc

BECS – Electoral Bloc of Communists and Socialists

BERU – Electoral Bloc ‘RENATO USATÎ’

EOPS – Electoral Office of the Polling Station

BRP – Bureau for reintegration policies

CALC – Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections

CEC – Central Election Commission

ECC – level-two Electoral Constituency Council

IC – independent candidate

CICDE – Ongoing Training Centre on Electoral Matters

NEPHC – National Extraordinary Public Health Commission

SCJ – Supreme Court of Justice

SSC – Supreme Security Council

UCC – Unified Control Commission

GPI – General Police Inspectorate

let. – Letter

MFAEI – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration

MIA – Ministry of Internal Affairs

OM – Observation Mission

MPSN – Professionals Movement ‘Speranța-Nadejda’

MHLSP – Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection

mun. – Municipality

NOI – ‘NEW HISTORICAL OPTION’ Political Party

No – number

OSCE – Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

OSCE/ODIHR – OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

LTO – Long Term Observer

STO – Short-Term Observer

APO – Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office

PACE – Building Europe at Home Political Party
PAS – Action and Solidarity Political Party
p. – Item
PDCM – ‘Party for Developing and Strengthening Moldova’ Political Party
DPM – Democratic Party of Moldova
GPO – General Prosecutor’s Office
PLD – Party of Law and Justice
POM – Working People’s Political Party
PP – Political Party
PPCC – ‘Collective Action Party — Civic Congress’ Political Party
PPDA – ‘Democracy at Home’ Political Party
PPM – ‘Patriots of Moldova’ Party
PPN – ‘NOI’ Political Party
PPP – ‘Patria’ Political Party
PPPPA – ‘Dignity and Truth Platform’ Political Party
PPPO – ‘People’s Power’ Political Party
PPS – ‘Sor’ Political Party
PRM – Party of Regions of Moldova
PS – Party of Change Political Party
PSRM – Socialist Party of the Republic of Moldova
PUN – ‘National Unity Party’ Political Party
PVE – ‘Ecologist Green Party’ Political Party
REO – Registry of Electoral Officials
SRV – State Registry of Voters
ISS – Information and Security Service
PS – polling station
ATU – Administrative Territorial Unit
USAID – United States Agency for International Development

ANNEXES

Annex 1. Observers accredited during 12 May – 7 June 2021

Applicant institution	12 May — 25 May	26 May — 8 June	9 June — 22 June	23 June — 8 July	TOTAL as of 7.07.2021
NATIONAL OBSERVERS					1,800
Promo-LEX Observation Mission	68	612	286	220	1,186
International Institute for Monitoring Democracy Development, Parliamentarianism and Suffrage Protection of Citizens of IPA CIS Member Nations	-	3	-	-	3
Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Moldova	-	2	-	-	2
Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the Republic of Moldova	-	11	1	-	12
Embassy of Netherlands in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	1	-	1
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	4	4
Embassy of the United States of America in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	52	52
Embassy of Latvia in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	1	-	1
EU Delegation in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	5	-	5
European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations (ENEMO)	-	-	10	-	10
'MIRAD' Civil Association	-	-	-	202	202
Civil Association 'Representation of International Republican Institute from USA in Moldova'	-	-	-	8	8
Civil Association 'Representation of National Democratic Institute from USA in Moldova'	-	-	17	-	17
Civil Association 'FORCE OF VETERANS'	-	-	-	115	115
Civil Association Center for Civic Consultancy and Education	-	-	-	20	20
'Association for Urban Safety and Mediation' Civil Association	-	-	-	4	4
'Dignity and Truth Platform' Political Party	-	-	-	8	8
Electoral bloc 'RENATO USAȚII'	-	-	-	74	74
'Collective Action Party – Civic Congress' Political Party	-	-	-	4	4
Building Europe at Home 'PACE' Political Party	-	-	-	11	11
'Democracy at Home' Political Party	-	-	-	13	13
'Action and Solidarity Party' Political Party	-	-	-	48	48
INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS					614
Embassy of Czech Republic in the Republic of Moldova	2	-	-	-	2
Embassy of Hungary in the Republic of Moldova	3	-	-	-	3
Embassy of Republic of Turkey in the Republic of Moldova	-	9	-	-	9
Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Moldova	-	3	-	-	3
Embassy of Ukraine in the Republic of Moldova	-	12	-	2	14
Embassy of Sweden in the Republic of Moldova	-	5	-	-	5
Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the Republic of Moldova	-	3	2	-	5
Embassy of Republic of France in the Republic of Moldova	-	3	-	-	3
Embassy of Republic of Lithuania in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	4	4	8
Embassy of the Russian Federation in the Republic	-	-	8	-	8

