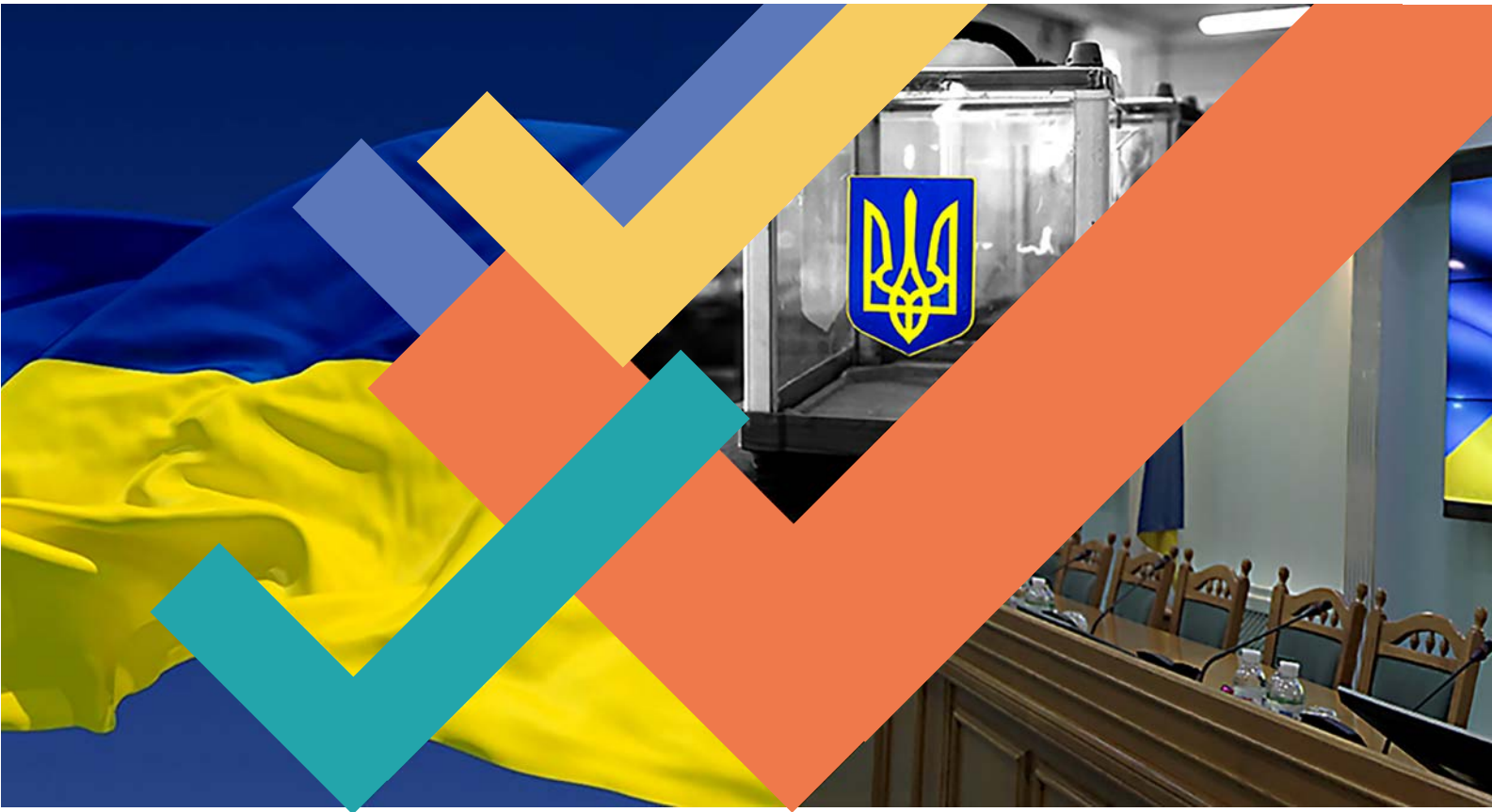




THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF UKRAINE



THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

on March 31, 2019

Executive Summary

THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE ON MARCH 31, 2019

4	1. Territorial organization of the election
7	2. Registration of presidential candidates
9	3. Creation of district and precinct election commissions
13	4. Voter lists
16	5. Official observers
18	6. Election campaigning
20	7. General information on oversight of candidates' election funds
21	8. Structure of state election-related expenditures
23	9. Use of the Unified Information and Analytical System (UIAS) «Vybory»
27	10. Specifics of the election dispute resolution process
30	11. Openness and transparency of the activities of the Central Election Commission

The 2019 election of the President of Ukraine will go down in history as probably the most record-setting one in many aspects.

