



FINAL REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELECTIONS OF DEPUTIES TO LOCAL COUNCILS HELD ON APRIL 11, 2021

> **OBSERVATION PERIOD: FROM MARCH 15 TO MAY 20, 2021**

> > THE COMMON CAUSE PUBLIC FOUNDATION

**JUNE 2021** 

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

AB	BREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	3
1.	SUMMARY	4
2.	INTRODUCTION	8
3.	ABOUT ELECTIONS	9
4.	ANALYSIS OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK	10
4.1	CURRENT STATUS:	10
4.2	INFLUENCE OF THESE SOURCES ON ELECTIONS:	12
5.	SOCIO-POLITICAL SITUATION	15
6.	ACTIVITIES OF ELECTION COMMISSIONS	16
7.	VOTER REGISTRATION	20
8.	ELECTION CAMPAIGN	22
8.1	<b>REGISTRATION OF PARTY CANDIDATES</b>	23
8.2	MONITORING OF THE MASS MEDIA	25
8.3	MONITORING OF SOCIAL MEDIA	26
9.	FINANCING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNING	30
10.	VOTING OUTSIDE THE PREMISES	34
11.	<b>ELECTION DAY</b>	36
11.1	<b>BEGINNING OF PEC MEETINGS FOR THE OPENING PROCEDURES</b>	36
11.2	2 VOTING PROCESS	41
11.3	<b>3</b> CLOSING OF THE POLLING STATION	44
11.4	4 MOBILE TEAMS	47
11.5	5 VOTING PROCESS	49
11.6	5 COUNTING AND CLOSING PROCEDURES	51
12.	ELECTION RESULTS	52
13.	VIOLATIONS AND COMPLAINTS	53
14.	RECOMMENDATIONS	57
APF	PENDIX 1. INFORMATION ABOUT 28 CITY COUNCILS.	60
APF	PENDIX 2. RESULTS OF ELECTIONS TO LOCAL COUNCILS	61
APF	PENDIX 3. RESULTS IN 25 CITY COUNCILS: PARTIES AND THE NUMBER OF MANDATES	RECEIVED. 64

# ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Automatically reading ballot box
The Bishkek City Council
Gross Domestic Product
Fuels and lubricants
Long-term observer
Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic
Rapid Response Coordination Group
Kyrgyz Republic
Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic
Local Territorial Administration
Public Broadcasting Corporation
Personal Identification Number
Political Party
President of the Kyrgyz Republic
Mass media
Territorial Election Commission
Central Commission for Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic
Precinct Election Commission
The Common Cause Public Foundation

### 1. SUMMARY

The Common Cause Public Foundation (hereinafter - the Foundation) has prepared the final report on the results of observation of the preparation and conduct of elections of deputies to local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic (KR) held on April 11, 2021.

The final report covers the observation of the pre-election period, including the process of registration of political parties, the activity of electoral commissions at all levels, the procedures of forming and updating the voter lists, informing of voters, the election campaigning, the election funds, as well as the observation of the polling day, the process of summarizing the results, and the detection of violations of electoral legislation during the period from March 15 to May 20, 2021.

Based on the observation results, the Fund notes that despite the difficult conditions and tense situation, the elections of deputies of city keneshes in most cities were held in conditions of high competition with the participation of a large number of new parties and were recognized as valid. The positive features of the elections were the holding of televised debates in the cities of republican and regional significance. In addition, the amendments made to the electoral legislation regarding the financing of electoral funds made it possible to implement unified approaches to the procedure for opening special accounts of electoral funds, accounting and spending funds, and obligatory publication of financial reports on the CEC website. In addition, the Fund notes that in these elections to local keneshes, for the first time, the reservation of at least 30% of mandates for women in ayil keneshes was applied.

There have been positive developments in the work of law enforcement agencies and prosecutors to review and investigate violations of electoral legislation. It should be noted that more active use of the RRCG mechanisms, in particular, citizens, public observers, the media and parties began to contact RRCG more often.

In terms of consideration of complaints and application of responsibility for violations committed by political parties, election commissions applied a different approach to violations of electoral legislation. Thus, the election commissions applied penalties in the form of canceling the registration of candidates from political parties, issuing warnings, imposing fines and invalidating the voting results for some parties.

In three cities: Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok, the voting results were invalidated. This was an unprecedented case when the voting results were invalidated in several large cities directly by the CEC and the BTEC itself, and thus the state authorities recognized that there were violations that affected the expression of the will of citizens.

Consideration of applications and complaints about violations of electoral legislation and taking effective measures on them is one of the important stages of the electoral process for the recognition by citizens of the election results and the legitimacy of the elected bodies.

Unfortunately, despite the cancellation of the results of the parliamentary elections in October 2020, the practice of using administrative resources by individual political parties, bribery and manipulation of voter lists was repeated. Also, there are still complaints about the timeliness of consideration of the submitted complaints by individual TECs and about the inconsistent practice of applying responsibility to political parties and candidates.

It should be noted that a number of parties continue to make changes to the lists of candidates after voting day (in all nine cities monitored, about 30% of candidates on the lists of political parties were reordered), which contradicts the nature of elections under the proportional system and increases the level of citizens' distrust of the elections.

The registration of political parties' candidate lists, and candidates was generally carried out in accordance with the norms of legislation with only a few cases of appeal. During the review process of the complaint on cancellation of registration of the list of candidates of the "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" political party, a gap in the legislation regarding the admission to participation in the elections of a political party that underwent re-registration less than six months before the date of appointment of the elections was revealed.

In order to create conditions for citizens to exercise their active suffrage, mobile PSCs were organized, which provided field documentation services, including mobile collection of biometric data in 130 cities and aimags. Despite the CEC's efforts to register voters, there are still a large number of voters who are not included in the voting process due to the lack of biometric data from citizens and internal migration.

The Foundation points out that possible manipulation of voter lists is a matter of concern. The past elections of deputies to local councils showed that the existing system of citizen registration has vulnerabilities that allow a mass registration to manipulate the voter lists. According to current legislation, citizens can vote for deputies of the local council only if they are registered in the place where the election takes place. However, this rule can be circumvented with the help of mass registrations. The mass media repeatedly published information about the so-called "rubber" apartments of voters, such a suspicious increase of registered citizens in cities such as Osh, Bishkek, Karakol and Tokmok cannot but cause concern. In this regard, the Foundation recommends that measures be taken to prevent the possibility of manipulation with the residence registration and voter lists.

In most of the cities where the Foundation conducted the observation, the elections to the local councils were held in a calm atmosphere and in accordance with the rules of law. However, the electoral process in a number of cities was negatively affected by such violations as abuse of administrative resources, vote buying, influence on the expression of the voters' will, in addition, there were some cases of infringement of public observers' rights during the observation. This is the second election campaign that has been marked by a tendency for political parties to make joint statements about violations and demands to cancel the voting results, as well as to withdraw certain candidates and political parties from the election. It should be noted that such joint statements were mostly made by parties that did not have large financial resources and could not pass the 7% threshold. Political competition between parties aside, this trend suggests higher expectations for the electoral dispute process from a number of political parties.

At the same time, there were positive developments with regard to handling complaints and punishment for violations committed by political parties - cancellation of registration of candidates from political parties that violated the law, issuing warnings, imposing fines, and withdrawing parties from the elections in some cities. Ultimately, the cancellation of the results of voting at the PECs led to the cancellation of the election results in the cities themselves. However, there are still complaints about the timeliness of review of complaints filed by individual TECs and the inconsistent practice of penalties against political parties and candidates for violating the law. During the election campaign, many parties called for harsher penalties against political parties that used vote-buying and administrative resources.

In addition, it should be noted that with the improvement of electoral legislation, ways of abuse and manipulation evolutionize as well. In particular, the aforementioned mass registration, which may become relevant in the upcoming parliamentary elections due to the lack of a mechanism for exercising active suffrage by changing the voting address; formerly, Form No. 2 provided a such mechanism.

Moreover, some political parties continue the practice of involving the heads of neighborhood and house committees in campaigning in Bishkek and Osh cities, exploiting the undefined status of

house committees and neighborhood committees. Therefore, it is recommended to improve law enforcement practices with respect to addressing violations occurring in the pre-election period and on the day of voting outside of polling stations that may affect the results of voting.

Local council elections were combined with a referendum on the new version of the Constitution. During the pre-election period, some argued that combining the two electoral processes could help increase the turnout so that the referendum could be recognized as valid. On the polling day, participants of the electoral process repeatedly reported that PEC members tried to issue a referendum ballot despite the refusal of voters to vote on it, and when they refused, PEC members recorded and wrote reports, a practice not required by the law.

Voting outside the premises took place with a number of serious violations, such as violations of voting secrecy, influence on the will of voters, campaigning on the day of voting, certain cases of infringement of observers' rights, and registration of voters in the register for voting outside the premises without the knowledge of the voters themselves. In those cities where the number of voters for voting outside the voting premises was lower, the process of field voting proceeded virtually without any violations. Serious violations during the voting outside the voting premises, which could affect the results of voting, were observed in Bishkek and Osh cities, as noted by 7.4% of the Foundation's observers. In Bishkek such violations were observed at 5.2% of polling stations, and in Osh city this number was 14.1%. On the day of voting outside the premises, the Foundation identified 46 violations and filed complaints with the relevant TECs, four of which were filed with the RRCG.

According to the nonpartisan observation of the Foundation on the day of elections of deputies of local councils in the cities, the procedures related to opening of polling stations for voting, the voting process, closing of polling stations and tabulation of results were conducted with procedural and serious violations such as: violation of the secrecy of ballot, vote-buying, influence on the will of voters, infringement of observers' rights, campaigning on election day, violations of election day procedures, and presence of persons who cannot be at the polling station on election day. More violations were recorded in the course of voting, the least number of complaints from the Foundation's observers was about the opening, closing and counting procedures. Almost half of the polling stations had equipment failures (ARBBs and voter identification equipment).

In addition, we note the problems with the quality of voters' lists in local elections. For instance, in Bishkek, 37.3% of polling stations had cases when 1 to 5 voters were unable to find themselves in the lists; in Osh, this figure was 39.7%. We draw particular attention to the incomplete compliance with sanitary and epidemiological norms and requirements related to COVID-19 in one fifth of stations in Bishkek and Osh cities. Although observers in the city of Bishkek more often reported infringements of their rights, such cases in the city of Osh were accompanied by more aggression. On the day of voting at the premises, the Foundation identified 208 violations, of which 120 were submitted to the relevant TECs, 10 to the CCHR and 2 to the bodies of internal affairs.

The tabulation process was accompanied by increased public reaction, as well as a large number of complaints from both monitoring organizations and political parties in a number of cities. For instance, after the elections, a number of political parties in Bishkek, Osh, Tokmok and Talas cities called for the cancellation of the voting results. In particular, the recount of votes was carried out in the city of Talas, due to the lack of votes for one of the parties to pass the electoral threshold, the recount of votes in the city of Talas did not reveal any violations.

It should be noted that a number of parties continued to use soft ratings and manipulate lists of candidates after the announcement of preliminary voting results, as the order of about 30% of candidates on the lists of political parties was changed.

During the entire election process, the Foundation identified 332 violations, of which 27 were filed with the RRCG, 152 with the TECs and 2 with the bodies of internal affairs. It can also be noted that a large number of applications to the RRCG were submitted by citizens, which indicates a greater involvement of citizens in identifying violations at the elections.

Based on the results of consideration of complaints and applications from the subjects of the electoral process (including the complaints of the Public Fund "Common Cause"), the results of elections of deputies of city keneshes of the cities of Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok were declared invalid.

The responsibility of the Osh and Tokmok TECs was considered, as a result of which the Osh and Tokmok TECs were disbanded and approved in new compositions.

Despite the improvement of electoral legislation and the development of new information technologies to increase the transparency of elections, there are some problems in this area at the moment. For example, the electoral legislation in the Kyrgyz Republic has separate legislative acts regulating elections at different levels, which are not harmonized with each other. For instance, there are differences between the same procedures of elections of deputies to local councils and elections of deputies to the Jogorku Kenesh of Kyrgyz Republic: differences in the size of election threshold, process of registration of candidates' lists from political parties, campaigning rules, process of monitoring the elections, etc. The Foundation believes that it is necessary to carry out activities on a continuous basis aimed at improving and harmonizing the election legislation of Kyrgyz Republic as a whole on the basis of the analysis of the past elections and taking into account the recommendations of international and public observers.

Also, it is recommended to improve law enforcement practice in relation to the consideration of violations occurring during the pre-election period and on election day outside the polling stations, which may affect the voting results. In addition, attention should be paid to the need to apply a consistent and proportionate approach to the application of liability for certain violations.

The monitoring of the media and social media in the run-up to the elections showed that the media are increasingly covering elections and election-related topics. However, it is worth noting that most often the elections are covered in a negative way, as the media publish records about violations more often. The Foundation collected and analyzed 80 articles in the media about violations of electoral legislation, among which the most frequently mentioned are violations of campaigning rules, vote-buying and abuse of administrative resources. In the post-election period in the media scene there were publications about the falsification of data by protocols, particularly about the number of voters at the referendum, about meetings and protests by parties that did not pass the 7% threshold at the elections, as well as complaints from activists and public organizations about the illegality of the referendum, demands to cancel the voting results due to the large number of registered violations and complaints filed with law enforcement agencies.

In general, the Foundation notes that the local council elections were held in difficult conditions and a tense atmosphere. In three cities: Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok, the CEC reviewed the complaints filed and, after identifying the facts of violations, the voting results were cancelled in these city councils. This was an unprecedented case where the voting results were canceled at once in several major cities.

In the remaining 25 cities, elections to local city councils were deemed valid and were held in accordance with the legislation.

We express our gratitude to our observers, election commissions, law enforcement agencies, political parties, the media and citizens for their support of independent observation.

The Public Foundation "Common Cause" will continue to observe the elections in the Kyrgyz Republic.

### 2. INTRODUCTION

The Common Cause Public Foundation is a non-profit organization established to monitor elections of various levels in the Kyrgyz Republic, implement civic education projects, and promote greater citizen participation in decision-making processes. The Foundation supports the conduct of free and fair elections and the development of civil society and democracy in Kyrgyzstan.

The Foundation's activities are aimed at building effective interaction with the authorities and the population through dialogue, monitoring of important political processes, participation in decision-making processes and ensuring transparency of their promotion in order to protect the rights and freedoms of citizens, to take joint actions for the sustainable democratic development of the country.

The purpose of elections observation is to provide the citizens and election stakeholders with a professional, non-partisan and timely assessment of the compliance with international standards and the national legislation, including the information on potential violations, voter turnout and election results.

The observation is conducted for the purpose of:

- ensuring a fair electoral process in accordance with international standards and national legislation.

- analysis of electoral legislation in order to develop recommendations for its further improvement.

- detecting violations and falsification of elections and reporting on them.

- providing verified, timely and unbiased information about the pre-election and post-election periods.

The Common Cause PF conducted **long-term observation** of the elections of deputies to nine city councils:

- 1. Bishkek
- 2. Osh
- 3. Tokmok
- 4. Kaindy
- 5. Karakol
- 6. Talas
- 7. Naryn
- 8. Jalal-Abad
- 9. Batken

In the course of long-term observation during the pre-election period, the Foundation monitored the activities of TECs, observes the activities of political parties (the Foundation conducted the polling of political party representatives), and recorded the violations.

Violations are classified into 3 types of violations and the corresponding forms for recording violations are developed:

- 1. Form on the abuse of administrative resources, pressure, violence and threats.
- 2. Form on vote-buying
- 3. Form on violations of election campaigning rules

The long-term observation was carried out by the head office and 15 long-term observers, who are present in all regions of the country. Long-term observation covered the procedures of nomination and registration of candidates from political parties, the activities of election commissions at all levels, the informing and pre-election campaign period, the activities of election commissions on election day and the summing up of the results of elections of deputies to local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic. To conduct long-term observation of the elections of deputies to local councils, the staff of the head office, legal experts, regional coordinators, three long-term observers (LTOs) in Osh city and four in Bishkek city were involved.

The short-term observation was conducted by the Foundation at all 306 polling stations in the cities of national status - Bishkek (228 PECs) and Osh (78 PECs).

In addition, 25 mobile groups were able to cover approximately 84 PECs out of 115 in the cities of Karakol, Jalal-Abad, Talas, Naryn, Batken, Tokmok and Kaindy, representing 73% of PECs in these 7 cities. (Add the methodology)

For short-term observation, the Foundation developed observation forms and a system for collecting information from all observed PECs to provide information backed by verified data.

The Foundation also monitored the media and social media to assess the presence of candidates from political parties on the most popular social network in Kyrgyzstan, Facebook, and to assess election irregularities on this platform. The preliminary monitoring results presented are based on the political party candidates' Facebook pages and ads included in the Facebook Ad Library report, and cover the reporting period from March 12 to April 10, 2021.

During the period of elections of deputies to local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic scheduled for April 11, 2021, the Common Cause Public Foundation carried out the **following work**:

- Informing voters about their rights;
- Conducted the long-term observation of the process of preparation and conduct of elections, including the work of election commissions, election campaigning, informing citizens, as well as the post-election period;
- Conducted the short-term observation on the polling day;
- Conducted the monitoring of election disputes
- Conducted a nationwide opinion poll about the upcoming elections
- Monitored the mass media and social media in order to identify violations of the electoral legislation.

