

SECTION THREE

NDI'S SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR THE DECEMBER 12, 1993 ELECTIONS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) has been conducting programming to assist the democratic transition in the Russian Federation since 1990 and has maintained a five-person field office in Moscow since July 1992. In preparation for the December 12 parliamentary elections, NDI intensified its broad range of training activities. The NDI election support program was designed to promote confidence and participation in the electoral process and, more important, to assist the development of institutions and organizations that are the foundation of a democratic civil society. NDI views these elections as a vehicle through which political parties and civic organizations can enhance their long-term organizational capabilities.

Political Party Training

NDI's expanded activities for the elections included fielding 12 international political experts to 14 cities throughout Russia. These experts arrived in Moscow in late October and conducted a three-week program to assist democratic political parties and blocs in developing organizational skills necessary to compete in Russia's first multiparty elections.

In addition, NDI printed 10,000 copies of a Russian language election-preparation manual, which is being distributed to political parties across the Russian Federation. Finally, NDI prepared a training video designed to assist the political parties organize for the elections. This video was circulated to political activists throughout Russia.

Election Monitor Training

Beginning in mid-November, NDI sent 10 international experts with grassroots organizing expertise to Russia to train nonpartisan civic organizers and political party activists to monitor the elections. These civic organizers -- from the U.S., Eastern Europe, the Philippines and Latin America -- conducted a three-week program in the 14 cities visited by NDI's political experts. The civic organizers provided advice on monitoring activities, including pollwatching and the reporting of election irregularities.

Consultations with Russian Television

To help promote fair and meaningful television broadcasts of election-related issues and candidates, NDI sent experts to Moscow to consult with network management. These experts worked with the two national television networks on guidelines for elections reporting, allocation of free media time and the principles and formats for producing political debates.

Voter Education

In cooperation with Russian television executives, NDI produced three voter education spots for airing on national television. These films explain voters' rights and responsibilities, describe the complex voting procedures and encourage participation in the elections. This project is modeled on NDI's highly successful voter education program that was aired on Russian television prior to the April referendum. NDI

also assisted Russian civic organizations in developing similar public service announcements for the radio and print media.

Legal Clinics

In order to clarify the new election law to voters, NDI worked with the nongovernmental organization Interlegal to organize a series of explanatory roundtable discussions. These roundtables included dialogue between government representatives, political analysts, legal scholars, journalists and international experts, focusing on the rules and processes of elections and the election campaign, the duties and responsibilities of elected offices, the role of independent and political party pollwatchers and the relationship of the elections to the development of a democratic society. Portions of these roundtables were televised nationally.

Election-Day Observing

On election day, NDI's field representatives in Moscow, Kiev and Almaty will travel throughout the Russian Federation to observe the voting and counting process. They will be joined by NDI's election monitoring trainers, who will remain in Russia to observe the process.

SECTION FOUR

REGULATIONS ON THE ELECTION OF DEPUTIES TO THE STATE DUMA IN 1993

Enacted by Presidential Decree No. 1557 Of October 1, 1993

Chapter 1. General Provisions

Article 1. Basic Principles for the Elections

The election of deputies to the State Duma shall be carried out by the citizens of the Russian Federation on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Article 2. Electoral Right

1. Every citizen of the Russian Federation who has reached the age of eighteen has the right to vote in elections to the State Duma.
2. Every citizen of the Russian Federation who has reached the age of twenty-one may be elected to the State Duma.
3. Citizens that have been found by a court of justice to be not sui juris or who are being held in detention centres under a court ruling may not vote or be elected.

Article 3. Elections to the State Duma

1. The State Duma shall be composed of 450 deputies.
2. 225 deputies to the State Duma shall be elected on the basis of a majority in one-mandate (one constituency, one deputy) constituencies set up by Federation members on the basis of a single representation quota, excluding the constituencies formed by the Federation members which have fewer electors than the average determined by the Central Election Commission for Elections to the State Duma (to be called henceforth the Central Election Commission for one-mandate constituencies).
3. The remaining 225 deputies to the State Duma shall be elected on the basis of a system of proportional representation in a federal constituency.

Article 4. The Date of the Elections

The election of deputies to the State Duma shall be held on December 11-12, 1993.