As such, the Central Election Commission (CEC) is pleased to present this report on the outcome of the election campaign where you can learn about the main stages of preparation and conduct of the March 31, 2019 election of the President of Ukraine and review analytical materials and quantitative characteristics of the electoral process.

Pursuant to paragraph 20, Part 1 of Article 92 of the Constitution of Ukraine, the organization and procedure for conduct of elections and referendums are determined exclusively by the laws of Ukraine. The law regulating the preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine is the special Law of Ukraine «On the Election of the President of Ukraine» (referred to hereinafter as the Law). Pursuant to the Law, a regular election of the President of Ukraine is conducted following the expiry of the President's constitutional term of office and takes place on the last Sunday of March of the fifth year of the tenure of the President of Ukraine.

On November 26, 2018, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted Resolution No. 2631-VIII «On Calling a Regular Election of the President of Ukraine», scheduling the election for Sunday, March 31, 2019. According to Resolution No. 2631-VIII and Article 17 of the Law, the CEC announced, starting from December 31, 2018, the commencement of the election process of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine.

The March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine was administered by the CEC and the district and precinct election commissions formed specifically for this election. It should be noted that the composition of the CEC, responsible for organizing the preparation and conduct of this election, had changed by almost 90 percent (except for two members of the Commission whose term of office has not yet expired) only a few months before the start of the election campaign period.

The course of the electoral process of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine demonstrates that the CEC, in its renewed composition, was working concertedly and effectively, reacting promptly to the challenges it was facing. The election process was competitive and fair.

Since no one candidate received more than 50 percent of the vote on March 31, 2019, runoff elections were held on April 21, 2019 and Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelenskyi was elected the President of Ukraine.



Announcement of the results of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine

1 TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION OF THE 2019 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

The March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine took place in 199 of the 225 territorial election districts (TEDs) functioning in Ukraine on a permanent basis. In line with key legal documents¹, the CEC specified in Resolution No. 303 of February 12, 2019 – «On Certain Issues of the Organization and Conduct of Voting of Citizens of Ukraine at the Regular Election of the President of Ukraine on March 31, 2019, in Certain Regions of Ukraine» – the lists of territories in which the voting of citizens of Ukraine at the regular election of the President of Ukraine on March 31, 2019 would not be organized or conducted and in which territories the voting of citizens of Ukraine would be organized and conducted in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. These lists were created in accordance with the CEC Resolution No. 82 of April 28, 2012.

Thus, voting in the regular election of the President of Ukraine on March 31, 2019, was not organized or conducted at election precincts created within 26 TEDs: No. 1 to 10, No. 224 or 225, which encompass the entire territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol respectively, nor in the territory of TEDs No. 41 to 44, 53 to 56, 61, 104, 108 to 111. Elections were also not organized and conducted in part of the territories of TEDs No. 45, 46, 51, 52, 59, 60, 105 to 107, 112, and 114, since they comprise rayons, cities/towns, settlements and villages in the part of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts that are listed in the Decree of the President of Ukraine as temporary occupied territories.