The head office, as part of the project on observing the elections of deputies to local councils, coordinated the process of long-term observation in the pre-election period.

## 3. ABOUT ELECTIONS

In accordance with the Presidential Decree No. 21 of February 8, 2021, "On appointment of the elections of deputies to local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic," the elections were scheduled for April 11, 2021, in 448 local councils, 28 of which are city councils.

Earlier, the elections of deputies of local keneshes of Batken, Jalal-Abad, Naryn, Issyk-Kul, Chui, Osh regions and the city of Osh were suspended in 2020. The elections were supposed to take place on April 12, 2020.

According to the legislation on the elections of deputies to local councils, the registration of the lists of candidates of political parties for the elections of deputies to city councils ended 30 days before the polling day, i.e., March 11, 2021.

The total number of mandates in the elections to 28 city councils is 796 seats.<sup>1</sup> Territorial election commissions registered the candidate lists from 56 parties.

Lists of all candidates are published in the local media, as well as posted on the CEC website, in the **"Talapker"** system at <u>https://talapker.shailoo.gov.kg</u>, where the parties submitted their election programs for publication, and information about the receipt and expenditure of party election funds.

The CEC of the Kyrgyz Republic at a meeting on February 9, 2021, decided to approve the calendar plan of basic organizational and practical measures for the preparation and conduct of elections of deputies of local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In accordance with the law, 30 days are allocated for campaigning to city council elections (from March 12 to April 9, 2021), and 20 days for local (village council) elections.

- Candidates for deputies of the city council had to be nominated as members of a party, that is, on party lists under the proportional system.

- In local council elections, the 7 percent threshold remains as before.

#### 4. ANALYSIS OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

According to Article 1 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Elections of Deputies to Local Councils" of July 14, 2011, No. 98<sup>2</sup>, the present Law defines the electoral rights of Kyrgyz Republic citizens and the guarantees thereof, regulates relations related to the preparation and conduct of elections of deputies of local councils.

#### 4.1 CURRENT STATUS:

The current state of the local council election system seems satisfactory, first of all, from the legislative side of the main issues related to the organization and conduct of elections.

The sources of electoral rights are legal acts containing norms regulating electoral legal relations. The main elements of the system of sources of electoral law are:

1) The first group includes laws and other statutory instruments adopted at the national level.

- Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic of June 27, 2010 (as amended by KR Law No. 218 of December 28, 2016) <sup>3</sup>;

- Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Elections of Deputies to Local Councils";

- Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Election Commissions for Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic" of June 30, 2011, No. 62<sup>4</sup>;

- Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Status of Deputies of Local Councils";

- Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Local Self-Government;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://shailoo.gov.kg/ru/news/4511/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See: Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Elections of Deputies to Local Councils" of July 14, 2011, No. 98 // http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/203103

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See: Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic of June 27, 2010 (as amended by KR Law No. 218 of December 28, 2016) // <u>http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/202913</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See: Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Election Commissions for Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic" of June 30, 2011, No. 62 // <u>http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/203100?cl=ru-ru</u>

- Resolutions of the Central Election Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic (regulations, instructions, etc.) regulating the conditions and procedure of elections of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and deputies of Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic.

2) International treaties of the Kyrgyz Republic establishing international electoral standards;

This group includes generally recognized principles and regulations of international law, and international treaties of the Kyrgyz Republic aimed at regulating electoral legal relations. These are universal international instruments that enshrine human rights and freedoms to participate in genuine fair and free elections, to participate in the governance of their country, their municipal formation directly or through freely elected representatives:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 10, 1948<sup>5</sup>;

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of December 16, 1966<sup>6</sup>;

- Convention on the standards of democratic elections, electoral rights and freedoms in the member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States of October 7, 2002<sup>7</sup>;

- Document of the Copenhagen Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, June 29, 1990<sup>8</sup>;

- Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, signed in Rome on November 4, 1950<sup>9</sup>, Protocol 1 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, signed in Paris on March 20, 1952<sup>10</sup>;

- Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters: Guidelines and Explanatory Report, adopted by the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission of the Council of Europe) at its 51st and 52nd plenary sessions on July 5-6 and October 18-19, 2002 in Venice<sup>11</sup> and others.

3) Decisions of courts of the Kyrgyz Republic;

4) Resolutions of local self-government bodies affecting electoral legal relations;

5) At the same time, some regulations related to implementation of electoral rights of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic are contained in legal acts that are not directly aimed at regulation of electoral relations and are structural elements of financial, administrative, criminal, civil procedural and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10, 1948 // <u>https://www.un.org/ru/documents/decl\_conv/declarations/declhr.shtml</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of December 16, 1966 // https://www.un.org/ru/documents/decl\_conv/conventions/pactpol.shtml

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See: Convention on the standards of democratic elections, electoral rights and freedoms in the member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States of October 7, 2002 // <u>http://cis.minsk.by/page/616</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See: Document of the Copenhagen Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, June 29, 1990 // <u>https://www.osce.org/ru/odihr/elections/14304</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See: Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, signed in Rome on November 4, 1950 // Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, signed in Rome on November 4, 1950 // <u>http://docs.cntd.ru/document/1000003045</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See: Protocol No. 1 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, signed in Paris on March 20, 1952 // <u>http://base.garant.ru/2540801/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See: Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters: Guidelines and Explanatory Report, adopted by the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission of the Council of Europe) at its 51st and 52nd plenary sessions on July 5-6 and October 18-19, 2002 in Venice // https://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/default.aspx?pdffile=CDL-AD(2002)023rev2-cor-rus

other branches of legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic and other legislative acts, most of which are part of the state law and are directly dedicated to regulation of electoral relations:

- Criminal Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of February 2, 2017, No. 19<sup>12</sup>;
- Code of the Kyrgyz Republic on Violations of April 13, 2017, No. 58<sup>13</sup>;
- Misdemeanor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, February 1, 2017, No. 18<sup>14</sup>;
- Administrative Procedure Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of January 25, 2017, No. 13<sup>15</sup>;
- Civil Procedure Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of January 20, 2017, No. 6<sup>16</sup>.

#### **4.2** INFLUENCE OF THESE SOURCES ON ELECTIONS:

The regulations of these sources lay the foundation of the electoral system, the procedure for elections to the government and local self-government bodies.

Among the above-mentioned statutory instruments, the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic enshrines the fundamental principles of the organization of elections, which are an integral part of the constitutional foundations of the state.

First of all, Article 2 of the Constitution enshrines the recognition of free elections as the direct expression of the power of the people.

Article 2 of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic also lists the principles of electoral law: Elections of the President, deputies of Jogorku Kenesh, deputies of representative bodies of local self-government are held on the basis of universal, equal and direct electoral right by secret ballot.<sup>17</sup>

Deputies of local councils are elected by citizens residing in the territory of the respective administrative-territorial unit with observance of equal opportunities in the procedure established by law (Art. 112).

The procedure for the election of the President and deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic is determined by the Constitutional Law.

The statutory instrument that in the fullest extent regulates the activities of organizing and holding elections of deputies to local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic is the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Elections of Deputies to Local Councils" (hereinafter referred to as the Law of the KR). The distinguishing features of the elections of deputies to local councils from the elections of deputies of JK of the KR, which are regulated by the Constitutional Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Elections of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic" of July 2, 2011, No. 68<sup>18</sup>(hereinafter - the Constitutional Law) are as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See: Criminal Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of February 2, 2017, No. 19 // <u>http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/111527</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See: Code of the Kyrgyz Republic on Violations of April 13, 2017, No. 58 // <u>http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/111565</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> See: Misdemeanor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of February 1, 2017, No. 18 // http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/111529?cl=ru-ru

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See: Administrative Procedure Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of January 25, 2017, No. 13 // http://base.spinform.ru/show\_doc.fwx?rgn=94228

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> See: Civil Procedure Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of January 20, 2017, No. 6 // <u>http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/111521?cl=ru-ru</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See: Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic of June 27, 2010 (as amended by KR Law No. 218 of December 28, 2016) // <u>http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/202913</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See: Constitutional Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Elections of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and Deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic" of July 2, 2011, No. 68 // <u>http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/203244</u>

### 1. The electoral system:

If the elections of deputies to the Jogorku Kenesh are held under the proportional system, the elections of deputies to local councils under Article 47 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic are held under two systems: elections of deputies to city councils are held under the <u>proportional system</u>, and elections of deputies to village councils - under the <u>majoritarian system</u>. In the elections of deputies to city councils, parties must pass the 7 percent threshold, as before.

#### 2. The right to nominate candidates belongs to:

- to city councils - to political parties;

- to village councils - to political parties and citizens by **self-nomination.** 

2.1. Party nominations to <u>city councils</u> are made for each single electoral district in the number of candidates exceeding not less than **one and a half times** the number of deputy seats established for the local council.

2.2. Party nominations to the <u>village councils</u> are made for each multi-mandate constituency in the number of candidates not exceeding the number of mandates established for that constituency.

#### 3. Terms of nomination:

- the candidates list for deputies by a political party and the submission of the necessary documents to the relevant TEC for city councils ends **40** calendar days before election day.

- candidates for deputies by a political party, **self-nomination** and submission of the necessary documents to the relevant TEC for village councils ends **30** calendar days before election day.

4. The **electoral deposit** is the amount of money paid by a candidate when he or she is nominated for a public elected office.

The electoral deposit is set at the following amount:

- to Bishkek and Osh city councils - in the amount of five hundred times the calculation index established by the legislation (50,000 soms);

- to city councils, except for Bishkek and Osh cities - in the amount of two hundred times the calculation index established by the legislation (20,000 soms);

- to village councils - in the amount of ten times the calculation index established by the legislation (1,000 soms).

#### 5. Electoral threshold

In contrast to the elections of deputies of the JK of the KR, where the three percent threshold is established, the seven percent electoral threshold remains the norm for local council elections.

#### 6. Reserving mandates for women.

In contrast to the elections of deputies of the JK of the KR, where a 30% quota for people of the same sex is established, the elections to village councils have normative guarantees of gender equality through the introduction of a 30% reserve of mandates for women in each constituency of village councils and the distribution of mandates in village councils in accordance with the reservation of mandates for women.

The number of reserved mandates in a constituency depends on the total number of mandates in the respective constituency.

1) 1 mandate is reserved in 2,3-mandate constituencies;

- 2) 2 mandates are reserved in the 4,5,6-mandate constituencies;
- 3) 3 mandates are reserved in the 7,8,9,10-mandate constituencies;
- 4) 4 mandates are reserved in the 11,12,13-mandate constituencies;
- 5) 5 mandates are reserved in the 14,15,16-mandate constituencies.

### 7. Public Observer:

The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic, by analogy with the constitutional law, also has a norm about public observers, but Article 2 of the Law of the KR does not bring the concept of "observer" into line, which says that an observer is a person appointed by a candidate, political party and <u>other non-commercial organizations</u> to observe the preparation of elections, voting, vote count, tabulation of voting results and establishment of election results in the manner prescribed by law.

### 8. The Observer:

The second paragraph of part one of Article 9 of the Constitutional Law stipulates that a candidate or a political party may appoint no more than two observers to each precinct election commission. However, there is no such norm in Article 7 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic, in this connection candidates and political parties in local elections can appoint an unlimited number of observers.

### 9. Campaigning:

Clause 2 of Part 13 of Article 22 of the Constitutional Law stipulates that concerts and theatrical performances are not allowed in stadiums and streets of populated areas, as well as sports events. However, in a similar article of the Law of the KR there is no such norm.

In world practice, national electoral legislation is divided into two categories:

- general electoral law relating to all elections and establishing the legal framework for all elections, including elections to the executive and legislative branches at the national and local levels;

- special electoral legislation relating to elections to a particular body of government or referenda and containing special legal provisions.

In the Kyrgyz Republic, the electoral legislation has separate legislative acts. As can be seen from the comparison above, there are differences between the same processes between the elections of deputies to local councils from the elections of deputies of JK of the KR.

In our opinion, the second option is characteristic in federal systems or in the context of high decentralization, in this regard the first option is preferable for the Kyrgyz Republic, the option of one electoral codified statutory instrument - the code regulating all elections, because this approach guarantees consistency in the organization and practice of elections, as well as uniform application of law in relation to all elections. In addition, this option simplifies the process of drafting the necessary amendments to the legislation.

In early 2020, the CEC of the KR adopted a number of statutory instruments containing norms of electoral law, while local self-government elections were scheduled for April 12, 2020.

We consider the adoption of these statutory instruments belated, because electoral legislation should be enacted sufficiently in advance of elections, so that voters and all participants in the electoral process - including the bodies responsible for elections, candidates, parties and the media - would know about the actual rules. Electoral legislation that comes into effect at the very last minute can undermine confidence in the electoral process and reduce opportunities for political forces and voters to become familiar with the rules relating to the electoral process in a timely manner.

Despite the improvement of the legislative technique and institutional basis of the electoral process, the development of the latest information technologies to improve the transparency of elections, the Kyrgyz Republic currently faces some problematic aspects in this area.

The Foundation considers it necessary to continuously carry out activities aimed at improving the electoral legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic based on the analysis of the past elections taking into account the recommendations of international and public observers.

# 5. SOCIO-POLITICAL SITUATION

In general, describing the reporting period, the Foundation notes that the elections to local councils were held in a difficult socio-political situation for the republic. The economic crisis, the beginning of the third wave of the COVID-19 epidemic, the effects of political change and other circumstances had a significant impact on the electoral process.

Regarding the social and economic situation in the country, the Foundation notes the concerns of the population about continuously rising prices of food, fuels and lubricants, rising unemployment and the effects of the COVID-19 epidemic. The negative impact of the pandemic on the economy continues in 2021, with GDP falling by 9.4% in the first three months of this year.

According to long-term observers, the socio-political situation in the country on the eve of local elections was relatively calm, but with some apprehension in connection with the local council elections and referendum. Thus, there were some tensions of local nature in Bishkek due to worsening epidemiological situation, in Osh due to escalating struggle of political parties; besides, in Batken oblast public tensions are related to border issues.

High competition among political parties in the last elections should be noted. In Bishkek, 25 parties nominated their candidates. In addition, the confrontation of political parties in Osh city raises concerns, where representatives of five parties participating in the elections to the local city council claimed that their competitors had committed gross violations of the law during the campaign.

Nine parties are registered for the seats in the Osh city council, five of which - "Uluu Jurt", "Respublika", "Uluttar Birimdigi", "Butun Kyrgyzstan" and "Bir Bol" - held a press conference on March 31 where they stated that administrative resources had been used during the election campaign. They accuse the "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" party of using administrative resources and vote-buying and urged the President to take notice of it.<sup>19</sup>

According to speakers at the briefing, some parties are engaged in road improvement, that is, they actually bribe voters, and local authorities promote certain political organizations, taking advantage of their power. At the same time, the speakers expressed dissatisfaction with the fact that information about all these electoral legislation violations was submitted to the territorial election commission and law enforcement agencies and there was no reaction.

Mirlan Orozbaev, the leader of the "Uluu Jurt" party, admitted that they were tired of complaining about the obvious facts of using administrative resources and vote-buying, for which reason he appealed to the head of state Sadyr Japarov.

The day before, on March 30, 2021, the RRCG of the KR CEC received a report about the post of Aitieva K. on Facebook social media in which she indicated that the deputy mayor of Osh city Azimov Zh., who is a candidate of "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan", bribes voters through canvassers of the said party by distributing grocery packages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> https://rus.azattyk.org/a/31181179.html

The information and records were sent to the General Prosecutor's Office of the KR, the MIA of the KR, and the Osh Territorial Election Commission.

During the April 3 rally in the central square of Osh, "Uluttar Birimdigi" party leader Melis Myrzakmatov once again criticized the "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" party, accusing them of having ties with the authorities and using administrative resources.

In other cities, observers note relatively calm situation, moderate activity of political parties, but they also note the existence of violations. Particularly noted are the complaints of violations of campaign rules, bribery of voters and use of administrative resources in Tokmok.

Hence, the pre-election environment featured political and social tensions and economic problems against the backdrop of the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic.

The polling day on April 11, including the day of voting outside the voting premises (April 10), were marked by an intense political struggle with many violations in some cities, especially in Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok.

## 6. ACTIVITIES OF ELECTION COMMISSIONS

Assessing the activities of election commissions for the period reflected in the Final Report, the Foundation notes that the activities of the CEC were carried out transparently and within the established procedures, and the principle of collective leadership is observed in decision-making.

All information about the activities of the CEC is publicly available and posted on the official website <u>https://shailoo.gov.kg/</u>. The Foundation notes that there are certain shortcomings in the work of some territorial election commissions, including lack of transparency, incompleteness of material and technical resources, and violations of sanitary standards.

The activity of election commissions is regulated by the legal acts where the main ones are the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Constitutional Law "On Elections of the President of the KR and the Deputies of the JK of the KR", "On Election Commissions for Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic", the CEC Regulations and other legal acts of the Kyrgyz Republic. The CEC is a permanent state body ensuring the preparation and holding of elections and referenda in the Kyrgyz Republic and, according to the established hierarchy in the electoral legislation, is in charge of the system of election commissions.