of Moldova					
Embassy of Netherlands in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	2	-	2
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	5	5
Embassy of Latvia in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	2	-	2
Embassy of Republic of Poland in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	5	-	5
Embassy of the United States of America in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	24	24
Embassy of Republic of Austria in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	4	4
Embassy of Republic of Italy in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	2	2
Consulate General of the Republic of Turkey in Comrat	-	-	4	-	4
EU Delegation in the Republic of Moldova	-	-	6	-	6
Sejm of the Republic of Poland	-	-	-	8	8
Senate of the Republic of Poland	-	-	-	5	5
Swiss Cooperation Office/Representative of the Embassy of the Swiss Confederation in the Republic of Moldova	-	1	-	-	1
European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations (ENEMO)	-	6	13	2	21
OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights	4	36	-	184	224
Observation Mission of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)	-	2	7	21	30
Council of the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS Member States	-	22	-	67	89
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly	-	-	-	68	68
Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization	-	-	-	4	4
Organization for Democracy and Economic Development (GUAM)	-	-	-	6	6
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	-	-	-	24	24
European Parliament	-	-	-	12	12
International Organization of Francophony	-	-	-	6	6
Civil Association 'Representation of National Democratic Institute from USA in Moldova'	-	-	1	-	1
Civil Association 'Representation of International Republican Institute from USA in Moldova'	-	-	-	1	1
INTERNATIONAL ELECTORAL OBSERVERS					29
Central Electoral Commission of Russian Federation	-	2	1	-	3
Central Electoral Commission of Ukraine	-	2	-	-	2
Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan	-	-	2	-	2
Central Electoral Commission of Georgia	-	-	2	-	2
Supreme Electoral Council of the Republic of Turkey	-	-	2	-	2
Central Commission of the Republic of Belarus on Elections and Holding Republican Referenda	-	-	2	-	2
Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan	-	-	-	2	2
Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan	-	-	-	2	2
Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-	3	3
Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania	-	-	-	9	9

*Annex 2. Degree of compliance of the number of voters from the SRV
with the number of printed ballot papers*

Name of ATU	Total number of voters included in the SRV, June 2021	Number of ballot papers set for early Parliamentary Elections	Difference
Anenii Noi	68650	68539	-111
Balti	102360	102201	-159
Basarabasca	23818	23798	-20
Briceni	59951	59924	-27
Cahul	98111	98070	-41
Calarasi	60241	60483	+242
Cantemir	49168	49156	-12
Causeni	71468	71453	-15
Chisinau	642574	649168	+6594
Cimisia	49057	49001	-56
Criuleni	58797	58789	-8
Donduseni	32121	32047	-74
Drochia	67850	67878	+28
Dubasari	28859	29805	+946
Edinet	62939	62855	-84
Fălesti	70059	70048	-11
Floresti	69339	69331	-8
Glodeni	45912	45961	+49
Hincesti	97873	98113	+240
Ialoveni	85055	85005	-50
Leova	42360	42753	+393
Nisporeni	53007	52990	-17
Ocnita	39637	39641	+4
Orhei	98675	98781	+106
Rezina	37669	38011	+342
Riscani	51993	51987	-6
Sangerei	69492	69472	-20
Straşeni	76027	76137	+110
Stefan Voda	56209	56116	-93
Soroca	76972	76952	-20
Şoldanesti	32141	32140	-1
Taraclia	33895	34397	+502
Telenesti	54880	54789	-91
Transnistria	258691	123000	-135691
Ungheni	88995	88971	-24
UTAG	130292	130180	-112
<i>Without residence/domicile</i>	237700	-	-
TOTAL¹⁴⁸	3282837	2917942	

¹⁴⁸ Total number of voters registered in the SRV when the electoral rolls were updated.