The preparation, organization and conduct of voting and vote counting involved the use of regular, special and out-of-country election precincts created on a permanent basis pursuant to the Law of Ukraine On the Election of the MPs of Ukraine, as well as special precincts that were established on a temporary basis pursuant to the Law. Out-of-country election precincts were designated for the organization and conduct of

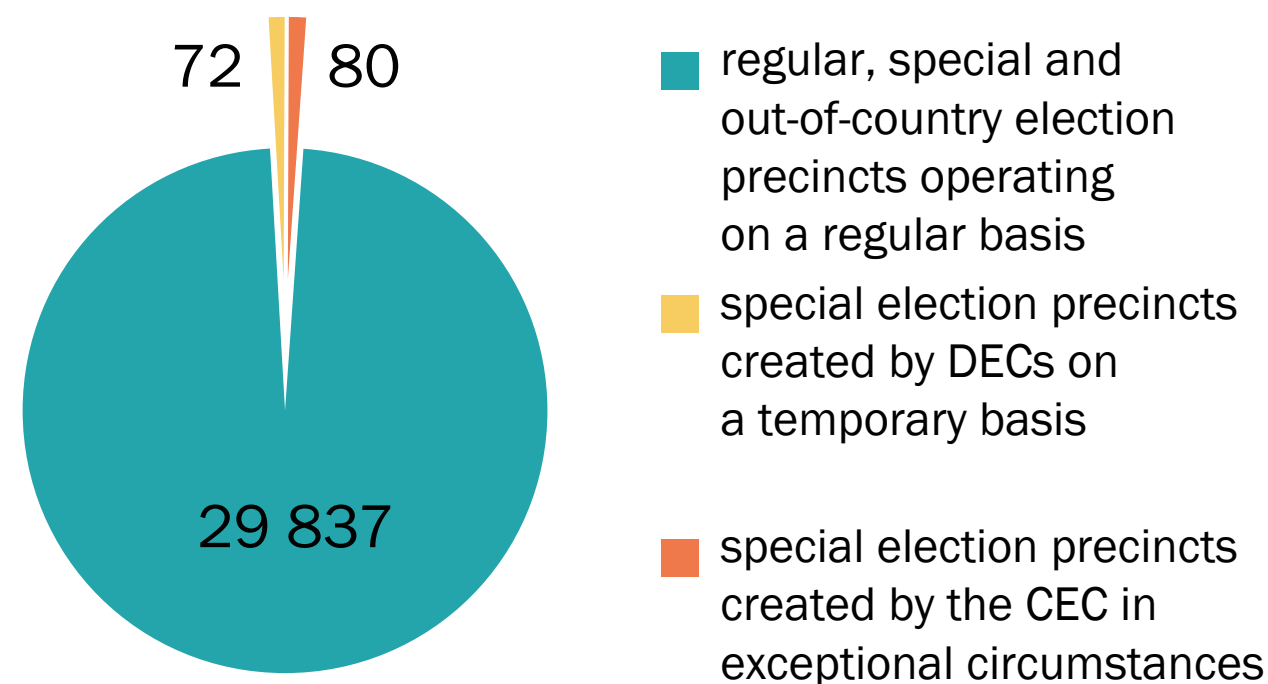
voting of voters residing or staying, on the day of the conduct of voting, in a foreign state. There are 101 such permanent out-of-country election precincts created at Ukraine’s foreign diplomatic institutions by the CEC on the basis of a submission from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (Resolution No. 67 of April 12, 2012, «On the Creation of Permanent Out-of-Country Election Precincts»). At the same time, it should be taken into account that, based on a submission from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine of December 19, 2018, the CEC, through Resolution No. 274 of December 31, 2018, made amendments to the list of permanent out-of-country election precincts, abolished the polling stations within the Russian Federation and changed the boundaries of three election precincts, and designated the Embassies of Ukraine in Georgia, the Republic of Kazakhstan, and the Republic of Finland as their premises for voting.

Moreover, on the basis of a submission from the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine on the creation, in exceptional circumstances, of special election precincts in the territory of military units (formations), and of the respective precinct election commissions (PECs), the CEC, through its Resolution No. 554 of March 14, 2019, created 80 special election precincts within TEDs No. 45 to 50, 52, 57, 59, 60, 105 to 107, 112 to 114, and 122.