Article 5. The Right to Nominate Candidates

1. The federal-constituency lists of candidates for the State Duma shall be nominated by election associations. Candidates for the State Duma from one-mandate constituencies shall be nominated by groups of electors and election associations.
2. An election association shall be a federal party, a federal political movement with rules registered by the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation or a bloc of such public associations, established for the period of the elections. The bloc may also be made up of other federal public associations registered with the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation if participation in the elections is provided for in their rules. A party, a political movement or a public organisation may not be part of more than one election association. A party or a political movement that forms part of a bloc may not act as a separate election association.
3. The submission to the Central Election Commission of documents for the registration of a list of candidates or individual candidates shall be made by a decision of a body of the party or political movement that has been duly authorized in accordance with the rules, and in case of the establishment of a bloc of parties, political movements and other public associations - by a joint decision of the respective authorized bodies of the member organizations.

Article 6. Financing the Elections

1. The financing of all activities associated with the organisation and holding of elections to the State Duma shall be done out of the resources of the Republican Budget of the Russian Federation.
2. Candidates for deputies and the election associations shall have the right to use their own funds and voluntary donations to finance pre-election canvassing.

Article 7. The Holding of Elections by Election Commissions

1. The organisation of the elections to the State Duma shall be the responsibility of election commissions. The Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation and the lower commissions shall, within the competence established by these Regulations, be independent of other state bodies with regard to all questions related to the preparation and holding of the elections.
2. The election commissions shall operate on a collective basis. The preparation and holding of the elections shall be carried out by the election commissions in an open and public manner.

Chapter 2. Constituencies. Voting Districts. Voter Lists

Article 8. The Setting up of Constituencies for Elections to the State Duma

1. One-mandate constituencies shall cover the whole territory of the Russian Federation and shall meet the following requirements:
 - a) the availability of at least one election district on the territory of every Federation member;
 - b) the equality of the constituencies within one and the same Federation member in number of voters with an allowable deviation of up to 15%;
 - c) territorial integrity: the existence or creation of a constituency made up of territories not adjoining each other shall not be permitted;

2. The number of constituencies for the elections to the State Duma in each member of the Russian Federation shall be determined by the Central Election Commission commensurate to the number of the electors that it had at the time of the April 25, 1993, referendum.

3. The scheme of constituencies shall be approved and published by the Central Election Commission no later than 60 days before election day.

Article 9. The Federal Constituency for Elections to the State Duma

1. The federal constituency for elections to the State Duma shall comprise the entire territory of the Russian Federation.

2. Belonging to the federal constituency shall also be voting districts to be formed in accordance with part 4 of Article 10 of these Regulations.

Article 10. The formation of Voting Districts

1. Voting districts shall be formed no later than 45 days before polling day by decisions of the administration heads of the regions, cities and districts within cities with 100 to 3,000 voters per district. In Far Northern areas, in mountainous and other sparsely populated localities the formation of voting districts with 20 voters shall be permitted.

2. Voting districts shall be formed with due regard for the limits of regions, cities and districts within cities and with a view to providing the maximum of convenience for voters. The borders of voting districts shall not cross the borders of constituencies.

3. The list of voting districts with the indication of the addresses of district election commissions and the attachment of a diagrammatic chart shall be published by the head of administration in the local press within three days and in the form of posters within 10 days after the adoption of the decision mentioned in part 1 of this Article.

4. Voting districts for citizens of the Russian Federation whose permanent place of residence is outside the Russian Federation shall be consular districts on the territory of the host country, or, in the absence of consular institutions of the Russian Federation on its territory--consular districts on the territory of an adjacent or nearby country. The Central Election Commission shall incorporate a foreign voting district into a constituency for elections to the State Duma the population of which is less than the average representation quota. The number of voters added to the constituency in this way shall not exceed 10% of their total number.

Article 11. Voter Lists

1. Area administrations (in autonomous areas not having a district division) and the local administrations in regions, cities, districts within cities, townships and rural populated localities shall ensure the registration of voters and shall hand over to the constituency and district election commissions information on the voters residing within the relevant territory.

2. A clarification of the voter lists shall be completed no later than 30 days before polling day. Voters who have settled within a voting district after this time limit but before polling day shall be included by the district election commission on a list of additional voters on the basis of documents confirming their place of

residence.

3. Each citizen of the Russian Federation who meets the requirements of Article 2 of these Regulations (as of election day) and has a permanent place of residence within the territory of the relevant voting district shall be put on the voter list.

4. The voter list shall be drawn up in alphabetical or other order (by populated areas, streets, buildings, or on the basis of the addresses of the voters). The surname, name, patronymic, date of birth and the address of a voter shall be indicated in the voter list.

5. The appropriate administration, and during the election campaign, the district election commission shall make the voter list available to citizens who wish to see it.

6. The lists of voters with a permanent place of residence outside the Russian Federation shall be drawn up by the consular institutions of the Russian Federation operating within the territories of the respective countries. Voters with a permanent place of residence in countries where there are no consular institutions of the Russian Federation may ask the consular institution of the Russian Federation on the territory of an adjoining or nearby country to be included in their voter list.