*Annex 3 Polling stations in which the access of observers
to full electoral rolls was restricted*

1.	No 1/34	29.	No 13/19	57.	No 20/47	85.	No 21/28	113.	No 26/24	141.	No 28/34
2.	No 1/37	30.	No 14/26	58.	No 20/49	86.	No 21/31	114.	No 26/28	142.	No 28/35
3.	No 1/38	31.	No 14/27	59.	No 20/52	87.	No 21/32	115.	No 26/29	143.	No 28/36
4.	No 1/39	32.	No 14/45	60.	No 20/53	88.	No 21/33	116.	No 26/3	144.	No 28/38
5.	No 1/47	33.	No 16/4	61.	No 20/54	89.	No 21/35	117.	No 26/31	145.	No 28/39
6.	No 1/49	34.	No 20/10	62.	No 20/55	90.	No 21/39	118.	No 26/35	146.	No 28/4
7.	No 1/66	35.	No 20/11	63.	No 20/6	91.	No 21/42	119.	No 26/36	147.	No 28/40
8.	No 1/94	36.	No 20/12	64.	No 20/63	92.	No 21/45	120.	No 26/39	148.	No 28/41
9.	No 1/100	37.	No 20/13	65.	No 20/65	93.	No 21/46	121.	No 26/4	149.	No 28/42
10.	No 1/105	38.	No 20/14	66.	No 20/66	94.	No 21/47	122.	No 26/5	150.	No 28/48
11.	No 1/106	39.	No 20/17	67.	No 20/67	95.	No 21/50	123.	No 28/1	151.	No 28/49
12.	No 1/110	40.	No 20/18	68.	No 20/68	96.	No 22/1	124.	No 28/10	152.	No 28/5
13.	No 1/164	41.	No 20/19	69.	No 20/69	97.	No 22/10	125.	No 28/11	153.	No 28/50
14.	No 1/268	42.	No 20/20	70.	No 20/7	98.	No 22/13	126.	No 28/12	154.	No 28/51
15.	No 1/278	43.	No 20/21	71.	No 20/8	99.	No 22/15	127.	No 28/13	155.	No 28/52
16.	No 8/31	44.	No 20/22	72.	No 20/9	100.	No 22/19	128.	No 28/14	156.	No 28/53
17.	No 8/43	45.	No 20/25	73.	No 21/12	101.	No 22/2	129.	No 28/15	157.	No 28/54
18.	No 8/44	46.	No 20/26	74.	No 21/13	102.	No 22/20	130.	No 28/16	158.	No 28/55
19.	No 10/48	47.	No 20/27	75.	No 21/14	103.	No 22/36	131.	No 28/17	159.	No 28/56
20.	No 11/22	48.	No 20/28	76.	No 21/15	104.	No 22/37	132.	No 28/18	160.	No 28/57
21.	No 11/24	49.	No 20/30	77.	No 21/18	105.	No 22/5	133.	No 28/2	161.	No 28/58
22.	No 11/25	50.	No 20/31	78.	No 21/19	106.	No 22/9	134.	No 28/25	162.	No 28/59
23.	No 11/33	51.	No 20/35	79.	No 21/20	107.	No 26/1	135.	No 28/29	163.	No 28/6
24.	No 11/34	52.	No 20/36	80.	No 21/21	108.	No 26/11	136.	No 28/3	164.	No 28/60
25.	No 11/44	53.	No 20/38	81.	No 21/22	109.	No 26/12	137.	No 28/30	165.	No 28/7
26.	No 11/6	54.	No 20/39	82.	No 21/23	110.	No 26/19	138.	No 28/31	166.	No 28/8
27.	No 12/16	55.	No 20/41	83.	No 21/25	111.	No 26/2	139.	No 28/32	167.	No 28/9
28.	No 12/28	56.	No 20/46	84.	No 21/26	112.	No 26/22	140.	No 28/33	168.	No 31/28