The Unified System of Election Commissions of the Kyrgyz Republic is formed by:

1) Central Commission for Elections and Referenda

2) territorial election commissions for elections and referenda: district and city election commissions - by decision of the Central Election Commission;

3) precinct election commissions for elections and referenda<sup>20</sup>

Election commissions operate on the principles of:

1) legality;

2) publicity;

3) openness;

4) independence;

5) collegiality;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Election Commissions for Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic", <u>https://shailoo.gov.kg/ru/ZakonodatelstvoMyyzamdar/ZakonyMyyzamdar/Ov\_izbzratel\_kom\_provedeni/</u>

6) justice;7) impartiality.

The Foundation's observers carry out observation in the following TECs:

- 1) Bishkek TEC
- 2) Osh TEC
- 3) Panfilov TEC (Kaindy)
- 4) Tokmok TEC
- 5) Talas city TEC
- 6) Naryn city TEC
- 7) Karakol TEC
- 8) Jalal-Abad TEC
- 9) Batken city TEC

It should be noted that at the local elections the main workload was borne by the territorial election commissions, and therefore the role of each TEC at the local elections was significant, where more self-sufficiency was required in contrast to the parliamentary and presidential elections.

The observation showed that all TECs were formed in accordance with the requirements of the electoral legislation.

The registration of public observers in all TECs proceeded without significant difficulties when presenting the available directions, however, not all public observers were provided with certificates in accordance with the rules.

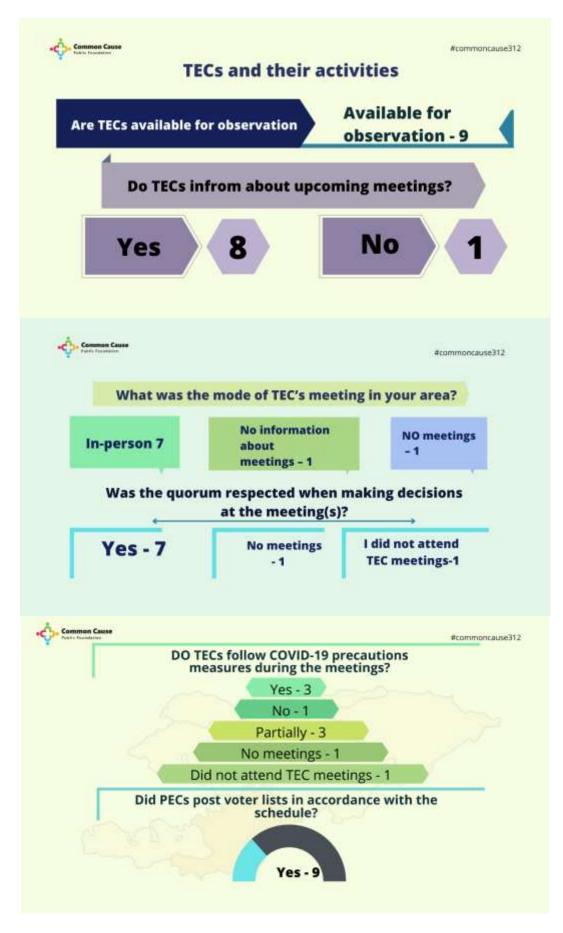
During the reporting period, all nine TECs to be observed were available for the observation. In seven TECs, the Foundation's observers were able to attend the meetings which were held in the usual (offline) mode while meeting the quorum requirement. The observers did not take part in two TECs. Eight out of nine TECs notify about upcoming meetings, in most cases by phone (6 out of 8), but also via messengers and in person.

The quorum at meetings was conducted in all TEC meetings.

Observers noted that sanitary rules were not observed in one TEC, while in others they were sufficiently or partially observed. When considering complaints, applications and appeals, TECs do not always comply with the deadlines for consideration of complaints, applications and appeals, for instance, there were observed delays in the process of considering complaints and appeals in Osh city.

Observers noted that in one TEC the sanitary rules were not observed, in the rest they were sufficiently or partially observed. In most cases, the wearing of masks was observed partially, and social distance was observed partially. Temperature measurements were not carried out with a thermal imager.

#### Infographic 1. TEC activities



When considering complaints, applications and appeals, TECs do not always comply with the deadlines for considering complaints, applications and appeals, as in the city of Osh, when

considering complaints and appeals, delays in the process were observed. In general, the problem of meeting deadlines and notification of a decision on a particular issue remains one of the main problems of election commissions.

There are positive developments in the consideration of violations committed by political parties in terms of imposing such sanctions as exclusion and de-registration of political party candidates, as well as the invalidation of the election results in Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok.

This is evidenced by the de-registration of three candidates from two political parties.

On April 1, 2021, the Bishkek TEC adopted a number of decisions at its meeting:

- A member of the "SDPK" party's political council complained about individual candidates from the "Emgek", "Yntymak" and "NDPK" political parties arguing that some candidates for deputies of the BCC, being simultaneously the members of the "SDPK" political party, were nominated by other political parties and were registered as candidates for deputies of the BCC. Based on the results of consideration of additional materials provided by the complainant, the Bishkek TEC made a decision to cancel the registration of candidates from the "Emgek" PP A. Mambetova (head of the MTA No. 17) and M. Toktonaliev (head of the MTA No. 15) for non-compliance with the nomination procedure stipulated by Article 49 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Elections of Deputies to Local Councils".

The BTEC imposed fines in accordance with the Violations Code of KR on candidates from political parties "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" (Lisnichenko V.M.), "NDPK" (Idirova R.R.), and "Kyrgyzstan" (Asylbekov T.A.) for the violations during the election campaign period.

The BTEC issued warnings to the following political parties and candidates for non-compliance with campaign rules:

- "Emgek" PP: Z.B. Abirov - for premature election campaigning and a warning to the political party for using administrative resources by involving chairmen of house and neighborhood committees;

- "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" PP: Tolbaev B.L. - for premature election campaigning and warning to the political party for violation of sanitary and epidemiological rules during the conduct of a mass concert event;

- "Nash Narod" PP: Kairatova A.K. - for premature election campaigning;

- "Uluu Jurt" PP: two written warnings were issued on the inadmissibility of abuse of the right to campaign for the statements of candidate Alimbek kyzy B. in relation to the candidate of "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" Tolbaeva B.L., and engagement of minors in the campaigning;

- "Ishenim" PP: a written warning was issued for the violation of the rules of election campaigning, namely the planting of greenery by representatives of a political party in the Yntymak municipal park;

- "Ak Bata" PP: two written warning issued for the violation of the rules of election campaigning, namely for the organization of a sports event, which was accompanied by prize awards and free distribution of food and spilling crushed stone in Ak Bata residential area.

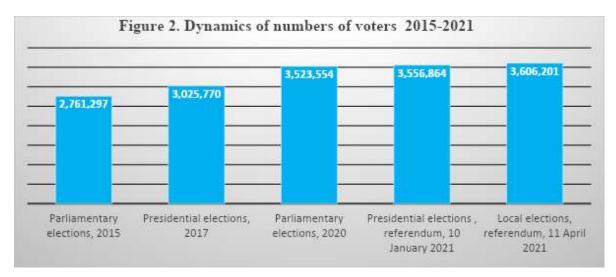
All observers in all TECs were able to receive the final minutes of TEC meetings, but the final decision was made by the CEC based on the results of consideration of complaints and appeals from citizens, public funds and political parties.

On the one hand, when a large number of violations are detected, the recognition of the election results in cities as invalid is a positive moment, but on the other hand, this undermines the entire electoral process in these three cities, for the organization of which budget funds were spent.

## 7. VOTER REGISTRATION

On April 1, 2021, the KR CEC posted the final list of voters for the elections of deputies to local councils and the list of referendum participants (nationwide vote) on the <u>"Tizme"</u> state voter portal - <u>https://tizme.gov.kg/.</u>

As of April 1, 2021, the number of all voters on the final list was as follows: **3,606,201** participants, of which **1,725,849** are men and **1,880,352** are women, or 47.86% and 52.14% respectively.



Of these, in the final voter list for the elections of deputies to local councils the number of voters was as follows: **3,318,130** voters, of which **1,587,598** were men and **1,730,532** were women, or 47.85% and 52.15%, respectively.

According to the Calendar Plan of the CEC of the Kyrgyz Republic, by April 9, 2021 (no later than 3 calendar days before the election day), the lists of voters for the elections of deputies to local councils were posted at **2,273** polling stations.

Also, according to the measures taken by the CEC, voters could clarify their polling station (number and address) and check themselves in the voter lists:

- On the <u>"Tizme"</u> state voter portal at <u>https://tizme.gov.kg/;</u>
- By calling the short number **1255** (toll free);
- Also, by calling or sending an SMS to **119** specifying their PIN number indicated in their passport.

The voters' list for the elections of deputies to local councils includes members of the local community - the city, the aiyl aimak. Membership in the local community is determined by the note of residence registration in the citizen's passport. (Articles 2 and 12 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Elections of Deputies of the Local Councils").

In order for the citizens to participate in the elections of deputies to local councils, the citizens' address of residence registration must correspond to the address / record in the chip of residence in the passport.

All citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic who are entitled to vote on the election day and have completed biometric registration in accordance with the legislation on elections were included in the referendum. For the local council elections, accordingly, only the voters registered at the place where the local council elections were held were included.

It is observed that there have been changes in residence registration among citizens in Bishkek, thus in the final list the difference is 5224 voters, in the early presidential election there was a reverse trend away from the cities to the regions.

	11.04.2021	Difference			
Region	Number of PECs	prelimina ry list as of 15.03.21.	control list as of 20.03.21	final list as of 01.04.21	15.03.21 01.04.21
COUNTRYWIDE:	2,483	3,597,476	3,603,861	3,606,201	8,725
BISHKEK CITY	228	415,563	415,944	420,787	5,224
OSH CITY	78	150,196	150,351	151,960	1,764
OSH TEC	78	150,196	150,351	151,960	1,764
BATKEN OBLAST	218	299,547	299,576	300,500	953
JALAL-ABAD OBLAST	452	672,654	672,870	672,859	205
NARYN OBLAST	169	206,111	206,122	204,218	-1,893
OSH OBLAST	515	732,231	735,063	730,057	-2,174
TALAS OBLAST	117	160,051	160,087	159,532	-519
CHUI OBLAST	408	595,292	597,632	596,832	1,540
ISSYK-KUL OBLAST	250	311,621	311,711	310,858	-763
MIA of the KR	48	54,135	54,202	58,598	4,463

Table 1. Information on the dynamics of the lists of voters and referendum participants:

Table 2. The number of voters in the final list for the elections of deputies to local councils, as of April 1, 2021, by gender and age.

Names of oblasts	Number of PECs	Number of village councils, names of districts	Number of city councils	Number of voters in the final list as of 11.04.21
COUNTRYWIDE:	2,273	420	28	3,318,130
BISHKEK CITY	228	0	1	419,901
OSH CITY	78	0	1	151,671
JALAL-ABAD OBLAST	418	62	7	620,106
BATKEN OBLAST	201	27	6	279,875
CHUI OBLAST	369	98	6	533,294
TALAS OBLAST	111	34	1	151,918
ISSYK-KUL OBLAST	242	59	3	304,599
NARYN OBLAST	156	59	1	191,658
OSH OBLAST	470	81	2	665,108

### 8. ELECTION CAMPAIGN

The election campaigning was conducted amid the COVID-19 epidemic and economic crisis; cases of violations of campaign rules, vote buying, pressure and threats to voters, use of administrative resources, and intimidation of observers were revealed during the campaign. The highest competition, as well as the highest number of complaints were noted in Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok cities. These are the cities where political parties made joint statements on bribery and abuse of administrative resources used by individual political parties during the pre-election period.

Moreover, some political parties continued the practice of involving the heads of neighborhood and house committees in campaigning in Bishkek and Osh cities, exploiting the undefined status of house committees and neighborhood committees. It is therefore recommended that steps be taken to determine the status of heads of neighborhood and house committees during the election period, as well as to improve enforcement practices with respect to addressing violations occurring during the pre-election period and on the polling day outside of polling stations that could affect the voting results.

Before the start of campaigning, 25 parties participating in the Bishkek City Council elections signed a memorandum on compliance with the law and the conduct of fair elections. The signing of the memorandum is a positive indicator; the document contains the parties' commitment to a fair contest. But nevertheless, regardless of this, some political parties point to unfair competition on the part of individual parties.

As part of monitoring of local elections, long-term observers of the Foundation held meetings with political party representatives and candidates for deputies to local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic. For instance, the meetings with 11 parties out of 25 registered parties were held in Bishkek.

Foundation's observers met with 11 political parties in Bishkek:

- 1) "Butun Kyrgyzstan"
- 2) "Uluu Jurt"
- 3) "NDPK"
- 4) "Social Democrats"
- 5) "Ishenim"
- 6) "The Party of Communists of Kyrgyzstan"
- 7) "Reforma"
- 8) "Nash narod"
- 9) "Respublika"
- 10) "Socialist Party of Kyrgyzstan"
- 11) "Ulutman"

Based on the results of meetings with the political parties, the conclusions obtained were as follows:

- 1) The greatest discontent was caused by the situation around the debates on the state-owned channel PBC. In addition to the "Nash narod" PP and the "Party of Communists" PP, 9 parties condemned the actions and omissions of the PBC in providing the airtime. According to the testimonies of the candidates, the TV channel representatives first tried to cancel the debates, claiming that they did not have the technical capability and preparation. However, after a negative public reaction, the channel agreed to allocate time to all participants.
- 2) The possibility of low voter turnout is a particular concern for political parties competing for the seats in the Bishkek city council. Door-to-door canvasses and meetings with voters

indicate a possible lack of interest in the local elections on the part of citizens. This was mentioned by the "NDPK", "Respublika", "Ishenim", and the "Socialist Party of Kyrgyzstan" political parties.

3) Some of the violations were related to the damage of campaign materials, when posters of one party were pasted over with the posters of other party. Such disputes were most often resolved through negotiations between authorized persons of the parties, who created a shared group in the WhatsApp messenger.

In this case, the only unresolved issue was that of the "NDPK" party, which was dissatisfied with the poor response of the Bishkek TEC. According to them, TEC did not take any measures, despite an official appeal of the party accompanied by the proofs of damage to campaign materials. The "Respublika" party also joined the statement of the NDPK about the TEC's poor response.

- 4) Surveyed representatives of the "Social Democrats" party shared the opinion that there is an urgent need to reform the work of law enforcement agencies in terms of meeting certain deadlines during the election period. The parties are dissatisfied with the delayed assessment by the law enforcement agencies. Without this assessment the CEC has no right to take measures against any party.
- 5) There were separate complaints from the "Ulutman" political party about the use of administrative resources, when representatives of large shopping centers and markets, affiliated with the current deputies, prohibited campaigning in the adjacent areas of their establishments. In private conversations, they hinted that this area already belonged to another party, but officially, on camera, they said they were only concerned about the convenience of customers, who were allegedly disturbed by the canvassers.
- 6) In conclusion, the parties "Butun Kyrgyzstan", "Nash narod", and "Social Democrats" emphasized positive developments in the work of the Bishkek TEC and the KR CEC as a whole. They also noted that on the eve of the 2021 local council elections, the use of administrative resources and mass bribery had decreased, in contrast to previous election campaigns.
- 7) The "Social Democrats" party stressed the importance of bringing a request to consider the possibility of reducing the numerous duplications of documents at various stages of registration to the attention of the KR CEC. In particular, they had to fill out almost identical forms numbered No. 5, No. 6, No. 11, and No. 12.

## 8.1 **REGISTRATION OF PARTY CANDIDATES**

The registration of the lists of candidates of political parties for the elections of deputies to city councils was completed on March 11, 2021.

According to the legislation concerning the elections of deputies to local councils, the registration of the lists of candidates of political parties for the elections of deputies to city councils ended 30 days before the polling day, i.e., before March 12, 2021.

A total of 796 deputies were to be elected in 28 city councils.<sup>21</sup> Territorial electoral commissions registered the lists of candidates of 56 out of 59 parties that submitted notifications about their intention to participate in the elections.

Among them:

- Osh TEC refused to register the candidates list of the "Tilekteshtik" PP due to failure to provide the necessary documents.
- In Bishkek, two political parties, "Eldik" and the "Youth Progressive Party of Kyrgyzstan", refused to further participate in the elections.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> <u>https://shailoo.gov.kg/ru/news/4511/</u>

• Sulukta TEC refused to register the candidates list of "Butun Kyrgyzstan" PP due to the non-compliance with the procedure of candidates list nomination.

The total number of candidates on the registered 237 lists was 11,782. On average, 15 candidates compete for one seat, the largest number of parties and candidates is in the capital Bishkek: 25 parties and 40 candidates for one seat, next is Karakol city with 17 parties, 27 candidates competing for one seat, and the smallest number of parties and candidates is in Kok-Jangak city: 3 parties and 5 people per seat.

The elections to city councils in Bishkek and Osh in 2021 showed that, compared to 2016, political parties have significantly increased their activities. In 2016, only 14 parties participated in the Bishkek city council elections, of which 5 political parties passed the 7% threshold. Whereas the number of participating political parties in 2021 rose to 25, although 27 parties applied to participate in the elections. Later, two political parties, "Eldik" and the "Youth Progressive Party of Kyrgyzstan", refused to further participate in the elections. There were 1,820 candidates for 45 mandates.