Chapter 3. Election Commissions

Article 12. Types of Election Commissions

To organize and hold the elections to the State Duma the following election commissions shall be formed:

- a) the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation (hereafter the Central Election Commission);
- b) constituency election commissions for the elections to the State Duma;
- c) district election commissions.

Article 13. The Procedure for Forming the Central Election Commission

1. The Central Election Commission shall comprise a Chairman and twenty members of the commission and shall be formed no later than 70 days before the election of deputies to the State Duma.

2. The Chairman of the Central Election Commission shall be nominated by the President of the Russian Federation.

3. The Deputy Chairman and members of the Central Election Commission shall be approved by the President of the Russian Federation upon submission by the Chairman of the Central Election Commission.

4. Ten members of the Central Election Commission shall be appointed by the President of the Russian Federation from among candidates put forward by the members of the Russian Federation in the person of their legislative (representative) bodies of power.

5. Ten members of the Central Election Commission shall be appointed by the President of the Russian Federation from among candidates put forward by the heads of executive power of the members of the Russian Federation.

6. The Chairman and members of the Central Election Commission shall have a higher legal education or a scientific degree in the area of law.

7. The Secretary - head of the apparatus - of the Central Election Commission shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Central Election Commission.

8. Each election association that has registered its list in the federal constituency shall be entitled to appoint one member of the Central Election Commission with deliberative voting rights.

Article 14. The Procedure for Forming Constituency Election Commissions

1. A constituency election commission for the election of deputies to the State Duma shall be formed in each State Duma election constituency.

2. Constituency election commissions for the election of deputies to the State Duma shall be formed by the Central Election Commission no later than 50 days before the holding of the election of deputies to the State Duma and shall consist of the chairman and 12 to 18 members from among the candidates put forward by the representative and executive bodies of the respective Federation members, with half the election commissions members to be appointed from among the persons proposed by the heads of executive power of the members of the Russian Federation and the other half from among the persons proposed by the respective bodies of representative power. The commissions' chairmen shall be appointed by the Central Election Commission.

3. If the representative and executive authorities of a Russian Federation member have not nominated candidates to the relevant constituency election commission by the deadline set, the Central Election Commission shall make the nominations on the proposal of the political parties and other public political movements of a given constituency within five days.

4. The chairman of an election commission shall have a higher legal education or a scientific degree in the area of law.

5. Each election association that has registered its list in the federal constituency, and each candidate for deputy in the respective one-mandate constituency shall be entitled to appoint one member of the constituency election commission with deliberative voting rights.

Article 15. The Procedure for Forming District Election Commissions

1. District election commissions shall be formed no later than 40 days before the elections to the State Duma and the Federation Council of a new convocation and shall consist of the chairman of the commission and 6 to 18 members of the commission. The membership of the commission shall be determined by area bodies of representative power (in autonomous areas without a district division) and by region, city and city district representative bodies of local self-government, with half the members of the election commissions to be elected by said bodies of representative power or local self-government, and the other half to be appointed by the heads of the respective administrations. The chairman of the commission shall be elected by the appropriate body of representative power or local self-government based on the proposal of the head of the administration. Should the chairman's election fail to take place within the specified time, he shall be appointed by the appropriate constituency commission for the elections to the State Duma.

2. If the authorized representative and executive bodies have failed to nominate candidates by the deadline

set, the corresponding constituency election commission shall make the nominations on the proposal of the political parties and other public political movements of a given constituency within five days.

3. Each election association that has registered its list in the federal election constituency and each candidate for deputy in the respective one-mandate constituency shall be entitled to appoint one member of the district election commission with deliberative voting rights.

4. In addition, on election day the election associations and the candidates for deputies shall be entitled to send to the appropriate election commission up to five observers from each association or candidate; said observers shall be entitled to be present till the completion of the vote count in the district election commission.

Article 16. The Status of a Member of an Election Commission

1. The chairman and the members of the appropriate election commissions appointed by the bodies of state power shall be entitled to a decisive vote in the adoption of decisions by the election commission and shall be obliged to attend all the sessions of the election commissions.

2. The representatives of candidates for deputies and election associations shall have deliberative voting rights.

3. The members of the commission with decisive and deliberative voting rights shall:
be informed in good time of sessions of the appropriate election commission and attend them;
be entitled to speak at sessions of the appropriate election commission, put forward proposals on matters coming within the competence of the appropriate election commission and demand the holding of a vote on them; be entitled to ask other commission members questions relating to the agenda and receive substantive answers to their questions; be entitled to acquaint themselves with any documents and materials of the appropriate election commission.