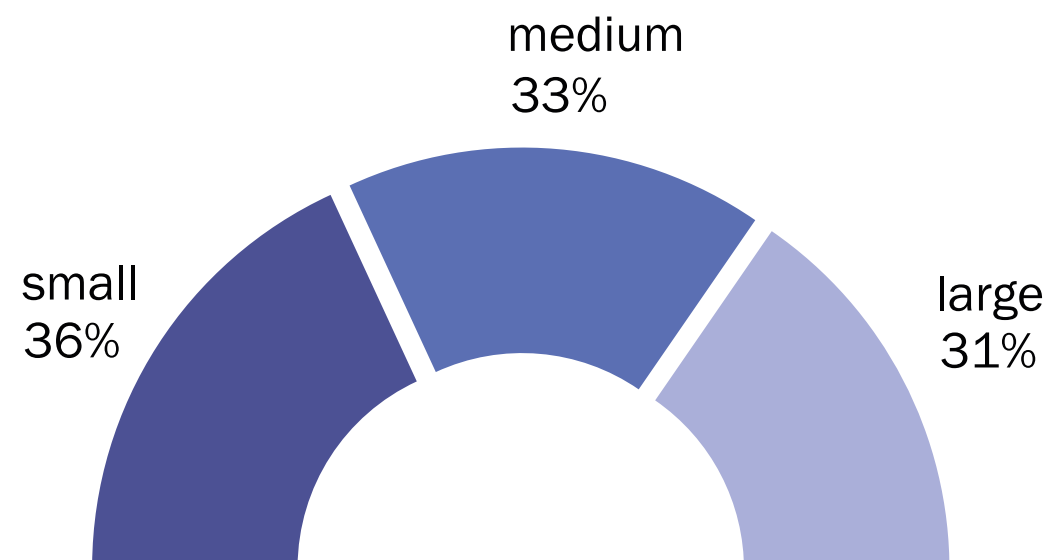
In addition, district election commissions (DECs) created 72 election precincts on a temporary basis (including 21 on vessels, 44 at penitentiary institutions and pretrial detention centers, and 7 at medical institutions).

A total of 29,989 election precincts were created on March 31, 2019, for voting and counting, including 28,653 regular and 1,235 special election precincts. These include the 72 election precincts created by DECs on a temporary basis, 80 election precincts created by the CEC under exceptional circumstances, as well as 101 out-of-country election precincts.

Election precincts at the regular election of the President of Ukraine March 31, 2019

