

# GUIDELINES FOR THE ELECTION OBSERVER

## THE ELECTION OBSERVER

- The election observer (hereinafter – the observer) must have a certificate in the form established by the Central Electoral Commission (hereinafter – the CEC), which is issued by the corresponding electoral committee of the municipality (constituency) or in certain cases by the CEC.
- The observer's certificate shall include the following: the name of electoral committee of the municipality or constituency, observer's full name, full name of the chairman of the electoral committee who issued the certificate, signature and date of an issue (also, the territory under the observing shall be defined: the whole constituency or one polling district or the whole territory of the Republic of Lithuania).
- The observer shall not be a member of an electoral commission, a candidate.
- The observer shall observe an early voting – in a municipality, in a special post office, at home, also to observe voting on the day of an election on the indicated territory (polling district, a few polling districts or the entire territory of the Republic of Lithuania).
- The observer must wear their certificate.

## OBSERVING OF AN EARLY VOTING

- The observer, who observes voting at home, in a special post office (in a hospital, guardianship institutions), **shall**:
  - visit voters with mobility impairment, who cannot come to vote in a special post office, with at least two members from a polling district electoral committee and an employee from a special post office.
  - if a violation is noticed, after showing their certificate and identity document to a post office employee (a member of constituency's electoral committee), write down a note in post office employee's certificate about the noticed violation.
  - get acquainted with a timetable of commission's members visits to the voters, who vote at home. The timetable is public, its copy is being hanged on the informational billboard of polling district's commission on the day of confirmation (the last Thursday before the election day 12pm.)
- The observer **is prohibited from** voting for a person, who cannot do it themselves because of the physical disability, illness or other reasons.
- Chairman of the polling district committee and its members **must** ensure observer's right to observe voting at home. If the observer is not allowed to observe voting at home (a voter does not let in the observer), the voting is not carried out, and the voter is informed that they can come to vote on the day of the election.
- The observer **must** observe, that the voters who vote at home are visited by the members of the electoral committee recommended by various political parties and observers.

## OBSERVING OF A VOTING ON THE ELECTION DAY IN A POLLING DISTRICT

- The observer **has the right to**:
  - on the day of the election, during opening of the polls together with members of the electoral committee and a member of the Police on duty, take part in sealing up ballot boxes;
  - require the chairman of the electoral committee and its members, also persons present in a polling station to comply with the election and other laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

## OBSERVING OF THE COUNTING OF VOTES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS

- The observer **shall**:
  - take part in the counting of votes in polling districts, also in establishment of election results in the electoral commission of the municipality or constituency;
  - make remarks and claims to the electoral committees concerning the violations of the electoral laws, but they must not hinder the work of electoral committees;
  - sign the record after all the data and all ballot papers are sealed in packages and a special envelope (envelopes) is recorded in the corresponding polling district's record of the vote counting, which is signed by the members and chairman of the polling district's electoral committee;
  - ask for copies and extracts of the records;
  - verify data of the vote counting record, by comparing data from the record of the polling district's vote counting with data published on the CEC's website or with the extract or copy of the record of the polling district's vote counting;
  - make a written protest to the polling district electoral committee, which is appended to the vote counting record of the polling district and delivered to the constituency electoral committee together with other election documents of the polling district.
  - appeal against the decisions of polling district electoral committees concerning the drawing up of vote counting records to the constituency electoral committee not later than within 24 hours of their drawing up.
  - film in the polling station or record vote counting or filling in procedures of vote counting records using visual, audio, or audio-visual means, disputes about legitimacy and validity of voting results, also the establishment of the final results only after the chairman's permission of the corresponding electoral commission.
- The appropriate conditions **shall be created for** the observers to carry out their tasks without hindering the work of members of polling district electoral committee, who is responsible for entering the data governed on the election day.
- The observer **is prohibited from** sharing personal data recorded using visual, audio or audio-visual means to the third parties or distribute it in any other way.

**!** IF THE OBSERVER VIOLATES THE LAWS, THEIR CERTIFICATE'S VALIDITY CAN BE ANNULLED BY THE DECISION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF ELECTORAL COMMITTEE OF THE MUNICIPALITY OR CONSTITUENCY. THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION'S MEMBERS, THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION AND THE CORRESPONDING REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ELECTIONS SHALL IMMEDIATELY BE INFORMED ABOUT THE DECISION.

