

Article 51

The election campaign begins with the announcement of the election day and ends 24 hours before this day.

Article 52

During the election campaign, every electoral subject as well as citizens have the right to freely make propaganda through rallies, meetings, radio, TV, press and other media.

Any kind of propaganda violating the law or public order or which attacks candidates' personal identity, is prohibited.

Publication of public opinion polls should be interrupted 8 days before election day.

Article 53

The electoral campaign in the State Radio Television is done through special programs.

Parties, which in the last election for district councils obtained more than 0.50% of the votes, shall have in their disposal a total broadcasting time of 4 hours, half of which is allocated to governmental coalition parties and half to opposition parties. This time shall be distributed according to the percentage of the votes obtained in the above-mentioned elections, but no less than 15 minutes for each subject. All other political parties participating in the elections, shall have at their disposal only 10 minutes.

The electoral broadcasting program and platform in disposal of the political parties' electoral campaign shall be subject to approval by the CEC. Every additional time that the State RTV may make available for electoral debate or for parties' electoral campaign is distributed according to proportions defined in the above paragraph.

For the second round, the time at the disposal of electoral subject, as stipulated in the above rule, shall be halved.

To strictly oversee the time limits, the Electronic Media Supervising Commission is established, which is responsible for all programmed, not only those related to the electoral campaign, but also news programs and political information, etc. The commission is composed of a representative from each party with representation in the National Reconciliation Government. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman represent, respectively, the largest party of the position and the opposition. They direct the activity of the commission. The commission shall establish an office in the state TV building, enjoys the right to attend meetings of different departments and, for its activity, responds directly to the CEC.

The CEC organizes broadcasting, on the Albanian RTV, on electoral education of the population, excluding political statements.

Article 54

Candidates, as well as electoral subjects, have the right to use various propaganda materials such as slogans, announcements, pamphlets, etc., in which the name of the electoral subject that has prepared such materials should appear. Damaging such materials is prohibited until the end of the campaign.

Propaganda material can be posted in public places defined by the local government

bodies, giving equal propaganda possibilities to each electoral subject.

Article 55

Election campaigning is prohibited in military units and detachments as well as in depoliticized institutions. The commanders of military units and detachments must permit the use of mass media during free time as well as participation in the electoral campaign within the territory of the electoral zone, but outside the military unit or detachments.

Article 56- Repealed

Article 57

Local governments as well as any other state body have no right to distribute propagandistic electoral materials or take part in propaganda activities.

Article 58

The Council of Ministers allocates state funds to the electoral campaign of political parties.

The allocated sum from the state budget to the political parties that participate in the elections, is distributed according to the percentage of votes they will obtain in the elections. Political parties that obtain less than 2% of the votes nation-wide, are excluded from- this rule.

The Council of Ministers allocates a certain cash advance to parties that in the last local government elections obtained more than 10% of the votes for the district councils. After the end of the elections, if parties that have received such an amount do not meet the conditions of the above paragraph, they are obliged to return the cash advance or the rest of this amount.

Article 59

It is prohibited to slander or offend a candidate for deputy or an electoral subject.

A newspaper or any other type of mass media that has published material violating the rights of a candidate for People's Assembly deputy or has in any way attacked his dignity, is obliged to publish free of charge a response in the next issue or broadcast, designating to it the same place, space and time as to the original material which caused the response.