Article 17. The Powers of the Central Election Commission

1. The Central Election Commission shall:

- a) give explanations of the procedure for applying the present Regulations and ensure their uniform execution;
- b) guide the work of the constituency election commissions;
- c) examine applications and complaints against decisions and actions by constituency election commissions and take decisions on them;
- d) in cases specified in the present Regulations, issue instructions and other acts on questions relating to the organisation of the elections;
- e) register the lists of candidates for the State Duma nominated by election associations in the federal constituency and of the authorized representatives of these election associations and issue the above-mentioned candidates and authorized representatives certificates of an established type;
- f) ensure the observance of equal legal conditions of pre-election activity for all the election associations that have registered their federal lists of candidates;
- g) exercise supervision over the legality of the holding of the elections to the State Duma;
- h) on the basis of data submitted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, decide matters concerning the registration of voters who are outside the territory of the Russian Federation with constituencies that exist on the territory of the Russian Federation;
- i) decide on the forms of ballots, voter lists and other election documents and the procedure for their storage, and approve the text of the ballot for voting in the federal constituency for the elections to

the State Duma and the model seals of election commissions;

j) distribute funds allocated from the state budget of the Russian Federation for financial support for the elections and supervise their purposeful use;

k) examine the questions of material and technical supplies for the preparation and holding of the vote;

l) establish the voting results in the Russian Federation as a whole and publish them in the press, ensure the transfer of the documents associated with the holding and organisation of the elections to the archives;

m) establish who has been elected as deputies to the State Duma in the federal constituency and issue them certificates of election;

n) draw up lists of people elected as deputies to the State Duma and hands them over, along with the documentation necessary for verifying the powers of the deputies, to the credentials committee of the State Duma;

o) organize repeat elections of deputies to the State Duma;

p) perform any other functions in accordance with the present Regulations.

2. The decisions adopted by the Central Election Commission within its competence shall be binding on the state bodies, public associations, enterprises, institutions and officials who must give it assistance and provide information and materials required for its work.

3. The Central Election Commission shall work till the formation of a new Central Election Commission, in accordance with the Law on Elections to the Federal Assembly.

4. Regulations on the Central Election Commission shall be approved by the President of the Russian Federation.

Article 18. The Powers of a Constituency Election Commission

1. The constituency election commissions for the elections to the State Duma shall:

a) supervise compliance with the present Regulations within their respective constituencies;

b) guide the work of the district election commissions, consider applications and complaints against decisions and action of these commissions and act upon them;

c) register the candidates for deputies and their authorized representatives and issue them certificates of the established form;

d) ensure the observance of equal legal conditions of pre-election activity for all candidates for deputies;

e) dispose of the monetary and material resources allocated by the Central Election Commission for the organisation and holding of the elections in the constituency;

f) establish the election results in the constituency and hand them over to the Central Election Commission and ensure the transfer of the documentation related to the holding and organisation of the elections to the archives;

g) approve the text of the ballots for voting in one- and two-mandate constituencies and ensure that ballots are made and supplied to the district commissions;

h) supervise the provision to district commissions of premises, transport, communications and consider other logistical matters relating to the elections;

i) perform any other functions in accordance with the present Regulations.

2. Constituency election commissions shall work till the expiry of the powers of the Central Election Commission.

Article 19. The Powers of a District Election Commission

1. The district election commission shall:
 - a) organize the compilation of the additional voter list in the district;
 - b) supervise the acquaintance of voters with the voter list, accept and consider applications on errors and irregularities in the voter lists and decide matters on introducing the appropriate modifications into it;
 - c) notify the population of the day of the elections and the polling place;
 - d) supervise the placement of election canvassing materials in the order and amounts specified in the present Regulations;
 - e) ensure the preparation of the premises for voting, the ballot boxes and other election equipment;
 - f) organize voting in its voting district on election day;
 - g) carry out the vote count, determine the voting results in the district and ensure the transfer of the documentation related to the holding and organisation of the elections into the archives;
 - h) consider applications and complaints with respect to the preparation of the elections and organisation of the voting and make decisions on them;
 - i) perform any other functions in accordance with this Regulation.
2. The powers of a district election commission shall be terminated the moment when it submits all election documents.

