

## **DECISION**

of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan  
on the finalization of the Early Presidential Elections of the Republic of Azerbaijan,  
held on April 11, 2018 and the submission of the voting results protocol of the Central  
Election Commission and relevant documents to the Constitutional Court  
of the Republic of Azerbaijan

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan declared the Early Presidential Elections of the Republic of Azerbaijan on February 5, 2018 pursuant to I Section of Article 101 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan and charged the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan with ensuring the appointment of the elections to April 11, 2018 and conduct these election in a manner defined in the legislation.

Pursuant to Article 179.2 of the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Central Election Commission appointed the elections to April 11, 2018 by Decision dated February 6, 2018. Therewith, the Central Election Commission supervised the compilation, update and publicize of permanent voter list on the republic since the beginnings of the year upon considering the requirements of Article 207 of the Election Code and implemented all the activities regarding the preparation and conduct of the elections within a manner defined in the legislation timely and efficiently.

Broad educational programs with the participation of the relevant bodies were organized for the members of lower election commissions, the material and technical supply of which had been strengthened and to this end voters and many other election stakeholders were involved in different programs.

After the elections started, 8 presidential candidates were equally facilitated as implied in law to deliver their platforms to voters through all means including internet resources and social networks, pre-election campaign actors used the provided opportunities freely without any obstacle.

The webcams installed in 20% of the polling stations that cover the whole territory of the republic (1000 polling stations), excluding the occupied areas allowed to follow "online" the voting process from the beginning till the end without any limitation. The candidates and political parties participating in elections, also the great observation mission including nearly 59 000 domestic observers, 894 observers representing 59 countries and 61 prominent international organizations, 118 journalists representing 51 international media outlets who had monitored the voting process generally assessed the election environment as free, fair, civil and competent with modern requirements.

Central Election Commission has not been filed any complaint on the law violation throughout the voting day followed by voters' high turnout and the election process. The elections were held generally within free, fair, transparent and open environment and preliminary voting results were tabulated and publicized on the same day.

Lower election commissions submitted all relevant documents to the Central Election Commission in time and the voting results protocols of the Constituency Election Commissions and the attachment documents were effectively and impartially investigated to determine the election results officially as implied in law. During the process the views of the webcams functioned incessantly on the voting day, internet resources, as well as the information spread on social networks were examined and even the minor cases that could affect the legitimate conduct of the elections and failing to meet international standards were investigated. Consequently, due to the law violations which did not allow determining voters' will in the PEC # 2 of Kurdamir Con.EC # 57, PEC # 10 of Lankaran city Con.EC # 73, PEC # 26 of Jalilabad-Masalli-Bilasuvur Con.EC # 69, PEC # 12 of Lankaran village Con.EC # 74,

grounds were determined to invalidate the voting results in those polling stations and to dismiss the full compositions of the PEC # 2 of Kurdamir Con.EC # 57 and PEC # 10 of Lankaran city Con.EC # 73.

Therefore, the data included in the protocols of Constituency Election Commissions shall be summarized upon undertaking relevant activities regarding the above-mentioned and the protocol of the Central Election Commission shall be compiled. Meanwhile, the elections shall be finalized after the approval of the protocol and upon being signed and published, it shall be submitted together with the relevant documents to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the approval.

Pursuant to Article 203.1 of the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Central Election Commission finalizes the Presidential Elections within the timeframe defined in the legislation and submits the relevant documents for the approval of the election results to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan as in compliance with Article 102 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Pursuant to Article 203.5 of the Election Code, the protocol on the results of the Presidential Elections shall be published within 24 hours upon being signed.

Taking the above-mentioned as a basis, pursuant to Article 102 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Articles 19.4, 19.14, 28.2, 28.4, 203.1 and 203.5 of the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Central Election Commission **d e c i d e s**:

1. As a result of the investigations regarding the finalization of the Early Presidential Elections of the Republic of Azerbaijan held on April 11, 2018, the law violations found out the voting results which did not allow to determine the voters' will in the PEC # 2 of Kurdamir Con.EC # 57, PEC # 10 of Lankaran city Con.EC # 73, PEC # 26 of Jalilabad-Masalli-Bilasuvar Con.EC # 69, PEC # 12 of Lankaran village Con.EC # 74, the voting results in those polling stations shall be invalidated.
2. The full compositions of the PEC # 2 of Kurdamir Con.EC # 57 and PEC # 10 of Lankaran city Con.EC # 73 shall be dismissed.
3. By considering the above-mentioned, the protocol of the Central Election Commission on the election results shall be compiled.
4. The voting results protocol shall be approved and the elections shall be finalized.
5. The protocol and relevant documents shall be submitted for the approval of the election results to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
6. The protocol shall be published within 24 hours upon being signed (The appendix is attached).
7. The Decision shall be enforced upon its publication.

Chairman

Mazahir Panahov

Secretary

Arifa Mukhtarova

Secretary

Mikayil Rahimov