



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Electoral Complaints Commission
Information and Public Outreach Department
Frequently Asked Questions Campaign Period**



June 2019



Electoral Complaints Commission Information and Public Outreach Department

1 How long is the campaign period for 2019 presidential election?

As per the electoral calendar the campaign period started from 28th July till 25th September 2019. In accordance to the paragraph 1, article 76 of the election law, the period of electoral campaign for the respected candidates of the presidential election is 60 days. The campaign period ends 48 hours before the election day.

2 Can the campaign be initiated before or continued after campaign period?

Candidates, political parties and their supporters may not initiate before the campaign period or continue their campaign activities after the conclusion of the campaign period, and/or distribute or disseminate and broadcast materials related to the electoral campaigns. This is an election violation punishable by law.

3 Who can organize electoral campaigns?

The candidates, political parties, coalitions and their supporter can organize the electoral campaigns.

4 What are the conditions related to the electoral campaigns?

- Electoral campaign activities (conduct political gatherings; appear in the video, audio and print media, for the announcement of their political and electoral policies; print or install posters and billboards) are not allowed during the period from the announcement of the final list of candidates till the official commencement of the campaign period and also during the silence period.(the same answer to Q1 and Q2- repetition).
- Interfering into the electoral campaigns of the other parties or candidates, damaging the electoral campaign materials of other candidates and or impeding or obstructing their activities are not allowed
- The electoral campaigns should not disrupt laws and orders
- There shall be no involvement of personnel from the armed forces including the Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of Interior and Directorate of National Security in the electoral campaigns. Moreover, Judges, prosecutors and governmental employees are not allowed to participate in campaign activities.
- The security agencies shall not interfere in the electoral campaigns
- There shall be no involvement of foreign citizens or foreign organizations into the electoral campaigns related activities and nor can they facilitate their involvement in such activities.
- No one may influence the citizens of the country for the participation or non-participation in the electoral campaigns of the candidates.

5 Who shall observe the electoral campaign process?

- The electoral workers, representatives of the observer entities and domestic and international media may observe the electoral campaigns process.
- Candidates and political parties should provide the opportunity of observation of their electoral campaigns by the electoral workers, representatives of the observer entities and domestic and international media.
- Candidates, agents of political parties and their supporters shall not create obstacles to the activities of the electoral workers, representatives of the observer entities and domestic and international media, as long as their activities are limited to observation of the course of the electoral campaigns.
- The monitors, while monitoring the electoral campaigns of the candidates cannot interfere in their work.

6 Can electoral campaign on social media be initiate before or after the campaign period?

No, there shall be no promotional contents and electoral campaign videos prior to the official campaign period and after the end of the electoral campaign period (silence period) through the social media pages (Facebook, Twitter,



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YouTube, Instagram etc.).

In addition, the candidates, political parties, and coalitions and their supporters cannot publish issues or contents on the social media pages during the campaign period, that provokes violence and incite emotions based on ethnicity, sect, religion, language, geographic region, and disability.

7 What will happen if conditions related to electoral campaigns are violated?

Alliances, political parties, candidates and other interested groups in elections, may lodge their complaints and objections regarding any violations, frauds, negligence's and electoral crimes, using the specific forms at the Central and Provincial ECC

If ECC receives objections or complaints regarding violating conditions related to the electoral campaign, if found guilty, a person or an organization will be punished in accordance with the election law.

Decisions of ECC regarding addressing the violations during the electoral campaigning shall be final and implementable.

8 What is the role and mandate of ECC during campaign period?

To enhance the transparency and legitimacy of the electoral process and elections, based on the Article 28 of the electoral Law the Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC) was established. The mandate of ECC is to address challenges and complaints arising from negligence, violation and identification of crimes related to elections. During the campaign period process, ECC investigates, analyses and adjudicates the complaints registered against any irregularities and violations related to the campaign period.

ECC has appealed electoral stakeholders and general citizens to report and register complaints if they witness, observe and experience any irregularities in that period.

9 What can an individual do if they witness any irregularities or violations related to campaign activities?

As an individual, if you see any irregularities you can register your complaints at PECC or ECC. Furthermore, you can sensitize other people, families and communities about their rights and role in the electoral process, including electoral dispute resolution, particularly in preventing electoral irregularities and facilitating complaints registration if acts of electoral frauds, crimes or violations are witnessed or experienced. You can call ECC call center 132 for further information or follow ECC social media pages @ECCAfgghanistan on Facebook, twitter and YouTube.

10 When to register complaints related to campaign activities?

From the beginning till the end of the electoral campaign period, and from the end of the electoral campaign (silence period) till an hour before the start of the polling process, complaints will be received from the electoral stakeholders and will be addressed by the PECC.

11 What if a person is not satisfied with PECC decision?

If a person is not satisfied with the decision of the PECC, he can, in person or through their competent representative file his appeal to the Central Complaints Commission within 3 working days after the notification of the decision.