Article 20. The Organisation of the Work of the Election Commissions

1. A meeting of the election commission shall be valid if it is attended by no fewer than half of the commission members with voting rights and also by the chairman of the commission or his deputy.
2. The deputy chairman and the secretary of the election commission shall be elected at the first meeting of the commission from among its members with decisive vote.
3. Meetings of the election commission shall be called and held by the chairman or, on his instructions, by the deputy chairman of the commission. A meeting shall also be held at the request of no less than one-third of the commission members.
4. Decisions of the election commission shall be passed by the majority of the voting members of the commission present at the meeting.
5. Instructions and other decisions of the Central Election Commission that have a regulatory character shall be adopted by the majority of the votes of the total number of voting members of the commission. The regulatory decisions of the Central Election Commission shall be subject to publication.
6. The chairman, deputy chairman and secretary of the Central Election Commission shall work in the commission on a full-time basis. Other voting members of the Central Election Commission may work on a permanent or temporary basis, taking a leave from their regular place of employment.
7. By decision of constituency election commissions, which shall be due for approval by the Central Election Commission, the chairman and some members of a constituency or district commission may perform their responsibilities in the commission on a permanent or temporary basis, taking a leave from their regular place of employment.

8. Remuneration shall be made within the budgetary allocations for the maintenance of the corresponding commission.

9. The estimate of expenses connected with the activities of the Central Election Commission shall be included in the Republican Budget of the Russian Federation as an individual item.

10. Meetings of the Central and Constituency Election Commissions may be attended by the representatives of the mass media who are accredited to them. Meetings of the district election commissions may be attended by representatives of any mass media.

11. During the examination of complaints the representatives of the parties concerned may attend meetings of election commissions.

12. The minutes (protocols) of the election commission shall be signed by the person presiding over the appropriate meeting and by the commission secretary.

13. All state bodies, bodies of local self-government and their officials shall be obliged to render the election commissions necessary assistance for the proper fulfillment of their tasks.

Article 21. Appealing Decisions and Actions of Election Commissions

1. The decisions and actions of the Central Election Commission carried out in violation of the present Regulations may be appealed in the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation in the manner specified by federal law.

2. The decisions and actions of constituency and district election commissions carried out in violation of the present Regulations may be appealed at the higher election commission or in a court of justice in the manner specified in law. A preliminary application to the higher election commission shall not be required for application to a court of justice.

3. The Central Election Commission and constituency election commissions shall examine complaints within their terms of reference about the decisions and actions of lower election commissions and shall be obliged to answer them within a five-day period, and, on election day, immediately.

Chapter 4. Nomination of Candidates for Election as Deputies of the State Duma

Article 22. Incompatibility of Deputy Status with Holding Any Other Office or Engaging in Any Activity in State or Other Bodies

1. Individuals whose office, mandate or occupation are, in accordance with the present Regulations, incompatible with the mandate of State Duma deputy shall promise in writing to discontinue their respective activities if they are elected.

2. Should any person fail to comply with the restrictions imposed by this Article, his election shall be declared null and void.

Article 23. Federal Lists of Candidates Standing for Election to the State Duma

1. The federal list of candidates for election as deputies of the State Duma shall be put forward by an election

association. An election association may not put forward more than one federal list of candidates. The number of candidates on a federal list cannot exceed the number of State Duma seats elected in the federal election district by more than 20 per cent. The names of the candidates on a federal list submitted for registration shall be arranged in the order established by the election association.

2. In establishing the order of arranging the candidates' names on the list, the election association may divide it, wholly or partially, into regional groups of candidates. In so doing, it must indicate to which member or groups of members of the Russian Federation each regional group of candidates corresponds.

3. An election association may nominate candidates who are not members of the political parties or other public organizations represented by the association.

4. The federal list of candidates shall indicate the full name, date of birth, occupation and permanent address of each candidate.

5. The registration of a federal list of candidates requires at least 100,000 voters' signatures in its support, of which no more than 15 per cent of signatures should be collected in one and the same member of the Russian Federation. The subscription sheets shall be executed in accordance with the form given in Supplement No. 1 to the present Regulations. Each subscription sheet shall comprise information about the first three candidates in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Article, and, if the sheet is divided on a regional basis, information about the first three candidates in the Russian Federation member, or members, where the signatures are collected. At a voter's request, the person collecting signatures must show him the full federal list of candidates, in which the names of the candidates and their arrangement are confirmed by the authorized representatives of the election association.

6. Prior to the beginning of the signature-collecting campaign, the above-mentioned list of candidates must be submitted to the Central Election Commission. Upon receipt of the list, the Central Election Commission must hand a certified copy of the list to the person who has submitted it.

7. The names of candidates on the list, their arrangement and the division of the list into regional groups shall be decided by the election association that proposes the list and cannot be changed after it has been submitted to the Central Election Commission, excluding changes caused by the withdrawal of the candidates. In the latter case, no new candidates may be put on the list and no changes can be made in the arrangement of the candidates' names on the list or their division into regional groups. When a list of candidates, divided into regional groups, is registered, no candidate may be included in more than one group.