In Osh city the activity of political parties decreased. In 2016, 17 political parties applied to the Osh City Council, 5 of which refused to participate further. 13 parties participated in the elections and 6 parties were admitted to the allocation of mandates. But in 2021, the situation is changing, with a total of 9 parties participating.

In light of recent political transformations, according to experts, elections to city councils have become more attractive for political parties in comparison with the elections to the JK of the Kyrgyz Republic. In 2020 only 16 political parties participated in the failed elections to the JK, with twice as many mandates in comparison, for example, with the Bishkek City Council.

A total of 56 parties participate in the election of deputies to city councils, including:

- The "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" political party has been registered in 21 out of 28 city councils.
- 20 parties nominated the lists of candidates in 1 city.
- 10 parties in 2 cities ("Ulutman", "Ak-Shumkar", "Kalk yntymagy", "Energetiki", "Adilet", "Adiletuu Kyrgyzstan", "Ak-Bata", "Ala-Too-kyyrgyz jeri", "Butkul Jashtar", "Kalys", "Nash Narod", "Democratic Movement of Kyrgyzstan", "Patriot", "Svoboda Vybora", "El Birimdigi", "Eldik Narodnaya", "Asyl Muras-Jashtar", "Kuchtuu Koom", "Stolitsa", "Tazalyk").
- 7 parties in 3 cities ("Amanat", "Meken Yntymagy", "Nur", "Uluttar Birimdigi People's Party", "Ordo", "Tabylga", "Chon-Kazat").
- 5 parties-in 4 cities ("Bir-Bol", "Zhany-Door", "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan", "People's Democratic Party of Kyrgyzstan" ("NDPK"), "Patriot yntymagy").
- 3 parties in 5 cities ("Ishenim", "Kyrgyzstan", "Tynchtyk").
- 11 parties nominated the candidate lists in 6 or more cities ("Birge Vmeste Muras", "Aikol Kyrgyzstan", "Asman Ala-Too", "Ata-Meken", "Vlast narodu", "Green Party of Kyrgyzstan", "Party of Communists of Kyrgyzstan", "Reforma", "Socialist Party of Kyrgyzstan", and "Uluu Kyrgyzstan").

The Foundation conducted a detailed analysis of the lists of candidates from the parties, the research can be found on the website of the Foundation at the link: LINK:

### 8.2 MONITORING OF THE MASS MEDIA

The KR CEC at its session of March 12, 2021 decided to accredit 179 media outlets and online media outlets<sup>22</sup> for participation in the pre-election campaign for the elections of deputies to local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic, particularly

- 115 media outlets;
- 64 online media outlets.

The decision was made by taking into consideration the Working Group's proposal on the issues of informing the voters and other electoral subjects and the campaigning rules on the accreditation of mass media and online media outlets in the elections of deputies to local councils in accordance with Articles 9, 22 of the Law of KR "On Elections of Deputies to Local Councils", Clauses 2, 21, Part 1, Articles 7 and 18 of the Law of KR "On election commissions for elections and referenda in the Kyrgyz Republic" and based on the "Regulation on the Accreditation of Mass Media and Online Media Outlets during the Preparation and Conduct of Elections of Deputies of the Local Councils", approved by the Resolution of the KR CEC No. 151 dated October 11, 2016.

The Foundation monitored the media scene in the cities of Bishkek, Osh, Kaindy, Tokmok, Karakol, Naryn, Talas, Batken and Jalal-Abad and across the country among such news outlets as 24.kg, Kloop, Sputnik, Kaktus Media and other local media outlets as well as online media outlets of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The main tasks of the mass media monitoring are as follows:

- analysis of revealed violations published in the media,
- daily monitoring of Kyrgyz and Russian-language news for coverage of the election of deputies to local city councils.

The monitoring of the local mass media revealed the following:

In general, media monitoring showed:

1) 179 accredited media and online publications covered the elections of deputies of local keneshes, the news contained: general information about the elections (the main sources of the CEC, TECs, the government and state bodies), information about violations during the electoral process and measures taken, about socio-political situations during the election period, political advertising of parties, coverage of party programs and familiarization of candidates with advertising rights.

2) Election processes were more widely covered in large cities than in regions and small towns.

3) It is observed that the role of social networks in society is growing more and more, and they are sources of information for publication in the media.

4) Publications about rallies and protests by parties, as well as complaints from activists and public organizations about violations, demands to annul the voting results are definitely noted.

5) There are a number of news reports about the negative reaction of society about the past elections.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> <u>https://shailoo.gov.kg/ru/news/4509/</u>

#### 8.3 MONITORING OF SOCIAL MEDIA

The monitoring of social media and the analysis of online content on certain Facebook pages since the pre-election campaign period for reports of violations in the discourse on the elections of deputies to local councils in Kyrgyzstan is part of the long-term observation. Given the nature and scale of the monitoring initiative, the Foundation decided to focus mostly on the Facebook social media platform. Facebook is the most popular social network in the Kyrgyz Republic. In December 2020, the number of Facebook users was 3,123,000, representing 49% of the country's total population (NapoleonCat, 2020). In December 2020, the attained involvement was 36.78%. Despite the fact that television remains the main source of information in the Kyrgyz Republic, especially in the regions, election campaigns are more often conducted on social networks, especially under COVID-19. In addition, social media is becoming useful for government agencies and the electoral process in general, so it was crucial to examine the role of social media in the election campaign.

The Foundation carried out manual monitoring of social media during the pre-election period for reports of violations of the electoral process procedures, as well as an analysis of political parties' paid advertising posts. 54 pages were selected for monitoring, mostly on the Facebook platform, along with individual Telegram channels and personal Twitter profiles, which included pages and groups in six categories: candidates (political parties), civic activists, politicians, lawyers, opinion leaders and social public groups. The results of manual monitoring were recorded in a dedicated table.

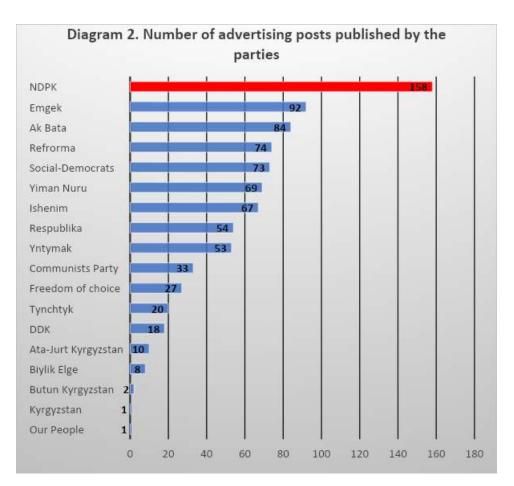
The purpose of the research is to examine the publications about the following violations: pressure/threats against voters and party candidates, vote-buying, the use of administrative resources, as well as to study the role of social media in the electoral process and their influence on the electoral process and the audience.

During the reporting period (March 11-April 12, 2021), the Foundation detected 126 reports in social media about alleged violations of the electoral process across the country, of which: 55 reports of vote-buying, 21 reports of the use of administrative resources, and 23 reports of pressure/threats against voters and candidates. The largest number of reports (26) were about alleged violations by the "Ata-Jurt" party. Mostly, the reports were about alleged violations in the cities of Bishkek and Osh, as well as in the Chui oblast. Of the 126 reports of alleged violations found by the Foundation in social networks, the Central Election Commission accepted for review and further investigation 72 violations, according to the register of complaints and violations at the elections of deputies of local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic and at the referendum of the Kyrgyz Republic of April 11, 2021, published on the website of the CEC.

The monitoring results presented here are based also on candidates' Facebook pages and ads included in the Facebook Ad Library report for the past 30 days (March 12 - April 10, 2021).

Facebook Ads Library is a transparency tool that offers a comprehensive, searchable collection of all ads that are currently posted on Facebook. This tool is useful for monitoring the electoral process and campaigning in order to examine the possible interference in elections and increase confidence in the electoral process. Facebook made the tool available in Kyrgyzstan ahead of the 2020 parliamentary elections.

#### **Diagram 2. Number of advertising posts published in batches**

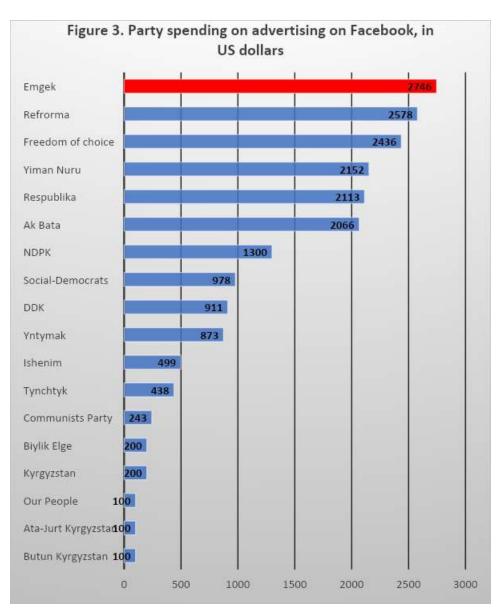


During the reporting period, 19 political parties published 844 advertising posts from their Facebook pages. Comparing the first three weeks of the election campaign to the last election week, the Foundation concluded that the candidates' activity had increased significantly - they were posting more paid ads and spending more according to the Facebook Ads Library.

The largest number of advertising posts was published from the page of the "NDPK" political party - 158 (\$1,300). The political parties "Nash Narod" and "Kyrgyzstan" limited themselves to only one advertising post, according to the Ad Library.

Six political parties invested over two thousand dollars in advertising on Facebook: "Reforma", "Iman Nuru", "Emgek", "Ak Bata", "Respublika", and "Svoboda Vybora". The "Emgek" party invested the most money in advertising, almost three thousand dollars (\$2,746) during the reporting period. Compared to the foundation's interim report which showed that this political party spent \$1,239 between March 1 and March 30, 2021, their spending on advertising increased by \$1,507 in the last pre-election week.

In total, all political parties in the Facebook Ad Library spent over \$20,000 (1,695,800 KGS) on paid advertising on Facebook for the period from March 12 to April 10, 2021.



Political party advertising on Facebook differed regionally as well.

None of the parties have advertising posts that are targeted at the audience from the Batken oblast. There were also almost no parties' advertisements aimed at the audience from Jalal-Abad oblast - it is unknown why the candidates decided to bypass this oblast. Parties competing for seats in the Bishkek City Council were the most active - they spent a total of about \$19,000.

Having studied the information on the receipts and expenditures of election funds of presidential candidates as of April 16, 2021, on the official website of the Central Election Commission<sup>23</sup>, the Foundation found that the expenditures for paid advertising on Facebook were not mentioned in the published data. Some candidates indicate the expenses for campaign materials in the purpose of payment, as well as the services of advertising agents (who are likely to run advertising on Facebook among other things); for example, the "Ata-Jurt" political party indicates the promotion and targeting of campaign materials in social networks in their expenses, however, no one specifically mentions the spending on paid advertising on Facebook.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> <u>https://talapker.shailoo.gov.kg/ru/election/14/kenesh\_gor/5/party/48/finance/</u>

06.04.2021	Chukaeva Meerim	For promotion in social networks agitation	26 150.00
	Anarbekovne	materials-target according to the Agreement on	
		the provision of services from April 5, 2021	

Taking into account the comparison of the Facebook Ad Library report on local council elections with the presidential election of 2021, it can be concluded that the current campaign spent much more financial resources on paid political advertising on Facebook than the prior presidential campaign, the total expenses of which were only about 9,000 USD, and less than the prior parliamentary campaign of 2020, the total expenses of which were over 35,000 USD.

It should be noted that fake accounts are active during election campaigns, parties and candidates resort to the services of so-called "troll factories" on various social and online platforms that defend the interests of individual candidates and parties, including in the comments of the news resources themselves. The Foundation did not conduct special monitoring of the dynamics of fake accounts, but the practice of using fake accounts continues in local elections.

According to the resource factcheck.kg<sup>24</sup>, the social network Facebook has removed about 400 fake accounts that supported the parties<sup>25</sup>.

The elimination of such a number of fake Facebook accounts became possible thanks to a joint investigation by journalists from kloop.kg and experts from the Media Policy Institute, who analyzed about 800 accounts on the Facebook social network.

In the elections to local keneshes, "troll factories" were also used, including in the Bishkek city kenesh. The editorial staff of Factcheck.kg analyzed 600 Facebook accounts and found out that fakes have again proliferated and are again waging wars in support of wealthy parties.

Six of the 25 parties that participated in the elections to the BGK (Yntymak, Ata-Zhurt Kyrgyzstan, Ak-Bata, NDPK, Emgek and the Social Democrats party) were analyzed for troll support.

According to Factcheck.kg, most of the fake accounts with positive comments were found on the Yntymak party page. Three out of four users who supported this party turned out to be fake. 22% of users are real people, it was not possible to identify information on 6% of accounts. The second place was taken by the party "Emgek", among their supporters more than half are not real users. Real only 16% and doubtful 24%.

This is followed by the NDPK. Almost half of the users supporting this party are fakes. About the same number of real users, and only 5% we could not determine.

The Ak-Bata party has approximately the same alignment.

They are followed by Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan and Sotsial Democrats, which have more than half of their supporters real people.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> https://factcheck.kg/vybory-v-bgk-kakie-partii-opirayutsya-na-fejkovuyu-podderzhku/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> <u>https://kloop.kg/blog/2021/03/31/odnim-grafikom-kakie-partii-opirayutsya-na-fejkovuyu-podderzhku-na-vyborah-v-gorkeneshi/</u>

accounts that leave positive comments under the posts of parties or candidates

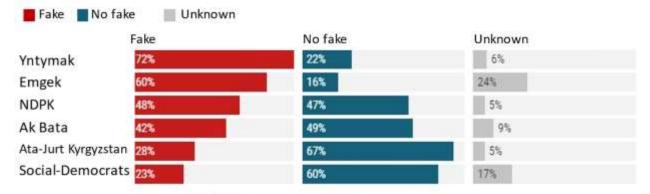


Chart: Factcheck.kg - Source: Facebook - Get the data - Created with Datawrapper

#### 9. FINANCING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNING

The Common Cause PF, as part of its observation, examined the financing of election campaigns in Bishkek and Osh cities, as the transparency of the flow of funds in political parties and its influence on the election outcome represent an important issue.

Control over the sources of receipt, proper accounting and use of the funds of the election funds of candidates and political parties, control over the payment and return of the election deposit, and verification of financial reports of candidates and political parties is carried out by the Control and Audit Group under the CEC of the Kyrgyz Republic<sup>26</sup>.

If a candidate spends 0.5 percent more than the permissible expenditure amount of the election fund, he can be deregistered.

For the purposes of openness and transparency, information about the receipt and expenditure of funds in the election funds of candidates and political parties is published weekly on the official website of the CEC of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Candidates and political parties are required to submit a report on the amount and all sources of their election fund, as well as all expenditures made, to the TEC.

This analysis is based on the second report submitted as of March 28, 2021<sup>27</sup>.

There are five sources of the election fund formation that are provisioned. At the same time, the maximum amount of election funds of political parties that nominated a list of candidates for Bishkek and Osh city councils is significantly higher than for other cities:

- own funds of the candidate included in the list of candidates, not exceeding 100 thousand soms;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>Instruction on the procedure of the formation, accounting of receipt and expenditure of funds in the election funds of candidates and political parties for the local council elections, approved by the CEC Resolution No. 154 of October 11, 2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> 1) First financial report - at the same time as the documents confirming the payment of the electoral deposit are submitted to the territorial election commission (for elections to city councils).

 <sup>2)</sup> Second financial report (taking into account the data of the first financial report) - no later than 10 days before the election day.
 3) Third final financial report (summary information) - no later than 10 days after the election day.
 3) Third final financial report (summary information) - no later than 10 days after the election day.

- own funds of the political party, not exceeding 500 thousand soms;
- donations from individual persons, not exceeding 100 thousand soms;
- donations from legal entities, not exceeding 300 thousand soms.

The maximum amount of expenses of a political party from the election fund may not exceed 15 million soms.

#### The Bishkek City Council

Based on the counting results, the following parties passed the 7% threshold: "Emgek" - 13.87%, "Ak Bata" - 12.15%, "NDPK" - 10.7%, "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" - 9.63%, "Bizdin El" - 7.73%, "Yntymak" - 8.3%.

According to the CEC data published on the site <u>https://talapker.shailoo.gov.kg/</u>, the "Emgek" political party is dominates by the amount of funds attracted to the election funds as of April 20 this year, it managed to attract about 12.7 million soms, 8.8 million of which were formed by the donations from citizens and one legal entity. The party spent 12 million soms out of the funds transferred. The balance at the end of the reporting period was 724,726 soms.

18,493 voters voted for the "Emgek" political party. On average, the party spent 686 soms per voter.

In second place is the "Ak Bata" political party. The party managed to attract 12.3 million soms, including the donations of citizens in the amount of 7.3 million soms, of which more than 10 million soms were spent on the election campaign. The balance at the end of the reporting period amounted to 1,891,798 soms.