Annex 4. Electoral meetings organised in state institutions during working hours

Contender	No	Locality	Date	Event details
BECS	1	Basarabasca, Basarabasca	02.07.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Office of the District President, with the heads of units and departments of the DC.
BERU	1	Balti, Balti	23.06.2021	Organisations of an electoral meeting with the employees of TL 'M. Gorki'
	2	Balti, Balti	23.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of TL 'M. Eminescu'.
	3	Balti, Balti	24.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Primary School No 21.
	4	Balti, Balti	24.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of TL 'B.P. Hasdeu'.
	5	Chisinau, Botanica	25.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Mother and Child Centre.
	6	Chisinau, Buiucani	25.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Municipal Enterprise Regia Autosalubritate.
	7	Balti, Balti	28.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Kindergarten No 33.
	8	Balti, Balti	29.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Kindergarten No 19.
PAS	1	Balti, Balti	23.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of TL 'V. Alecsandri'.
	2	Nisporeni, Nisporeni	24.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of District Hospital.
	3	Ungheni, Ungheni	24.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Kindergarten 'Andries'.
	4	Ungheni, Macaresti	25.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Public Health Centre
	5	Cimislia, Cimislia	25.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of District Hospital.
PDM	1	Chisinau, Buiucani	23.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Territorial Medical Association PHCF.
	2	Criuleni, Criuleni	24.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Family Doctors Centre
	3	Chisinau, Centru	25.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Republican Clinical Hospital 'Timofei Mosneaga'.
	4	Ungheni, Ungheni	28.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Kindergarten 'Andries'.
	5	Basarabasca, Basarabasca	29.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Social Assistance and Family Protection Divisions.
	6	Basarabasca, Basarabasca	30.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of District Hospital.
PPPDA	1	Singerei, Singerei	24.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Doctors Centre
	2	Balti, Balti	25.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Public Health Centre and of the Family Doctors Centre.
	3	Chisinau, Ciorescu	30.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of Doctors Centre
	4	Chisinau, Buiucani	01.07.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Institute of Emergency Medicine.
	5	Anenii Noi, Delacau	02.07.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Kindergarten.
	6	Chisinau, Buiucani	02.07.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Exdrupo ME.
	7	Anenii Noi, Cobusca Noua	02.07.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of the Kindergarten.
	8	Cimislia, Cimislia	05.07.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of District Hospital.
PPS	1	Balti, Balti	23.06.2021	Organisation of an electoral meeting with the employees of CHP-North JSC.

*Annex 5. Opening the 'Electoral Fund' accounts,
appointing the treasurers and submitting the weekly reports with CEC*

<i>Contender</i>	<i>Contender registration</i>	<i>Appointment of the treasurers</i>	<i>Report of the party at the beginning of the campaign</i>	<i>Opening the 'Electoral Fund' account</i>	<i>Early report (3 days)</i>	<i>Week 1</i>	<i>Week 2</i>	<i>Week 3</i>	<i>Week 4</i>	<i>Week 5</i>	<i>Week 6</i>
PACE	21.05.2021	21.05.2021		08.06.2021	11.06.2021	information	information	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PPCC	21.05.2021	21.05.2021	28.05.2021	26.05.2021	28.05.2021	28.05.2021	04.06.2021	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
BERU	21.05.2021	21.05.2021	23.05.2021	26.05.2021		28.05.2021	04.06.2021	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PPS	21.05.2021	21.05.2021	24.05.2021	21.05.2021		28.05.2021	04.06.2021	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PAS	21.05.2021	21.05.2021	25.05.2021	21.05.2021	26.05.2021	28.05.2021	04.06.2021	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
BECS	21.05.2021	21.05.2021	21.05.2021	25.05.2021	27.05.2021	28.05.2021	04.06.2021	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
MPSN	25.05.2021	25.05.2021						information			
PDM	26.05.2021	26.05.2021	26.05.2021	26.05.2021		28.05.2021	04.06.2021	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PPPDA	31.05.2021	31.05.2021	31.05.2021	01.06.2021	03.06.2021	-	04.06.2021	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PUN	02.06.2021	02.06.2021		08.06.2021		-	information	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PPDA	03.06.2021	03.06.2021		01.06.2021		-	12.06.2021	12.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
AUR	04.06.2021	04.06.2021		09.06.2021		-	information	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PDCM	04.06.2021	04.06.2021	08.06.2021	28.05.2021	07.06.2021	-	10.06.2021	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PPN	04.06.2021	04.06.2021		21.06.2021		-		information	information	26.06.2021	
PVE	07.06.2021	07.06.2021				-	-	information	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PLD	07.06.2021	07.06.2021		25.05.2021		-	information	11.06.2021	18.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
PPPO	08.06.2021	08.06.2021		10.06.2021		-	-	13.06.2021	18.06.2021	26.05.2021	02.07.2021
PRM	14.06.2021	14.06.2021		28.06.2021	02.07.2021	-	-	-	information	information	02.07.2021
PPM	14.06.2021	14.06.2021				-	-	-	information	information	
POM	17.06.2021	17.06.2021	18.06.2021	22.06.2021		-	-	-		26.06.2021	02.07.2021
PS	17.06.2021	17.06.2021		18.06.2021		-	-	-	21.06.2021	25.06.2021	02.07.2021
NOI	18.06.2021					-	-	-	information	information	
V. Valico	18.06.2021	25.06.2021				-	-	-	information		