8. When signing a subscription sheet, a voter must write down his or her full name, date of birth, address and serial number and number of his or her passport or other identification document.

9. The subscription sheet shall be certified by the person who has collected the signatures, who shall indicate his full name, address, serial number and number of his identification card or passport, and the authorized representative of the election association proposing the federal list of candidates.

10. The federal list of candidates, along with the subscription sheets and the statements by the candidates, indicating that they have consented to run on this list, shall be submitted by the authorized representatives of the election association to the Central Election Commission for registration not later than 35 days before the election. The Central Election Commission shall verify compliance of the submitted federal list of candidates with the requirements of this Law and either shall register and make it public within five days, giving the information about each candidate in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Article, in the periodicals

where federal laws are published, or shall refuse to register it. Each candidate of the registered list shall be issued a certificate of registration, indicating the registration date. The registered federal lists of candidates shall be made known to the central mass media within two days of the registration.

11. If a political party or other public association that has submitted a federal list of candidates separately or within a coalition is declared unconstitutional before election day or if the registration of this association's rules is annulled, the registration of the list or the corresponding part thereof shall be canceled.

12. If no federal list of candidates is registered or only one such list is registered within the time-limit indicated in Paragraph 10 of this Article, election on the lists of candidates shall be delayed by 12 weeks by the Central Election Commission, during which additional federal lists of candidates shall be proposed and other election actions performed, in accordance with the time-limits laid down in the present Regulations.

Article 24. Nomination of Candidates in the One-Mandate Constituency for the Election of the State Duma

1. An election association that has proposed a federal list of candidates may nominate candidates for election as deputies to the State Duma in one-mandate constituencies organized for the election to the State Duma. An election association may nominate no more than one candidate in each of these constituencies. The registration shall be effected in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 5 of this Article and require that the name of the election association that has nominated the candidate be indicated.

2. The nomination of a different candidate in a one-mandate constituency established for the election to the State Duma, shall require the signatures of at least one per cent of the overall number of voters of the given constituency. The subscription sheets shall be executed in the form indicated in Supplement No. 2 to the present Regulations. Each subscription sheet should indicate the full name, date of birth, occupation and permanent address of the candidate.

3. Voters signing the subscription sheet shall indicate their full name, date of birth, address and serial number and number of the identification card of the citizen of the Russian Federation or passport. The subscription sheet shall be certified by the person collecting the signatures, who shall indicate his full name, address and serial number and the number of his identification card or passport, and by the person for whose nomination the signatures have been collected.

4. Russian Federation citizens outside the Russian Federation may send subscription sheets to the constituency commission of their electoral district through the consular institutions of the Russian Federation.

5. The people who have nominated the candidate or the candidate himself shall submit the subscription sheets and the candidate's statement indicating his intention to run in the given constituency for registration to the constituency election commission no later than 27 days before election day. The constituency election commission shall verify compliance of the candidate's nomination with the requirements of the present Regulations, and, within five days, shall either register the candidate, make public the information about him, in accordance with Paragraph 2 of this Article, in the periodicals which publish federal laws, and issue the candidate a certificate of registration, indicating the registration date, or refuse to register the candidate. The information about the registered candidates shall be made known to the central and local mass media within two days of registration.

6. If, during the period between the registration of the candidates and election day fewer than two candidates remain in a one-mandate constituency, the elections in such constituencies shall be postponed for 12 weeks during which additional candidates shall be nominated and other election actions will be performed.