16,381 voters voted for the "Ak Bata" political party. On average, the party spent 750 soms per voter.

In third place in terms of received funds is the "Yntymak" political party. The party managed to attract 7.8 million soms, including the donations from citizens in the amount of 5.5 million soms, of which more than 7.6 million soms were spent on the election campaign. The balance at the end of the reporting period was 193,617 soms.

11,122 voters voted for the "Yntymak" political party. On average, 701 soms per voter were spent from the election fund.

Slightly less than that of the "Yntymak" political party, the "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" political party - 7.6 million soms, including the donations of citizens in the amount of 2.5 million soms, of which more than 7.5 million soms were spent on the election campaign. The balance at the end of the reporting period was 54,100 soms.

12,816 voters voted for the "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" political party. On average, the party spent 593 soms per voter.

The list ends with the "Bizdin-El" political party, the election fund of the party had 1.8 million soms, of which 592 thousand soms were from the donations of citizens. More than 1.6 million soms were spent on the election campaign. The balance at the end of the reporting period was 211,742 soms.

10,374 voters voted for the "Bizdin El" political party. On average, the party spent 173 soms per voter.

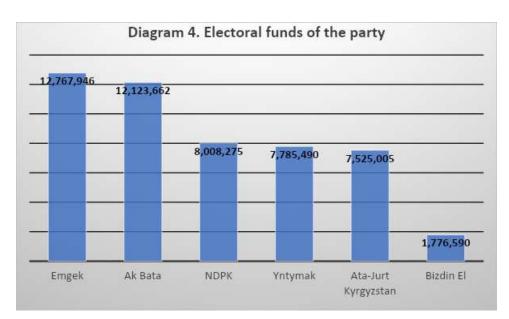


Table 3. Election funds of parties to the Bishkek city kenesh

Political Party	Party's own funds	Candidates' own funds	Donations of citizens	Legal entities	Number of people who contributed (voluntary donations)	Number of people who contribute d (own funds)
"Emgek"	500,000	3,427,986	8,761,210.11	78,750	78	35
"Ak-Bata"	50,100	4,676,874	7,396,688	-	77	52
"NDPK"	500,000	2,941,155	4,567,120	-	45	38
"Ata-Jurt	52,000	4,996,500	2,476,505	-	40	51
Kyrgyzstan"						
"Bizdin El"	60,000	1,124,200	592,390	-	15	15
"Yntymak"	338,600	1,953,300	5,493,590	-	69	23

#### The Osh City Council

According to preliminary calculations, the votes were distributed as follows: the Ata Zhurt Kyrgyzstan party - 47.99%, the Uluttar Birimdigi party - 17.99%, the Yyman Nuru party - 8.11% and the Yntymak party - 7, 36%.

CEC of Kyrgyz Republic, published According to the the on the website https://talapker.shailoo.gov.kg/, the leader among the parties in terms of the amount of funds raised to election funds in Osh was the Ata-Zhurt Kyrgyzstan party, which managed to to attract about 4 million 45 thousand 220 soms, of which 3 995 070 soms were the candidate's own funds and 50 150 soms from the party itself. Of the above, the party spent 4 million 43 thousand 277 soms on the election campaign. The balance at the end of the reporting period was 1943 soms.

33,906 voters voted for the Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan party. On average, 1 voter cost 131 soms to the party.

In second place is the People's Party of Uluttar Birimdigi, the party managed to attract 2 million 560 thousand 780 soms, of which 1 million 970 thousand 780 soms were the candidate's own funds and 520,000 soms from the party itself. Of the above, the party spent 2 million 559 thousand 584 soms. The balance at the end of the reporting period amounted to 1196 soms.

12,534 voters voted for the Uluttar Birimdigi party, the cost per voter averaged 204 soms.

In third place is "Yiman Nuru", which managed to attract 1 million 381 thousand 970 soms, of which 1 million 330 020 soms were the candidate's own funds and 51 950 soms were the funds of the party itself. Of the above, the party spent 1 million 379 845 soms on its election campaign. The balance at the end of the reporting period amounted to KGS 2125.

5,712 voters voted for the party. On average, the vote of 1 voter cost the party 241 soms.

The last place was taken by the Yntymak party, which had 579,503 soms in its electoral fund, of which 119,300 soms were the candidate's own funds, 342,520 soms were the party's own funds, and 117,683 were citizens' contributions. More than 578,503 soms were spent on the election campaign. The balance at the end of the reporting period was 1000 soms.

The smallest number of voters voted for the Yntymak party. In total, 4,984 voters cast their votes for the party. 1 vote for the party cost 116 soms.

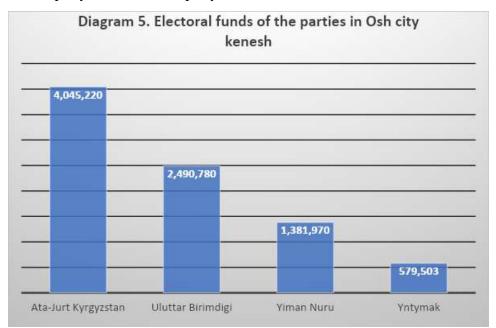


Table 4. Election funds of parties in the Osh city kenesh

Political Party	Party's own funds	Candidates' own funds	Donations of citizens	Legal entities	Number of citizens (voluntary donations)	Numbe r of candid ates
"Ata-Jurt	50,150	3,995,070	-	-	-	52
Kyrgyzstan"						
"Uluttar	520,000	1,970,780	-	-	-	50
Birimdigi						
People's						
Party"						
"Iman Nuru"	51,950	1,330,020	-	-	-	19
"Yntymak"	342,520	119,300	117,683	-	2	6

### **10. VOTING OUTSIDE THE PREMISES**

On April 10, 2021, the voting outside the premises was held for the local council elections. Nonpartisan observation of the field voting process was carried out at 283 PECs in Bishkek and Osh cities. Also, mobile teams monitored 31 polling stations in the cities of Karakol, Jalal-Abad, Talas, Naryn, Batken, Tokmok, and Kaindy.

Voting outside the premises was generally peaceful, but with a number of serious violations, such as violations of the secrecy of ballot, influence on the will of voters, campaigning during the election silence, certain cases of infringement of observers' rights, and registration of voters in the register for voting outside the premises without the knowledge of the voters themselves.

#### Demonstration of empty mobile ballot boxes to the audience

In the cities of Bishkek and Osh, at 98.2% of the observed polling stations, nonpartisan observers from the Foundation were shown empty mobile ballot boxes for voting outside the premises. In the city of Bishkek, empty mobile ballot boxes were demonstrated at 99.1% of polling stations, and in the city of Osh at 95.8% of polling stations.

The observers of the mobile groups were shown empty mobile ballot boxes at 100% of the observed polling stations.

#### Mobile ballot boxes were sealed after the demonstration to the audience

99.3% of stationary observers in Bishkek and Osh noted that mobile ballot boxes were sealed with the seal of the precinct election commission. In the city of Bishkek on 99.5% of the polling stations, and in the city of Osh on 98.6%.

The observers of the mobile groups noted that mobile ballot boxes were sealed with the seal of the precinct election commission in their presence at 100% of the observed polling stations.

#### Checklist

Observers in the city of Bishkek and Osh at 99.6% of PECs noted that the checklist was signed by all those present in the precinct and dropped into the mobile ballot box for voting outside the premises. This procedure was followed by 100% of PECs in Bishkek and 98.5% of PECs in Osh.

100% of the mobile group observers noted that the checklist was signed by all those present at the polling station and placed in the mobile ballot box for voting outside the premises.

#### **Compliance with COVID-19 related precautions**

Precautions related to COVID-19 during opening procedures were observed at 79.2% of the polling stations in the cities of Bishkek and Osh. At 17.7% of the polling stations in these cities, precautions were partially observed. Considering the cities of Bishkek and Osh separately, it can be noted that in Bishkek, 82.1% of PECs fully observed precautions and 15.6% of PECs observed partial precautions / recommendations related to COVID-19. In the city of Osh, 70.4% of PECs complied with the precautions in full, and 23.9% of PECs complied with the precautions related to COVID-19 partially.

Mobile group observers at 77.4% of PECs observed full compliance with the precautions/recommendations, and 22.6% of PECs observed only partial compliance with the precautions/recommendations related to COVID-19.

#### **Rights of public observers**

During the observation of field voting, some PECs observed cases of obstruction to observation or obtaining necessary information for observation. Observers in Bishkek and Osh noted obstruction to observation at 3.3% of PECs, and no obstruction was observed at 96.7% of PECs. The main share of obstruction to observation was noted in Osh city at 7% of PECs in the southern capital.

100% of mobile group observers noted that there was no obstruction to observation.

### Voter identification equipment failure.

The majority of observers in the cities of Bishkek and Osh note that 92% of PECs did not have cases when a voter was unable to vote due to a failure of the voter identification equipment. Between 1 and 5 cases of failure of voter identification equipment were observed at 8% of PECs. At 7.4% of PECs in Bishkek, and at 9.9% of PECs in Osh, there were from 1 to 5 cases of failure of voter identification equipment.

Mobile group observers noted that 93.5% of PECs did not experience any failures, but 3.2% of PECs recorded from 1 to 10 cases of failure of voter identification equipment.

#### Secrecy of ballot

The secrecy of ballot was observed at 96% of PECs n the cities of Bishkek and Osh. The secrecy of ballot was violated in the city of Bishkek by 4% of PECs and by 11.3% of PECs in the city of Osh.

Mobile group observers recorded that the secrecy of ballot was fully observed at 100% of PECs.

#### **Registration of information in paper lists**

At 100% of PECs, voter information was recorded on the paper voters' list when the ballot was issued.

The "Voted outside the voting premises" mark

At 99.3% of PECs in the city of Bishkek and Osh, the mark "Voted outside the voting premises" was entered. In Osh city, at 2.8% of PECs this mark was not entered.

Mobile group observers note that all observed polling stations entered the mark "Voted outside the voting premises".

#### Sealing of the mobile ballot box

The mobile ballot box was sealed after the completion of voting outside the premises, as noted by 99.3% of on-site observers. At 0.7% of PECs, they noted that the ballot box was NOT sealed after voting was over.

According to mobile group observers, at 100% of PECs, the ballot box was sealed after the end of voting outside the premises.

Act on the end of voting outside the premises

At the end of the voting outside the premises, an act on the end of voting was drawn up at 100% of the observed PECs, as noted by on-site observers and observers of mobile teams.

#### **Complaints from participants in the electoral process**

Complaints about the process of voting outside the premises by participants of the electoral process were observed at 2.6% of PECs in Bishkek and Osh cities.

According to the assessment of mobile group observers, no complaints were observed at 100% of observed PECs.

### Serious violations

Some serious violations were observed, as noted by 7.4% of observers in Bishkek and Osh cities, and at 92.6% of PECs no violations were recorded. In Bishkek, at 5.2% of polling stations serious violations were recorded which could affect the results of voting, and in Osh, serious violations were recorded at 14.1% of polling stations.

Mobile group observers noted that serious violations were recorded at 3.2% of PECs. At 96.8% of PECs no such violations were noted.

## **11. ELECTION DAY**

The Common Cause Public Foundation carries out nonpartisan observation short-term observation at all 306 polling stations in the cities of national status - Bishkek (228 PECs) and Osh (78 PECs). In addition, mobile groups covered approximately 84 PECs in the cities of Karakol, Jalal-Abad, Talas, Naryn, Batken, Tokmok, and Kaindy.

The public scrutinized how the election day proceeded. According to the nonpartisan observation of the Common Cause PF on the day of elections of local council deputies in the cities, the procedures related to opening of polling stations for voting, the voting process, closing of polling stations and tabulation of results were conducted with some procedural and serious violations such as: violation of the secrecy of ballot, vote-buying, influence on the will of voters, infringement of observers' rights, violations of election day procedures, and presence of persons who cannot be at the polling station on election day.

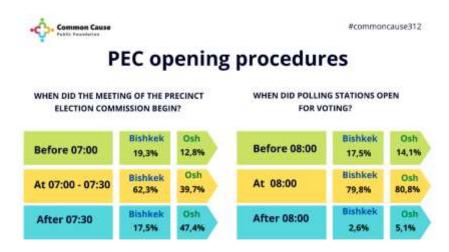
## **11.1 BEGINNING OF PEC MEETINGS FOR THE OPENING PROCEDURES**

Nonpartisan observers were granted access to 100% of polling stations for observation in Bishkek and Osh cities. According to the information received, the meeting of the precinct election commission started at different times. In Bishkek, the majority of observers noted that at 62.3% of PECs the meeting started at 7:00-7:30 a.m., at 19.3% of the polling stations the meeting started before 7 a.m. and at 17.5% of the polling stations - after 7:30 a.m.

In Osh, the meeting of the precinct election commission started after 7:30 a.m. at 47.4% of polling stations, at 39.7% of PECs the meeting started at 7:00-7:30 a.m., in 12.8% of the polling stations the meeting started before 7 a.m..

Observers noted that in one TEC the sanitary rules were not observed, in the rest they were sufficiently or partially observed. In most cases, the wearing of masks was observed partially, and social distance

was observed partially. Temperature measurements were not carried out with a thermal imager. Observers noted that in one TEC the sanitary rules were not observed, in the rest they were sufficiently or partially observed. In most cases, the wearing of masks was observed partially, and social distance was observed partially. Temperature measurements were not carried out with a thermal imager.

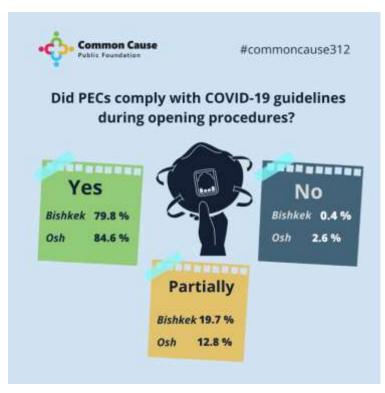


Infographics 1. Procedures for opening a PEC

#### Compliance with recommendations related to COVID-19 during the procedures:

According to the reports of the Bishkek observers, all precautions were observed at 79.8% of PECs, and in 19.7% of the polling stations the precautions were partially observed.

In Osh city, 84.6% complied with all recommendations related to COVID-19, and 12.8% observed partial precautions.



# Accessibility of PECs for people with limited mobility (availability of ramps and handrails):

Observers noted that 68% of polling stations in Bishkek were accessible to people with limited mobility.

Osh city observers noted that 80.8% of polling stations in Osh were equipped with ramps and handrails for people with limited mobility.

# **Drawing of lots:**

Observers in Bishkek note that at 95.6% of polling stations the drawing of lots was conducted in accordance with the legislation, respectively, at 4.4% of polling stations this procedure was not carried out.

Osh city observers noted that at 100% of polling stations the drawing of lots was conducted in accordance with the legislation.



Infographics 2. Procedures for opening a PEC: drawing of lots

# **Demonstration of empty ballot boxes:**

Observers in Bishkek and Osh noted that empty ballot boxes were demonstrated at 100% of PECs.

Ballot boxes were sealed / tamper-evident sealed after the demonstration:

Observers of the cities of Bishkek and Osh noted that at 98.7% of PECs the ballot boxes were sealed / tamper-evident sealed after the demonstration.



Infographics 3. Demonstration of empty boxes

# Checklist:

The checklist was signed by all present at the polling station and dropped into the ballot box, as noted by observers at 95.6% of polling stations in Bishkek and 97.4% of polling stations in Osh.

# Did the observers receive an ARBB zero receipt?

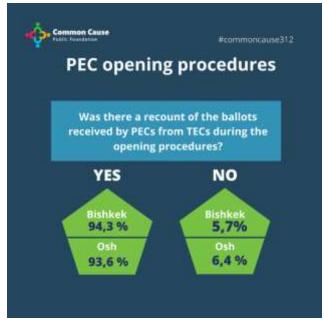
In 98.7% of the polling stations in Bishkek, nonpartisan observers received the ARBB zero receipt, and in 1.3% of the polling stations, this receipt was not given by PEC members.

In the city of Osh, the observers received the ARBB receipt at 97.4% of PECs, respectively, at 2.6% the ARBB zero receipt was not given.

# **Recount of the ballots received from the TECs by the PECs:**

At 94.3% of PECs of Bishkek city, the ballots received by the PEC from the TEC were recounted during the opening procedure, at 5.7% there was no recount.

In the city of Osh, the recount of ballots was carried out at 93.6% of PECs, respectively, there was no recount at 6.4%.



Infographics 4. Procedures for opening a PEC

# **Rights of observers:**

The Foundation's observers did not face infringement of their rights at 99.1% of PECs in the city of Bishkek during the observation of the opening procedures.

In the city of Osh, at 96.2% of PECs there were no cases of infringement of the rights of public observers, however, at 3.8% the infringements of the rights of public observers were noted.

# **Opening of polling stations:**

After all the opening procedures were completed, 79.8% of the polling stations in Bishkek opened for voting at 8:00, 17.5% of the polling stations opened before 8 a.m., and 2.6% of the polling stations opened after 8 a.m..

The Osh city observers noted that 80.8% of the polling stations opened exactly at 8:00 a.m., 14.1% of the polling stations opened before 8 a.m., and 5.1% of the polling stations opened after 8:00 a.m.

# Results of mobile teams' observation in the regions

On the polling day, 25 mobile teams visited 25 PECs in the cities of Karakol, Jalal-Abad, Talas, Naryn, Batken, Tokmok and Kaindy and evaluated the opening procedures.

All observers were allowed to enter the voting premises for observation. The meeting at 6 polling stations started before 07:00 a.m., at 15 PECs the meeting was held between 07:00 and 07:30, in the remaining 4 PECs the meeting started at 7:30. Recommendations related to COVID-19 during the opening procedures were followed by 23 PECs.

In Talas, at polling station No. 6108 and in Jalal-Abad, at polling station No. 2400, there was no recount of the ballots received by the PEC from the TEC during the opening procedures.

All 25 PECs visited by our observers demonstrated empty ballot boxes (ARBBs, etc.) and issued ARBB zero tapes, and checklists were signed and dropped into the ballot box (ARBBs, etc.) in 23 PECs. The rights of our observers during the observation of the opening procedures were not infringed.

# **11.2 VOTING PROCESS**

#### Cases of intimidation, pressure or threatening of voters:

Observers in Bishkek noted cases of intimidation, pressure or threatening of voters at 0.4% of PECs, no such cases were registered at 99.6% of PECs.

In Osh city, observers recorded cases of pressure on voters at 2.6% of polling stations.

# Violation of the secrecy of ballot during the voting process:

Violation of the secrecy of ballot was observed at 6.2% of PECs in Bishkek city and 7.7% of PECs in Osh city. The highest percentage of observers noted that the secrecy of ballot was not violated.



Infographics 5. Secrecy of ballot

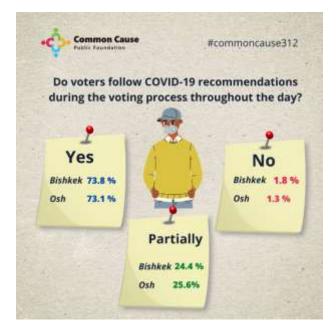
# The infringement of the rights of public observers during the observation of the voting process:

Bishkek city observers noted that at 3.1% of polling stations the rights of public observers were infringed during observation. At 96.9%, no violations were observed.

In Osh city, at 98.7% of polling stations there was no infringement of the rights of public observers.

# **Compliance of PEC with the recommendations related to COVID-19:**

On average, 73% of observers in Bishkek and Osh cities noted that PECs complied with absolutely all recommendations related to COVID-19. In a fifth of the observed PECs, precautionary measures were only partially observed.



Infographics 6. Recommendations related to COVID-19 during the voting process

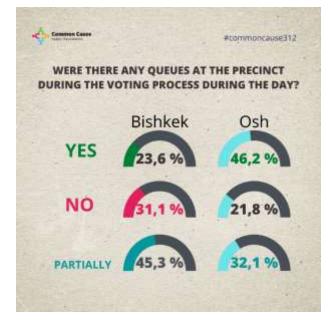
# Compliance of voters with the recommendations related to COVID-19:

At 68% of polling stations in Bishkek and Osh, voters themselves observed all precautions related to COVID-19. At 29% of the polling stations, the precautions were partially observed.

#### The presence of a queue at the polling stations during the voting process:

Observers in Bishkek noted that at 23.6% of polling stations there were permanent queues during the voting process, at 45.3% of PECs there were only occasional queues.

In Osh city observers noted that there were constant queues at 46.2% of PECs, and there were occasional queues at 32.1%.

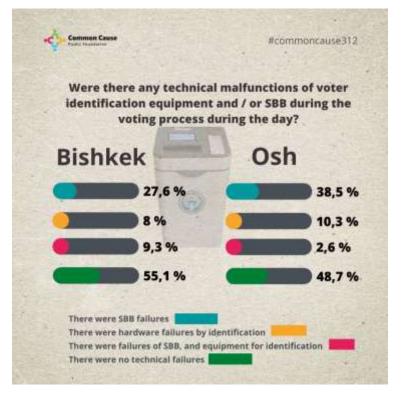


Infographics 7. Queues during the voting process

Technical failures of voter identification equipment and/or ARBBs:

In Bishkek city there were no technical failures at 55.1% of PECs, at 27.6% of PECs there were failures of the ARBB, at 8% there were failures of identification equipment and at 9,3% of polling stations there were failures of both the ARBB and identification equipment.

In Osh city there were no technical failures at 48.7% of PECs, at 38.5 % of PECs there were failures of the ARBB, at 10.3 % there were failures of identification equipment and at 2.6 % of polling stations there were failures of both the ARBB and identification equipment.



Infographics 8. Technical failures of equipment and/or ARBB

# The number of voters who were able to find themselves in the lists:

In Bishkek, 43.1% of polling stations did not have voters who could not find themselves on the lists, 37.3% of the polling stations had from 1 to 5 such cases, 10.2% of PECs had from 6 to 10 such cases, and 9.3% of PECs had more than 10 cases.

In Osh, 38.5% of the polling stations did not have voters who could not find themselves on the lists, 39.7% of the polling stations had from 1 to 5 such cases, 14.2% of PECs had from 6 to 10 cases, and 7.7% of PECs had more than 10 cases.

# The number of voters who could not vote due to technical failure of the equipment:

At 92.4% of PECs in Bishkek there were no technical failures of equipment that prevented voters from voting. At 7.1% of polling stations there were from 1 to 5 people who could not vote due to technical failure.

At 83.3% of PECs in Osh city there were no technical failures of equipment that prevented voters from voting. At 14.1% of polling stations there were from 1 to 5 people who could not vote due to technical failure.

#### Existence of cases where the voter was allowed to vote without going through identification:

The main share of observers of Bishkek and Osh cities note that at the polling stations observed there were no cases when a voter was allowed to vote without going through identification. Only in the city of Bishkek there were such cases at 0.9%.

# Cases where a voter was allowed to vote despite the fact that he or she was not on the voters' list:

The majority of observers of Bishkek and Osh cities note that at the polling stations observed there were no cases when a voter was allowed to vote, despite the fact that he or she was not on the list. Only in the city of Bishkek there were such cases at 0.9%.

# **Replacing the ARBB with a stationary ballot box:**

At 95% of PECs in Bishkek and Osh cities, ARBBs were not replaced with stationary boxes.

# The presence of persons who had no right to be on the polling station:

In Bishkek, 97.3% of polling stations were not attended by persons not entitled to be at the polling station, but at 2.7% of polling stations such cases were recorded.

In Osh city, 92.3% of polling stations were not attended by persons not entitled to be at the polling station, but at 7.7% of polling stations such cases were recorded.

# 11.3 CLOSING OF THE POLLING STATION

In Bishkek and Osh cities, a large share of polling stations closed at 8:00 p.m. In Osh city, 6.4% of PECs closed before 20:00.



Infographics 9. Closing of the polling stations

# **Counting and closing procedures**

Providing an opportunity to vote for voters who are inside the polling station at 20:00:

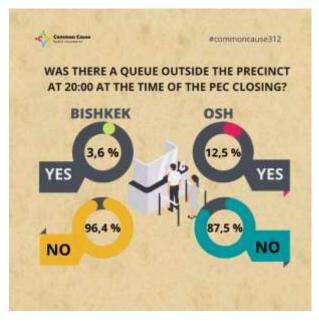
Observers in the city of Bishkek noted that there were no voters at 59.4% of polling stations at 20:00. However, at 40.6%, it was noted that all voters who remained inside the premises after closing were able to vote.

In Osh city, observers noted that at 51.6% of polling stations there were no voters after the closing of the polling station. At 46.9%, all remaining voters were able to vote after the closing. Only at 1.6% of polling stations, only a few of voters were able to vote.

# The presence of a queue outside the polling station at 20:00:

At the time of closing of the polling station, observers in Bishkek city noted that there were no queues outside at 96.4% of PECs. At 3.6% of PECs, there was a queue outside the premises.

In Osh city, there were no queues outside at 87.5% of PECs. However, at 12.5% of polling stations there was a queue outside the voting premises.



Infographics 10. Queues outside the polling station

# Unused ballots were counted and cancelled in accordance with the law:

Practically at all polling stations in Bishkek and Osh the unused ballots were counted and cancelled in accordance with the law. Only at 1% of PECs in Bishkek this activity was not performed.

# The work with the list was carried out:

At 100% of the observed polling stations the work with the lists was carried out.

# **Receiving a certified report of the Automatically Reading Ballot Box:**

At 100% of observed polling stations a certified Automatically Reading Ballot Box/ARBB report was received.

# Conducting a manual count openly and publicly:

Practically at all polling stations in Bishkek and Osh, the manual count was conducted openly and publicly. Only at 0.5% of PECs in Bishkek this activity was not performed.

Total number of registered complaints during the voting process during the day:

The total number of complaints registered during the voting process was 147 – Bishkek (110), Osh (37).

# Consideration of all complaints before signing the protocol:

In the city of Bishkek, at 29.9% of PECs the complaints were considered before the protocol was signed, and at 2% of PECs the complaints were considered after the protocol was signed. There were no complaints at 68% of polling stations.

In the city of Osh, at 38.1% of PECs the complaints were considered before the protocol was signed, at 60.9% of polling stations there were no complaints.

Common Cause	#commoncause312
HAVE ALL COMPLAIN BEFORE SIGNING	TS BEEN CONSIDERED THE PROTOCOL?
<b>BISHKEK</b> Yes	оѕн
29,9	% () 39,1 %
NO 2 %	0 %
There were no complai	
68 %	60,9 %

Infographics 11. Consideration of complaints before signing the protocol:

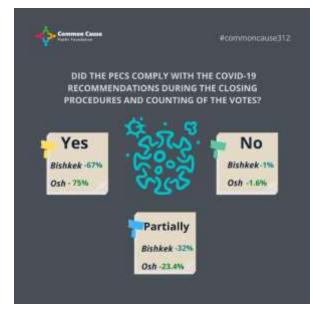
# Obtaining a certified copy of the protocol on manual counting of the voting results:

Certified copies of the manual counting protocol were received at 99.5% of Bishkek city PECs and at 98.4% of Osh city PECs.

# PEC's compliance with recommendations related to COVID-19 during the closing and counting procedures:

According to observers, at 67% of PECs in Bishkek, full precautions/recommendations related to COVID-19 were observed during the closing and counting procedures. At 32%, the precautions were partially observed. At 1% of PECs, precautions were not observed at all.

75% of Osh PECs observed the full precautions/recommendations related to COVID-19. At 23.4%, the precautions were partially observed. At 1.6% of PECs, precautions were not observed at all.



Infographics 12. Recommendations related to COVID-19 during the closing procedures

# Infringement of the rights of a public observer during the observation of closing and counting procedures:

At most PECs in Bishkek and Osh, observers' rights were not infringed during the observation of closing and counting procedures. At 2% of PECs in Bishkek and at 3.1% of PECs in Osh, observers felt their rights were infringed.

# **11.4 MOBILE TEAMS**

The Common Cause Public Foundation, with the help of 25 mobile teams as part of 8 regional coordinators, conducted observations in 7 cities of the country at the April 11, 2021 elections of deputies to local councils of the Kyrgyz Republic (KR):

- 1. Tokmok
- 2. Kaindy
- 3. Karakol
- 4. Talas
- 5. Naryn
- 6. Jalal-Abad
- 7. Batken

Mobile teams conducted observation of the election day on April 11 and field voting on April 10. At the field voting, 25 observers, teamed with eight regional coordinators, were able to visit a total of 31 PECs.

According to the responses received via a google form from observers, all procedures at the field voting such as:

— Demonstration of empty mobile ballot boxes for voting outside the premises and their sealing

- Signing of the checklist by everybody present
- Compliance with COVID-19 related precautions
- Registration of voter information by a PEC member in the paper voters' list when issuing a ballot
- Entering the "Voted outside the voting premises" mark

— Drawing up an act on the end of field voting

were observed in all the PECs where our observers were present. No procedural violations were detected.

There were 5 cases where a voter was unable to vote due to failure of voter identification equipment.

No complaints about the process of voting outside the premises by the participants of the electoral process, cases of obstruction of observation or obstacles to obtaining necessary information for observation or any other serious violations that could affect the voting results were revealed either.

# Election day, opening procedures

On election day, 25 mobile teams visited the opening procedures of PEC 25 in 7 cities such as: Karakol, Jalal-Abad, Talas, Naryn, Batken, Tokmok and Kaindy, and evaluated the opening procedures.

All observers were allowed into the voting room for observation, and the meeting at 6 polling stations started before 07:00 a.m., at 15 PECs the meeting was held between 07:00 and 07:30, and at the remaining 4 PECs the meeting started at 7:30. 22 PEC chairpersons were women, and 3 were men. Recommendations related to COVID-19 during the opening procedures were followed by 23 PECs. In Talas city at polling station #6108 and in Jalal-Abad city at polling station #2400, there was no recount of ballots received by the PEC from the TEC during the opening procedures.

All 25 PECs visited by our observers demonstrated empty ballot boxes (ARBBs, etc.) and issued ARBB zero tapes, and checklists were signed and dropped into the ballot box (ARBBs, etc.) in 23 PECs.

The rights of our observers as public observers were never infringed during the observation of the opening procedures.

# Beginning of PEC meetings for the opening procedures

All nonpartisan 25 mobile team observers were allowed into the polling stations to observe. According to the information received, the meeting of the precinct election commission started at different times. The majority of observers noted that at 14 PECs the meeting started at 7:00-7:30 a.m., at 6 polling stations the meeting started before 7 a.m. and at 5 polling stations - after 7:30 a.m.

# **Compliance with recommendations related to COVID-19 during the procedures:**

According to observer reports, all precautions related to COVID-19 were observed at 23 PECs.

At 2 PECs in Talas and Jalal-Abad, all the precautions/ recommendations related to COVID-19 were not followed.

# Accessibility of PECs for people with limited mobility (availability of ramps and handrails):

The observers noted that 23 polling stations were accessible to people with limited mobility. In cities such as Naryn and Jalal-Abad there was no access for people with limited mobility.

# **Drawing of lots:**

At 24 polling stations the drawing of lots was carried out in accordance with the law, correspondingly, at one PEC this procedure was not carried out.

# **Demonstration of empty ballot boxes:**

Observers noted that all 25 PECs demonstrated empty ballot boxes.

# Checklist:

The checklist was signed by all present at the polling station and dropped into the ballot box, as observers at 23 polling stations noted. In the city of Jalal-Abad at two polling stations such as 2400 and 2105, they were not signed by all those present at the polling station and dropped into the ballot box.

# Did the observers receive an ARBB zero receipt?

At 25 polling stations in the cities, nonpartisan observers received the ARBB zero tape.

# A recount of the ballots received from the TEC by the PEC:

At 23 PECs, there was a recount of ballots received by PECs from TECs during the opening procedures, and at 2 PECs there was no recount.

# **Rights of observers:**

The Foundation's observers at 24 PECs did not face infringement of their rights during the observation of opening procedures, however, infringement of the rights of citizen observers was noted at 1 PEC.

# **Opening of polling stations:**

After all opening procedures, 16 polling stations opened for voting at 8:00 a.m. and 8 polling stations opened before 8 a.m.

# **11.5 VOTING PROCESS**

No.	Cities	Number of PECs in the city	Number of observers	Managed to visit
1	Jalal-Abad	25	5	15
2	Naryn	21	4	16
3	Talas	10	4	9
4	Karakol	25	7	18
5	Tokmok	20	2	16
6	Batken	10	2	6
7	Kaindy	4	1	4
		Total of 115 PECs	25	Total of 84 PECs

25 mobile teams visited the voting process at 84 PECs in 7 cities.

The situation around 62 polling stations was calm, there were queues in 17 PECs due to compliance with COVID-19 measures and due to the delays in the ARBB operation. And at 5 PECs unidentified persons of a robust physique were spotted.

Three observers detected illegal campaigning on election day - in two PECs in Naryn (PECs 4063 and 4061) and one case in Karakol (PEC 3155).

In the incident form, there is:

- 1 case of intimidation, pressure or threatening of voters during the voting process in Jalal-Abad, PEC 2099 (not specified in the voting process form)

- 1 case of violation of the secrecy of ballot during the voting process in Talas City, PEC 6109 (not indicated in the voting process form).

There were also failures of ARBBs in 12 PECs (Jalal-Abad - 2092, 2101, 2103, 2399; Karakol - 3155; Talas - 6108, 6112, 6110; Tokmok - 7066, 7078, 7071, 7077)

Failures of both the ARBB and the identification equipment in 1 PEC - Karakol, PEC No. 3158

Identification equipment failures in 2 PEC of Jalal-Abad (2095, 2114)

In two PECs, two voters were unable to vote due to a technical failure of the voter identification equipment.

In two PECs, the ARBB was replaced with a stationary ballot box due to technical failures during the voting process.

# Cases of intimidation, pressure or threatening of voters:

All 25 observers noted that there were no cases of intimidation, pressure or threatening of voters at the PEC.

# Violation of the secrecy of ballot during the voting process:

No violations of the secrecy of ballot were detected at all 84 polling stations during the observation.

# The infringement of the rights of public observers during the observation of the voting process:

The observers noted that at 84 polling stations, the rights of a public observer were not infringed during the observation.