Article 25. The Rights and Duties of the Nominees

1. The employer must grant nominees, who request it, an unpaid leave from the registration date till the publication of the election results. During that period the average salary or any other regular income, calculated on the basis of the nominee's salary during the three months preceding the registration date, but not exceeding seven minimum wages, shall be paid to the nominee on a monthly basis by the election commission that has registered him, out of the budgetary funds allocated for the holding of the election.
2. Candidates standing for office in the State Duma in one-mandate constituencies shall be able to use any means of public transport, excluding taxi and chartered trips by other means of transportation, on the territory of the constituency where they have been nominated from registration day till the election results are made public. If the nominee has a permanent place of residence outside the constituency where he stands for office, he shall be entitled to three trips by railway, ship or car (excluding taxi and chartered trips) or one trip by air to his electoral district and back during the aforementioned period. In cities with several electoral districts a candidate may use free city and suburban public transport (excluding taxi and chartered trips) on the territory of the entire city. His travelling expenses shall be paid by the corresponding election commission out of the budgetary funds allocated for the election.
3. Candidates for deputies to the State Duma, who run in a federal constituency, shall, according to the conditions stipulated in Paragraph 2 of this Article, use transportation within the boundaries of the Russian Federation member where he permanently resides or the Russian Federation member where he has been included in a regional group of candidates, if the corresponding list of candidates is divided into such groups. In addition, he shall be entitled to one trip by railway, water, automobile (excluding taxi) and air transport from his permanent place of residence to the corresponding territory of the Russian Federation. These trips shall be paid for by the Central Election Commission out of the budgetary funds allocated for the election.
4. No candidate shall run in more than one constituency with the exception of the cases listed in Paragraph 5 of this Article. No candidate shall be a member of any election commission.
5. A candidate running for office on a federal list may seek nomination in a one-mandate constituency.
6. No candidate shall be prosecuted or subjected to any administrative penalties by a court of law without the consent of the Russian Federation Prosecutor-General. A candidate may be detained or criminally persecuted in any other manner only by a decision of the Russian Federation Supreme Court.
7. A candidate nominated in a one-mandate constituency may have up to 10 authorized representatives, who shall be registered by the election commission which has registered the candidate. An election association which has nominated a registered federal list of candidates may appoint authorized representatives, whose number shall not exceed by more than two times the number of one-mandate constituencies, established for elections to the State Duma, and who shall be registered by the Central Election Commission. Authorized representatives shall comply with Article 2 of the present Regulations. Authorized representatives shall receive from the corresponding election commission registration cards and carry out electioneering and other activities for the election of the candidates. During the period stipulated by Paragraph 1 of this Article the employers shall grant authorized representatives an unpaid leave at their request. Candidates and election associations who have appointed authorized representatives shall have the right to recall them at any time by notifying the corresponding election commission, which shall cancel the registration cards of the recalled representatives.
8. Any candidate shall have the right to withdraw from the election race at any time before election day.

Should he withdraw without any circumstances that may force him to do so (ill health, etc.), the election commission shall make him pay the corresponding part of its expenses, including the expenses involved in the election campaign.

9. The election association may, in accordance with the decision of a body authorized to do so, cancel at any time before election day the nomination of any candidate nominated in a one-mandate constituency and, if the registration deadline established by the present Regulations has not expired, submit a new candidate for registration by the Central Election Commission. Should this be done without any circumstances that may force such a decision (such as ill health, etc.), the election commission shall make the given election association pay the corresponding part of its expenses, including the expenses involved in the election campaign. The election association may remove any candidate from its registered federal list of candidates at any time before election day, but no replacement may be permitted. The report on the withdrawal and/or replacement of a candidate standing for office in the State Duma shall be published within the next three days by the corresponding election commission in papers and magazines in which federal laws are published, and made public through other mass media.

10. Candidates standing for office may not be called in the army before the election results are published.

Chapter 5. Election Campaign

Article 26. The right to participate in political campaigns

1. Russian Federation citizens and public associations shall enjoy the inalienable right to conduct election campaigns for or against any candidates.

2. State bodies and local self-government bodies shall not take part in election campaigns for or against any candidates.

Article 27. The procedure for conducting electoral events

1. State bodies and local self-government bodies shall help the candidates and electoral associations in the organisation and holding of pre-election meetings, meetings of candidates or their authorized representatives with voters. State bodies and local self-government bodies shall respond to the application for the allocation of premises for the conduct of such meetings within five days and grant permission pursuant to the procedure established by the constituency election commission.

2. Pre-election meetings shall be organized and conducted in accordance with the procedure established by existing legislation.

3. No electioneering shall be allowed on the premises of the polling stations.

4. The owners of state or municipal halls shall, upon the request of the election commissions, make them available for meetings between the candidates or their proxies and the public. Election commissions shall pay for the use of such halls within the limits established by the Central Election Commission from the budgetary funds earmarked for the preparation and conducting of the elections to the State Duma. The election commissions shall provide equal opportunities for all candidates and federal lists of candidates.

Article 28. Election campaign in the mass media

1. No poll results pertaining to the coming election shall be published during the last ten days before the election.
2. Mass media organizations whose co-founders include state bodies, organizations, agencies or local self-government bodies, as well as mass media organizations that are at least partially financed by state or local self-government bodies shall ensure equal opportunities for all candidates to the State Duma to make public statements.
3. A candidate shall be entitled to one statement over state television and one statement on the state radio. The procedure for candidates' appearances over state television and on the state radio shall be established by the Central Election Commission with a view to ensuring equal access to airtime (in terms of the length of the statement, time of day and other conditions).
4. On every working day during the last three weeks of the election campaign Federal television and radio companies shall provide no less than one hour of airtime between 7 and 9 a.m. and 7 and 11 p.m. (taking into account time differences between the time zones of the Russian Federation) for election associations that have nominated federal lists candidates so that each election association gets access to equal air time on an equal footing.