# The presence of a queue at the polling stations during the voting process:

Observers note that at 22 polling stations there were constant queues during the voting process, at 31 PECs the queues were observed only occasionally, and at 31 PECs there were no queues.

# Technical failures of voter identification equipment and/or ARBBs:

There were no technical failures at 69 PECs, 12 PECs had ARBB failures, two PECs had identification equipment failures, and one PEC had both ARBB and identification equipment failures

# The number of voters who could not find themselves in the voters' list:

At 54 PECs there were no voters who could not find themselves in the lists, at 28 polling stations there were from 1 to 5 such cases, at 1 PEC - from 6 to 10 cases.

# The number of voters who were unable to vote due to a technical equipment failure

There were no technical equipment failures at 82 PECs that prevented voters from voting. At 2 PECs, there were 1 to 5 people who could not vote due to a technical failure.

#### Existence of cases where the voter was allowed to vote without going through identification:

Observers note that at the 84 observed polling stations there were no cases where a voter was allowed to vote without passing identification.

# Cases where a voter was allowed to vote despite the fact that he or she was not on the voters' list:

Observers note that at 84 polling stations observed there were no cases when a voter was allowed to vote, despite the fact that he or she was not on the list.

# **Replacing the ARBB with a stationary ballot box:**

At 82 PECs ARBBs were not replaced with stationary boxes. Only in the cities of Karakol and Talas the ARBB were replaced with stationary ballot boxes.

# The presence of persons who had no right to be on the polling station:

At 79 polling stations there were no people present who had no right to be at the polling station, but at 5 polling stations such cases were recorded.

# **11.6 COUNTING AND CLOSING PROCEDURES**

At the closing of PECs, mobile teams visited 25 PECs. The total number of registered complaints during the voting process during the day amounted to 3 (two of them in Jalal-Abad city, PECs No. 2106 and 2110, and one in Karakol city, PEC No. 3155). All complaints were reviewed before signing the minutes. The opportunity to vote after the closure of PECs was given at 15 polling stations, at the other PECs there were no voters after the closing. At PEC No. 7075 in Tokmok there was a queue outside the polling station at 20:00 at the time of the closing of the PEC. At 24 PECs, unused ballots were counted and cancelled in accordance with the law, at PEC No. 2106 of Jalal-Abad there was no recount. All 25 observers were able to receive the final tape from the ARBB and they were all present for the manual count. The opening of mobile ballot boxes was carried out at 24 PECs in accordance with the law, no opening occured at PEC No. 2106 in Jalal-Abad.

# **Counting and closing procedures**

Providing an opportunity to vote to voters who were inside the polling station at 8:00 p.m. at the time of closing of the PEC. Observers noted that14 PECs provided an opportunity to vote in the polling stations. It was noted that there were no voters at 11 PECs, and at 1 PEC it was noted that some voters were able to vote.

# Presence of a queue outside the polling station at 20:00 at the time of closing of the PEC:

At the time of closing of the polling station, observers noted that there were no queues outside at 24 PECs. At 1 PEC, the observers noted the queue outside.

# Unused ballots were counted and cancelled in accordance with the law:

Practically at 24 PECs the unused ballots were counted and cancelled in accordance with the law. Only in Jalal-Abad this activity was not performed.

# The work with the list was carried out:

At all 25 observed PECs the work with the lists was carried out.

# **Receiving a certified report of the Automatically Reading Ballot Box:**

At all 25 observed polling stations a certified Automatically Reading Ballot Box/ARBB report was received.

# Conducting a manual count openly and publicly:

The observers noted that at the observed 25 polling stations the manual counting was carried out openly and publicly.

# Consideration of all complaints before signing the protocol:

At all 25 PECs, complaints were reviewed before signing the protocol.

# Obtaining a certified copy of the protocol on manual counting of the voting results:

Certified copies of the manual counting protocol were received at all 25 PECs.

# Infringement of the rights of a public observer during the observation of closing and counting procedures:

At 23 PECs, observers' rights were not infringed during the observation of closing and counting procedures. At 2 PECs, the observers noted the infringement of the rights of observers.

# **12. ELECTION RESULTS**

In three cities: Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok, the CEC reviewed the submitted complaints and applications. After revealing the facts of vote-buying and the use of administrative resources and other violations, the voting results were cancelled in these city councils. According to the Decree of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic dated May 28, 2021, new elections of deputies to city councils of Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok were scheduled for July 11, 2021.

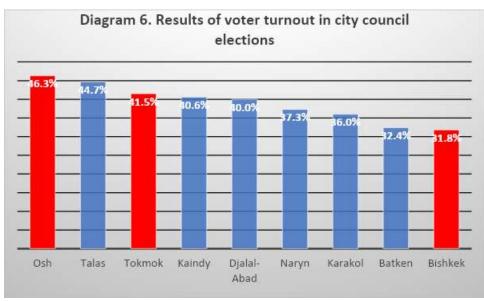
In the remaining 25 cities, elections to local city councils were deemed valid and the process of forming local authorities is already underway.

In Annex 2, the table shows the results of the elections in all city councils:

- In terms of the cities where the elections to the city councils were cancelled, voter activity was as follows: Osh had the highest turnout - 46.3%, Tokmok also had a relatively high turnout - 41.5%, but Bishkek had the lowest turnout in the country - 31.8%.

- In other observed cities, voter activity is as follows:

Talas – 44.7%, Kaindy – 40.6%, Jalal-Abad -40.0%, Naryn - 37.3%, Karakol - 36.0%, and in Batken - 32.4%.



- In 25 cities, 40 different parties won seats, including major parties that received many seats in multiple cities, as well as parties that received seats only in one or several cities.

- In two cities (Jalal-Abad and Kok-Jangak), only three parties made it to the city council and divided the seats among themselves. Moreover, in Jalal-Abad, the "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" party won 71% of the seats, a unique case where one party won more than half of the seats in the city council. In all other cases, no single party won more than 50% of the seats, and parties now need to form coalitions.

- The largest and relatively new party, "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan", nominated the largest number of candidates; the party participated in local elections in 21 out of 28 city councils and passed into 12 of them (not including cities where the results were cancelled). (See. Tables of **Appendix 2, 3**).

- In two cities (Batken and Mailuu-Suu), 4 parties won seats to the city councils.

- In 13 cities, 5 parties entered the city councils (the most popular combination of city councils of 5 parties).

- In the cities of Kemin and Kant, 6 parties entered the city councils.

- In six cities, 7 parties won seats and entered the city councils (Suluktu, Aidarken, Kara-Kul, Cholpon-Ata, Naryn and Shopokov).

- The "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" party received the most seats - 101 seats in 12 city councils, the average number of seats in each city - 8.4. (See **Appendix 3**.)

- The "Yntymak" party won 62 seats in 9 city councils, almost 7 seats in each city council.

-The "Onuguu-Progress" party has 60 seats in 14 city councils , with an average of 4.3 seats per city council.

- The "Iman Nuru" party has 40 seats in 9 cities, and an average of 4.4 seats in each city.
- The "Zamandash" party won 39 seats in 9 cities, with an average of 4.3 seats in each city council.
- 15 parties won seats in a single city council.
- Eight parties got into two city councils.
- Six parties have seats in three city councils.

#### **13. VIOLATIONS AND COMPLAINTS**

Since the introduction of biometric identification of citizens and the automatic vote count, the impact of vote-buying and the abuse of administrative resources to influence the voters' will and vote has increased significantly.

Unlike a number of previous local and international monitoring missions, the Foundation decided to monitor the elections of deputies to local councils with a focus on observing the possible facts of abuse of administrative resources, threats and pressure on voters, vote-buying and election campaigning rules. For the purpose of effective monitoring, a team of long-term observers was trained; their main purpose was to monitor violations by the electoral subjects and, partially, to monitor the TEC activities. In order to exchange information and respond promptly, the special, so-called incident forms were developed for the LTOs for 3 types of violations:

- Vote-buying
- Abuse of administrative resources, threats, pressure and violence against voters

• Violation of election campaigning rules.

# **Pre-election period**

<u>1. As of April 9, 2021 (including that date</u>), the public observers of the Common Cause PF have sent information about **78** identified violations. Of these, 12 were cases of the use of administrative resources, pressure, threats and violence; 23 were cases of vote-buying; 32 were cases of violations of election campaigning. For 11 violations, the information was referred to the Rapid Response Coordination Group (RRCG) formed at the CEC.

**36 signals were submitted to TECs**, including 28 for Osh city, 2 for Naryn city, 1 for Talas city, 3 for Jalal-Abad city, and 2 for Chui oblast.

1) Administrative resources, pressure, threats, violence: against the "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" political party - 6; "Uluttar Birimdigi" political party - 2; "Aikol" political party - 1; "Emgek" political party - 1, "Respublika" political party - 1; "Zamandash" political party -1.

By regions: Osh – 7; Talas – 2; Tokmok - 1; Karakol-Kol -1; Jalal-Abad - 1.

2) Vote-buying: against the "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" political party - 4; "Uluttar Birimdigi" political party - 2; "Yntymak" political party - 2; "Iman Nuru" political party - 1; "Onuguu-Progress" political party - 2; "Respublika" political party - 1; "Emgek Political" Party - 4; "People's Democratic Party of Kyrgyzstan" political party - 2; "Biylik Elge" political party - 1; not known in favor of which political party - 4.

By regions: Bishkek - 8; Osh - 7; Talas - 3; Jalal-Abad - 1; Batken - 1; Naryn - 2; Moskovsky district - 1.

3) Violation of election campaigning rules: against the "Asyl Muras-Zhashtar" political party – 2; "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" political party – 7; "Yntymak" political party – 3; "Uluttar Birimdigi" political party – 3; "Partiya Zelionyh Kyrgyzstana" political party - 1; "Amanat" political party – 1; "Bir-Bol" political party – 2; "Nash Narod" political party – 1; "Uluu-Jurt" political party – 2; "Iman Nuru" political party - 1; "Ishenim" political party - 1; "Onugu-Progress" political party -1; "Respublika" political party - 1; "Moya Stolitsa" political party – 1; "Kuchtuu - Koom" political party - 1; not known in favor of which political party - 4.

By region: Bishkek - 5; Osh - 17; Talas - 4; Batken - 2; Kara-Kol - 1; Jalal-Abad - 1, Kaindy - 2.

# Voting outside the premises (April 10, 2021)

**46 cases** of violations during voting at polling stations were revealed: 26 cases in the city of Bishkek, 23 cases in the city of Osh, 1 case in the city of Talas.

Of these, 14 complaints were submitted to TECs: Bishkek – complaints on 14 facts, Osh - 16 complaints, Talas - 1.

To RRCG – 4 signals.

# Election Day (April 11, 2021)

208 cases of violations were detected.

Of these, in Bishkek – 114, Osh – 64, Jalal-Abad – 5; Kara-Kol – 3, Naryn - 4, Talas - 7, Kaindy - 1.

Of these, submitted to TECs -55 in the city of Bishkek, 64 in the city of Osh, 1 in the city of Talas.

To the bodies of Internal Affairs - 1 in the city of Osh, 1 in the city of Talas.

To RRCG – 10 signals.

#### Total for the entire election process:

Detected - 332 violations

Submitted to TECs – **152 complaints of violations**;

To RRCG – 27 signals;

To the bodies of Internal Affairs - 2 signals;

Based on the results of consideration of complaints and applications from the subjects of the electoral process (including the complaints of the Common Cause Foundation), the results of the elections of deputies of city councils of the cities of Bishkek, Osh and Tokmok were declared invalid.

The responsibility of the Osh and Tokmok territorial election commissions was considered, as a result of which the Osh and Tokmok territorial election commissions were disbanded and approved in new compositions.

In Bishkek city:

During the period of preparation and holding of elections of deputies of the Bishkek City Kenesh to the election commissions of the city of Bishkek and to the Central Commission for Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic, a total of 107 complaints and applications were received from the subjects of the electoral process, including signals received within the framework of the coordination group of rapid response ...

The Bishkek Territorial Election Commission declared the voting results outside the polling station invalid at 7 PECs (No. 1023, 1028, 1029, 1036, 1309, 1311, 1312) due to interference in the voting process by the chairmen of house and quarter committees, and by precinct election commissions at 3 PEC (No. 1027, 1051, 1157).

The voting results were declared invalid at 2 PECs (No. 1158, 1343) as a result of consideration of complaints and applications by the Bishkek TEC, at 5 PECs (No. 1027, 1116, 1153, 1217, 1251) - due to the excess of the number of ballots over the number of identified voters.

By decision of May 12, 2021, No. 46/2, the Bishkek TEC canceled the voting results at 23 PECs (No. 1033, 1034, 1035, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1061, 1062, 1115, 1124, 1125, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1206, 1230, 1303, 1304, 1307, 1308, 1356, 1357) in connection with the identification of violations that influenced the expression of the will of voters.

In connection with the materials received from the law enforcement agencies of the city of Bishkek on the facts of violations of the electoral legislation of the political party "People's Democratic Party of Kyrgyzstan" and the political party "Emgek", the decisions of the Bishkek TEC were invalidated with the attribution of ballots with the votes cast for the indicated political parties, to invalid.

By the decision of the Bishkek TEC of May 12, 2021, No. 46/4, the voting results for the political party "Ak Bata" were invalidated, and the ballots with the votes cast for the indicated political party were considered invalid.

By Decision No. 46/5 of May 12, 2021, the Bishkek TEC approved the results of voting in the elections of deputies of the Bishkek City Kenesh.

In accordance with the data of the protocols of precinct election commissions, 134,058 voters took part in the elections of deputies of the Bishkek city council.

The total number of votes of voters recognized as invalid as a result of invalidation of the results of voting outside the voting premises, by polling stations and by three political parties ("NDPK", "Emgek parties" and "Ak Bata") at the elections of deputies of the Bishkek city council, was - 60 351 votes, which is 45.02% of the total number of voters who took part in the voting.

In connection with the above, the Bishkek TEC by decision of May 12, 2021 No. 46/6 declared the results of the elections of the Bishkek City Kenesh invalid.

The Central Commission for Elections and Referendums of the Kyrgyz Republic, by its resolution No. 239 dated May 19, 2021, approved the decision of the Bishkek Territorial Election Commission No. 46/6 dated May 12, 2021 "On invalidating the results of elections of deputies of the Bishkek City Kenesh."

#### Osh city:

The Osh Territorial Election Commission, on the basis of the protocols on the voting results of 77 (out of 78) precinct election commissions, by the protocol of April 21, 2021, recognized the elections as valid and determined the results of the elections of deputies of the Osh City Kenesh.

During the period of preparation and holding of elections of deputies of the Osh city kenesh, the election commissions of the city of Osh and the Central Commission for Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic received 170 complaints, applications from the subjects of the electoral process, including signals received within the framework of the coordination group of operational response, about violations at 58 PECs, of which 23 - on voting day outside the premises, 52 - on voting day.

After voting day, the Central Election Commission, the Osh TEC also received statements from the overwhelming majority of political parties that took part in the elections, about numerous violations in the elections in the city of Osh with demands to invalidate the voting results both in individual precincts and the results of elections of deputies of Osh the city kenesh as a whole.

According to the applicants, numerous violations took place during the preparation of the elections and on voting day, which significantly influenced the voting results and the results of the elections of deputies of local keneshes that took place on April 11, 2021. At the same time, these circumstances were not properly considered and studied by the Osh TEC and the internal affairs bodies, and some of the applications received were left without consideration, as a result of which the opportunity was missed to timely and fully document the circumstances of the violations that took place.

In the course of considering complaints, applications and measures taken on them, studying the received materials, information provided by law enforcement agencies, having studied the explanations of the Osh Territorial Election Commission, the Central Election Commission by decision No. 102 of May 11, 2021, the Central Election Commission invalidated the voting results at 27 polling stations No. 5271, 5276, 5278, 5279, 5281, 5282, 5283, 5285, 5289, 5290, 5294, 5295, 5296, 5300, 5301, 5308, 5309, 5310, 5311, 5312, 5315, 5316, 5319, 5325, 5553, 5904, 5905 at the elections of deputies of the Osh city kenesh.

Also, the Central Election Commission took into account that earlier the decision of the Osh TEC invalidated the results of voting at PEC # 5305 and disbanded the composition of this PEC; the results of voting outside the premises at PECs 5279, 5284, 5531, 5904 were declared invalid.

The total number of voters who took part in the elections of deputies of the Osh city kenesh at all 78 polling stations is 70,375 voters.

The number of voters who voted at 27 polling stations (No. 5271, 5276, 5278, 5279, 5281, 5282, 5283, 5285, 5289, 5290, 5294, 5295, 5296, 5300, 5301, 5308, 5309, 5310, 5311, 5312, 5315, 5316,

5319, 5325, 5553, 5904, 5905), the results of which were invalidated by the decision of the Central Election Commission No. 102 dated May 11, 2021, and at PEC 5305, who voted outside the premises at PECs 5284, 5551, the voting results for which were recognized as invalid by the Osh TEC is 28,449 voters, which is more than one third (40.42%) of the number of voters who took part in all polling stations in the city of Osh.