Article 29. Issue of printed propaganda materials

1. Political parties and other public associations participating in the election campaign, and candidates standing for office in the State Duma shall enjoy the inalienable right to publish posters, leaflets and other campaign materials.
2. All printed campaign materials shall print information about the organizations and individuals responsible for their issue. No anonymous campaign materials shall be allowed.
3. If constituency election commissions are advised of the distribution of anonymous or false campaign materials, they shall take measures to put an end to such activities and may appeal to the corresponding law-enforcement authorities, requesting them to take necessary measures to suppress the unlawful activities.
4. Election programs and campaign materials shall not contain appeals for a violent overthrow of the constitutional order or violations of the integrity of the Russian Federation and shall not incite social, racial, ethnic or religious hatred. If such programs and materials do appear, the constituency election commissions shall act in accordance with the rules laid down in Paragraph 3 of this Article.
5. Printed campaign materials can be posted, subject to the agreement of the owner, inside any premises, on any building or other facility, excluding the buildings and premises of the election commissions and polling stations.

Article 30. Duration of an election campaign

1. The campaign may not start before the candidate or the federal list of candidates is registered and shall end one day prior to the election.
2. No electioneering shall be permitted on election day. All printed campaign materials that had been earlier posted outside of the polling stations must be removed. In the last seven days before the election no materials damaging the honor and dignity of the candidates may be distributed.

Chapter 6. Financing the Elections

Article 31. Financing the preparation and holding of the elections

1. The funds allocated out of the republican budget of the Russian Federation for the organisation and holding of the election shall be placed at the disposal of the Central Election Commission immediately after it is created and shall be distributed by it among all election commissions.
2. The election commissions shall submit to the Central Election Commission a report on the spending of the funds given to them by the Central Election Commission no later than 45 days after the official publication of the election results.
3. The Central Election Commission shall submit to the State Duma a report on the spending of the funds mentioned in Paragraph 1 of the present Article no later than three months after the official publication of the election results. The stated report shall be published by the Central Election Commission in the newspapers and magazines where federal laws are published and made available to other mass media no later than one month after it is submitted to the State Duma.

Article 32. Election funds of the candidates and the procedure for their creation

1. Election associations and candidates standing for office in the State Duma shall be entitled to create their own election funds to finance their election campaign. Such funds may include the following:
 - a) funds allocated by the Central or, correspondingly, constituency election commission to the election association or candidate to conduct the election campaign;
 - b) the electoral association's or candidate's own funds;
 - c) funds given to the candidate by the election association, party, political movement or any other public association that nominated him;
 - d) voluntary donations by private individuals and legal entities.
2. The donation by a private individual or legal entity may not exceed an amount equal to 20 minimum monthly wages, in case of a candidate's election fund, and 30 minimum monthly wages, in case of an election association's fund. Donations by legal entities may not exceed an amount equal to 200 and 20,000 minimum monthly wages, respectively.
3. No donations by foreign states, organizations or individuals, Russian legal entities with foreign capital or international organizations and public associations shall be allowed.
4. The right to dispose of the election funds shall belong only to the election associations or candidates.
5. Election associations and candidates who have created election funds under Paragraph 1 of the present Article shall, within the deadline stated in Paragraph 3 of Article 33, submit to the Central and constituency election commissions respectively reports on the spending of the funds. The stated reports shall be given to the mass media by the Central or constituency election commissions, respectively, together with the report on the spending of funds submitted by the Central Election Commission to the State Duma under Paragraph 3 of Article 31.

Article 33. The procedure of spending the election funds

1. All the money intended for the election fund of the election association or a candidate standing for office

in the State Duma shall be deposited to a special bank account, which is opened by the constituency election commission after the candidate is registered.

2. Procedures for reviewing the spending of election fund money shall be determined by the Central Election Commission.

3. No later than 60 days after the results of the elections in a given constituency are known, the election association or the candidate shall submit to the Central or, correspondingly, to the constituency election commission a statement of all election campaign receipts (including their sources) and expenses. The form of the statement shall be established by the Central Election Commission in coordination with the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation.

4. After the elections, the unspent balance of the election fund proportionate to the amount allocated by the Central or constituency election commission to an election association or a candidate shall be remitted to the Republican budget of the Russian Federation.