In this regard, the Central Election Commission, by its resolution dated May 11, 2021, No. 196, invalidated the results of the elections of deputies of the Osh city kenesh, held on April 11, 2021, and canceled the protocol of the Osh territorial election commission dated April 21, 2021 on the results of the elections of the deputies of the Osh city kenesh, last April 11, 2021.

#### Tokmok city

The Tokmok Territorial Election Commission, on the basis of the protocols on the voting results of 20 precinct election commissions, by the protocol of May 1, 2021, recognized the elections as valid and determined the results of the elections of deputies of the Tokmok City Kenesh of Chui Oblast.

On April 19, 2021, the Central Commission for Elections and Referendums of the Kyrgyz Republic received a statement from representatives of the political parties "Birge-Vmeste" and "El Birimdigi" on the mass registration of citizens in the city of Tokmok. In their statement, the applicants indicated 26 addresses in the city of Tokmok, where there are facts of mass registration of citizens by representatives of the political party "Emgek".

On April 23, 2021, the Central Election Commission received a statement from the chief of staff of the political party "Emgek" in the city of Tokmok, which also indicates possible manipulations with mass registration at 142 addresses in the city of Tokmok by other political parties that participated in the elections of deputies of the Tokmok city kenesh.

Considering that at 7 polling stations No. 7068, 7069, 7070, 7071, 7072, 7075, 7081 there were violations expressed in the mass registration of citizens, their inclusion in the voter lists and subsequent voting, which were accompanied by violations of laws (without the knowledge of the owners, registration not members of the local community, registration, using an administrative resource, etc.) that influenced the voting results, the Central Election Commission comes to the conclusion that it is necessary to recognize the voting results at these polling stations as invalid.

The total number of voters who took part in the elections of deputies of the Tokmok city kenesh at all 20 polling stations is 16,070 voters.

The number of voters who voted at 7 polling stations (No. 7068, 7069, 7070, 7071, 7072, 7075, 7081), the voting results of which are subject to invalidation, is 5427 voters, which is more than one third (33.77%) of the number of voters who took part in all polling stations in the city of Tokmok.

In this regard, the Central Commission for Elections and Referendums of the Kyrgyz Republic, by its resolution dated May 3, 2021, No. 192, decided the Tokmok Territorial Election Commission to invalidate the results of the elections of deputies of the Tokmok City Kenesh held on April 11, 2021 and to cancel the protocol of the Tokmok Territorial Election Commission of 1 May 2021 on the results of the elections of deputies of the Tokmok city kenesh, held on April 11, 2021.

# **14. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the results of the observation of the local elections of the KR, the Common Cause Public Foundation makes the following recommendations:

# **1.** To the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic on introducing amendments to statutory instruments regulating electoral legal relations:

1) Reconsider the size of the electoral threshold for elections of deputies of local city councils and set it by analogy with the elections of deputies of the JK KR.

2) Reconsider the requirement for the number of public observers simultaneously present at the polling station.

3) To empower public observers to appeal against decisions and (or) actions (inaction) of election commissions, including decisions on the determination of the voting results and on the determination of the election results.

4) Establish responsibility for non-compliance with the established deadlines for consideration of received applications (appeals, complaints, etc.) by the entities authorized to consider electoral disputes.

5) Introduce an amendment to the criminal legislation, referring crimes of abuse of administrative resources to cases of public prosecution.

6) In order to ensure greater transparency of electoral funds, establish in the law the requirements for disclosing the sources of origin of donors' funds in the event that they make a contribution in excess of the amount determined by the law to electoral funds.

7) Legally regulate the possibility of holding candidate debates on alternative channels of television broadcasting organizations and other platforms.

8) Provide in the legislation a norm allowing the return of the electoral deposit in the event that the election results are declared invalid.

9) Consider in the law the rule on the withdrawal (disqualification) of a party due to whose fault the elections were invalidated.

10) Introduce norms into the Election Law providing for a clear list of grounds for a voter to apply to vote outside the premises.

11) Introduce into the electoral legislation the concepts regulating the temporary technical inoperability of the ARBB and the failure of the ARBB.

# 2. To the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

1) Strengthen the work of law enforcement agencies in the timely and full consideration of complaints and applications received, as well as in ensuring public safety, including preventive measures.

2) Together with the CEC, carry out work to inform the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic about the electoral law and procedures not only during the election period, but also during the inter-election period.

3) Provide effective mechanisms for monitoring the activities of law enforcement agencies for public observers.

5) Together with the CEC, consider the possibility of optimizing the wage fund, providing social guarantees and benefits for members of PECs and TECs in order to increase the remuneration paid to members of commissions and, accordingly, stimulate them to effectively perform their duties in emergency conditions.

6) Together with the CEC and other authorized state bodies, local self-government bodies, take measures for the high-quality compilation of the voter list and continuous registration and registration of voters, as well as provide for mechanisms to exclude the possibility of manipulation with the voter lists, as well as provide for liability for admitted manipulations.

# 3. To the Central Commission for Elections and Referenda of the Kyrgyz Republic:

1) Strengthen work with territorial and precinct election commissions on open, transparent and objective responses and consideration of violations of electoral legislation.

2) Develop a uniform practice of holding accountable for certain types of violations of electoral legislation.

3) Develop a unified procedure for recording and transmitting data on the turnout of voters by precinct election commissions on voting day.

# 4. To authorities that consider electoral disputes:

1) The internal affairs bodies strictly observe the terms of consideration of the received applications (appeals) provided for by the electoral legislation, outlining the reasoned justification for the decisions taken and inform the public about the measures taken.

2) Prosecutor's office bodies to supervise the observance by the internal affairs bodies of the deadlines for consideration of complaints and applications on electoral disputes.

# 5. To political parties and candidates of the Kyrgyz Republic:

1) Conduct an election campaign based on the principles of the rule of law, transparency, priority of the interests and rights of citizens, as well as mutual respect between political parties and candidates, and strict compliance with the Memoranda signed between the political parties.

2) Ensure greater transparency of financial funds, including expenditures on social media advertising, and mark the launched advertisements as political, indicating the source of funding. These measures are necessary to avoid the suspension and removal of ads from the Facebook platform due to the lack of source data (disclaimer) of the advertising post.

3) The Foundation considers it necessary to continuously carry out activities aimed at improving the electoral legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic based on the analysis of the past elections taking into account the recommendations of international and public observers.

# APPENDIX 1. INFORMATION ABOUT 28 CITY COUNCILS.

No.	Name of the city council	Number of seats	Number of political parties	Number of candidates	Men	Women
	28 city councils	796	237	11,782	7,300	4,482
1	Bishkek CC	45	25	1,820	1,091	729
2	Osh CC	45	9	702	466	236
3	Batken CC	31	9	444	283	161
4	<u>Kyzyl-Kiya</u> <u>CC</u>	31	12	605	369	236
5	<u>Isfana CC</u>	31	9	467	288	179
6	<u>Sulukta CC</u>	31	7	363	228	135
7	Kadamjay CC	21	11	378	241	137
8	Aydarken CC	21	8	276	180	96
9	Jalal-Abad CC	31	5	293	194	99
10	Kerben CC	31	5	246	165	81
11	<u>Kok-</u> Dzhangak CC	21	3	102	66	36
12	<u>Mailuu-Suu</u> <u>CC</u>	31	5	306	201	105
13	Kochkor-Ata	21	5	187	127	60
14	Kara-Kul CC	31	7	341	227	114
15	<u>Bazar-Korgon</u> <u>CC</u>	31	5	265	175	90
16	<u>Cholpon-Ata</u> <u>CC</u>	21	7	226	139	87
17	<u>Karakol CC</u>	31	17	847	492	355
18	Balykchi CC	31	14	692	417	275
19	<u>Naryn CC</u>	31	9	439	270	169
20	Nookat CC	21	5	162	95	67
21	Uzgen CC	31	7	351	239	112
22	<u>Talas CC</u>	31	11	558	324	234
23	Kemin CC	21	9	312	186	126
24	<u>Orlovka CC</u>	21	5	176	105	71
25	Shopokov CC	21	7	228	129	99
26	Kaindy CC	21	6	204	121	83
27	Kant CC	31	10	497	287	210
28	Tokmok CC	31	5	295	195	100

No.	City councils	Number of seats	Parties that got into the city councils and their number of seats		
	28 city councils				
1	Bishkek CC	Election result	ts canceled due to violations		
2	Osh CC	Election result	ts canceled due to violations		
			1. "Ala-Too Kyrgyz Jeri" – 12		
	<b>D</b> 1 <b>C</b>		2. "Yntymak"-10		
3	Batken CC	31	3. "Emgek" - 6		
			4. "Jany-Door" - 3		
			1. "NDPK" – 7		
			2. "Ata-Jurt" – 7		
4	Kyzyl-Kiya CC	31	3. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 6		
			4. "Iman Nuru" – 6		
			5. "Bir Bol" – 5		
			1. "NDPK"-9		
			2. "Muras" – 8		
5	<u>Isfana CC</u>	31	3. "Onuguu Progress" - 6		
			4. "Respublika" – 4		
			5. "Yntymak" – 4		
			1. "Onuguu Progress"-7		
			2. "Yntymak" – 5 3. "Iman Nuru" – 5		
6	Sulukta CC	31	3. "Iman Nuru" – 5 4. "Jany-Door" - 4		
0	<u>Sulukta CC</u>	51	$\begin{array}{c} 4.  \text{Jany-Door} = 4 \\ 5.  \text{"Zamandash"} = 4 \end{array}$		
			6. "Respublika" – 3		
			7. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 3		
			1. "Butun Kyrgyzstan" - 6		
			2. "Yntymak" – 5		
7	<u>Kadamjay CC</u>	21	3. "Onuguu Progress"-5		
			4. "Uluu Jurt" – 3		
			5. "Kalys" – 2		
			1. "Yntymak" – 5		
			2. "Ata-Jurt" – 3		
	Aydarken CC		3. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 3		
8		21	4. "Zamandash" – 3		
		21	5. "Jany-Door" - 3		
			6. "Onuguu Progress"-2		
			7. "Butun Kyrgyzstan" - 2		
~		21	1. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 22		
9	Jalal-Abad CC	31	2. "Onuguu Progress"-5		
			3. "Iman Nuru" – 4		
			1. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 9		
10	Kerben CC	21	2. "Yntymak" – 9		
10		31	<ol> <li>"Butun Kyrgyzstan" - 7</li> <li>"Onuguu Progress"-3</li> </ol>		
			4. Onuguu Progress -5 5. "Respublika" – 3		
			5.     Kespublika - 5       1.     "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" - 10		
11	Kok-Dzhangak CC	21	2. "Onuguu Progress" - 6		

# **APPENDIX 2. RESULTS OF ELECTIONS TO LOCAL COUNCILS**

			3. "The Party of Communists of Kyrgyzstan" – 5
			1. "Yntymak" – 14
12			2. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 8
	Mailuu-Suu CC	31	3. "Onuguu Progress"-5
			4. "Iman Nuru" – 4
			1. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 8
			2. "Yntymak" – 7
13	Kochkor-Ata CC	21	3. "Respublika" – 2
10			4. "Onuguu Progress" - 2
			5. "Uluttar Birimdigi" – 2
			1. "Zamandash" $-7$
			2. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 5
			3. "Party of Energetics" – 5
14	Kara-Kul CC	31	4. "Birge-Vmeste" - 4
			5. "Iman Nuru" – 4
			6. "Meken Yntymagy" - 3
			7. "Yntymak" – 3
			1. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 14
			2. "Zamandash" $-8$
15	Bazar-Korgon CC	31	3. "Uluttar Birimdigi" – 3
_		_	4. "Onuguu Progress"-3
			5. "Ishenim" – 3
			1. "Uluu Kyrgyzstan" – 4
			2. "Birge-Vmeste" - 4
			3. "Social Democrats" – 4
16	Cholpon-Ata CC	21	4. "Ata-Jurt" – 3
-			5. "Tabylga" – 2
			6. "Ata-Meken" – 2
			7. "Chon Kazat" - 2
			1. "Birge-Vmeste" - 11
			2. "Tabylga" – 7
17	Karakol CC	31	3. "Emgek" - 5
			4. "Iman Nuru" – 4
			5. "Zamandash" – 4
			1. "Tabylga" – 10
			2. "Onuguu Progress"-6
18	Balykchi CC	31	3. "Emgek" - 6
			4. "Muras" – 5
			5. "Zamandash" – 4
			1. "Uluu Kyrgyzstan" – 5
			2. "Ordo" - 5
19			3. "Biylik Elge" – 5
	Naryn CC	31	4. "Patriot Yntymagy" – 5
			5. "Onuguu Progress"-4
			6. "Iman Nuru" – 4
			7. "Respublika" – 3
	Nookat CC	21	1. "Ata-Jurt" – 6
			2. "Bir Bol" – 6
20			3. "Emgek" - 3
			4. "Zamandash" $-3$
			5. "Amanat" – 3

			1. "NDPK" - 12	
21			2. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 9	
	Uzgen CC	31	3.  "Amanat" - 5	
	<u>Uzgen CC</u>	51	4. "Onuguu Progress"-3	
			5. "Nur" - 2	
			1. "Amanat" – 9	
			2. "Asyl Muras Jashtar" – 8	
22	Talas CC	31	3. "Iman Nuru" – 5	
		51	4. "Respublika" – 5	
			5. "Kyrgyzstan" $-4$	
			1. "Patriot Yntymagy" – 8	
			2.  "Adilet" - 3	
			3. "Zamandash" - 3	
23	Kemin CC	21	4. "Kyrgyzstan" $-3$	
			5. "Social Democrats" $-2$	
			6. "Emgek" - 2	
			1. "Patriot Yntymagy" – 9	
			2. "Social Democrats" – 4	
24	Orlovka CC	21	3. "Zamandash" – 3	
2.		21	4. "Tynchtyk" - 3	
			5. "Emgek" - 2	
			1. "Butkul Zhashtar" – 4	
			2. "Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan" – 4	
			3. "Ordo" - 3	
25	Shopokov CC	21	4. "Onuguu Progress"-3	
	<u>Shopokov ee</u>		5. "Ishenim" – 3	
			6. "Social Democrats" – 2	
			7. "Respublika" – 2	
			1. "Stolitsa Democratic Party" – 9	
			2. "Kuchtuu Koom" - 4	
26	Kaindy CC	21	3. "Iman Nuru" – 4	
			4. "Tynchtyk" – 2	
			5. "Uluu Jurt" – 2	
			1. "Birge-Vmeste" - 8	
	<u>Kant CC</u>		2. "Patriot Yntymagy" – 7	
~7		21	3. "Respublika" – 5	
27		31	4. "Uluu Jurt" – 5	
			5. "Emgek" - 3	
			6. "Kalk Yntymagy" – 3	
28	Tokmok CC	Election results canceled due to violations		

# APPENDIX 3. RESULTS IN 25 CITY COUNCILS: PARTIES AND THE NUMBER OF MANDATES RECEIVED.

No.	Parties	Total number of mandates received	Number of city councils	Average number of mandates per city council
1	"Ata-Jurt Kyrgyzstan"	101	12	8.4
2	"Yntymak"	62	9	6.9
3	"Onuguu-Progress"	60	14	4.3
4	"Iman Nuru"	40	9	4.4
5	"Zamandash"	39	9	4.3
6	"Patriot Yntymagy"	29	4	7.3
7	"NDPK"	28	3	9.3
8	"Birge-Vmeste"	27	4	6.8
9	"Emgek"	27	7	3.9
10	"Respublika"	27	8	3.4
11	"Ata-Jurt"	19	4	4.8
12	"Tabylga"	19	3	6.3
13	"Amanat"	17	3	5.7
14	"Butun Kyrgyzstan"	15	3	5.0
15	"Muras"	13	2	6.5
16	"Ala-Too Kyrgyz Jeri"	12	1	12.0
17	"Social Democrats"	12	4	3.0
18	"Bir Bol"	11	2	5.5
19	"Jany-Door"	10	3	3.3
20	"Uluu-Jurt"	10	3	3.3
21	"Stolitsa Democratic Party"	9	1	9.0
22	"Uluu Kyrgyzstan"	9	2	4.5
23	"Asyl Muras Jashtar"	8	1	8.0
24	"Ordo"	8	2	4.0
25	"Party of Energetics"	7	1	7.0
26	«Kyrgyzstan"	7	2	3.5
27	"Ishenim"	6	2	3.0
28	"Biylik Elge"	5	1	5.0
29	"The Party of Communists of Kyrgyzstan"	5	1	5.0
30	"Tynchtyk"	5	2	2.5
31	"Uluttar Birimdigi"	5	2	2.5
32	"Butkul Zhashtar"	4	1	4.0
33	"Kuchtuu Koom"	4	1	4.0
34	"Adilet"	3	1	3.0
35	"Kalk Yntymagy"	3	1	3.0
36	"Meken Yntymagy"	3	1	3.0
37	"Ata-Meken"	2	1	2.0
38	"Chon Kazat"	2	1	2.0
39	"Kalys"	2	1	2.0
40	"Nur"	2	1	2.0

#### More information is available at the following official resources of the Foundation:



www.commoncause.kg



https://bit.ly/3io9emG

https://t.me/obsheedelokg

- www.instagram.com/commoncause312
- www.facebook.com/commoncause312
- <u>https://twitter.com/commoncause312</u>