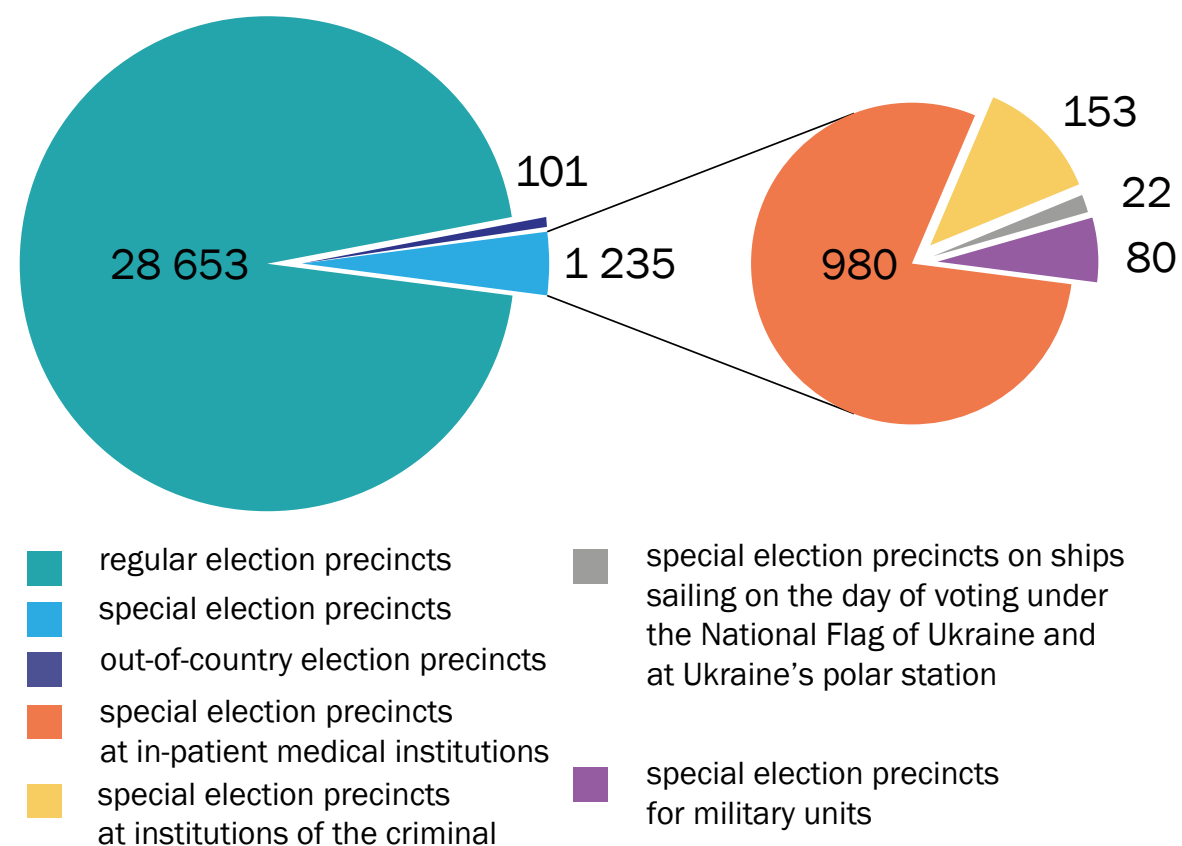


Distribution of election precincts by number of voters



¹ Part 1, Article 8 of the Law of Ukraine «On Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Citizens and the Legal Regime on the Temporarily Occupied Territory of Ukraine»; Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 2/2019 of February 7, 2019 «On the Boundaries and List of Rayons, Cities/Towns, Settlements and Villages, Parts of Their Territories Temporarily Occupied in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts», letters from the Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast State Administrations – Oblast Civil-Military Administrations appended with opinions (provided for by paragraph 1, Part 3 of Article 4 of the Law of Ukraine «On Civil-Military Administrations» concerning the possibility to organize the preparation and conduct, in accordance with the Law, of the regular election of the President of Ukraine on March 31, 2019, in certain territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

Distribution of election precincts by location as 31.03.2019



A total of 29,982 election precincts were created for the voting and the counting of votes for the runoff on April 21, 2019. These included 28,653 regular election precincts and 1,228 special election precincts: 66 election precincts created by DEC's on a temporary basis (including 15 on vessels, 44 at penitentiary institutions and pretrial detention centers, and 7 at medical institutions), 80 election precincts created by the CEC in exceptional circumstances, and 101 out-of-country election precincts.

Territorial election precinct 20 in Volyn oblast had the largest number of election precincts – 314.

At the same time, due to the temporary occupation of part of the territory of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and the Jointed Forces Operation in these oblasts, voting in territorial election district 51 (Donetsk oblast) was organized and conducted at only 2 of the 95 precincts created within that district; in territorial election district 105 (Luhansk oblast), accordingly, voting took place at only 7 of its 97 election precincts.

2 REGISTRATION OF UKRAINIAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

The number of applications submitted for registration as candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine – 92 – was an all-time record.

Moreover, one third of the applications were submitted to the CEC in the last two days before the deadline established by the Law (February 2 and 3, 2019). Given the five-day term established by the Law for the CEC to process and review such documents and adopt an appropriate decision, this represented a significant effort on behalf of the Commission and the Secretariat.

The CEC registered a total of 44 candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine (24 nominated by political parties and 20 self-nominated). Forty-seven applications were denied, and one application was dismissed without consideration.

The CEC adopted 52 resolutions dismissing applications for registration as candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine.

Pursuant to Part 2 of Article 103 of the Constitution of Ukraine and Part 1 of Article 9 of the Law, a person eligible for election as the President of Ukraine should be a citizen of Ukraine who has attained the age of thirty-five, has the right to vote, has resided in Ukraine for ten years prior to election day, and has command of the state language. In violation of the requirements of the Constitution of Ukraine, three candidates had not attained the age of 35.

Pursuant to Article 51 of the Law, the CEC is to register a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine if the Commission has received, inter alia, a document certifying that the candidate has paid an

electoral deposit pursuant to Article 49 of the Law. However, 47 candidates failed to pay the deposit.

The legal procedure for nomination of a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine was violated by 36 candidates.

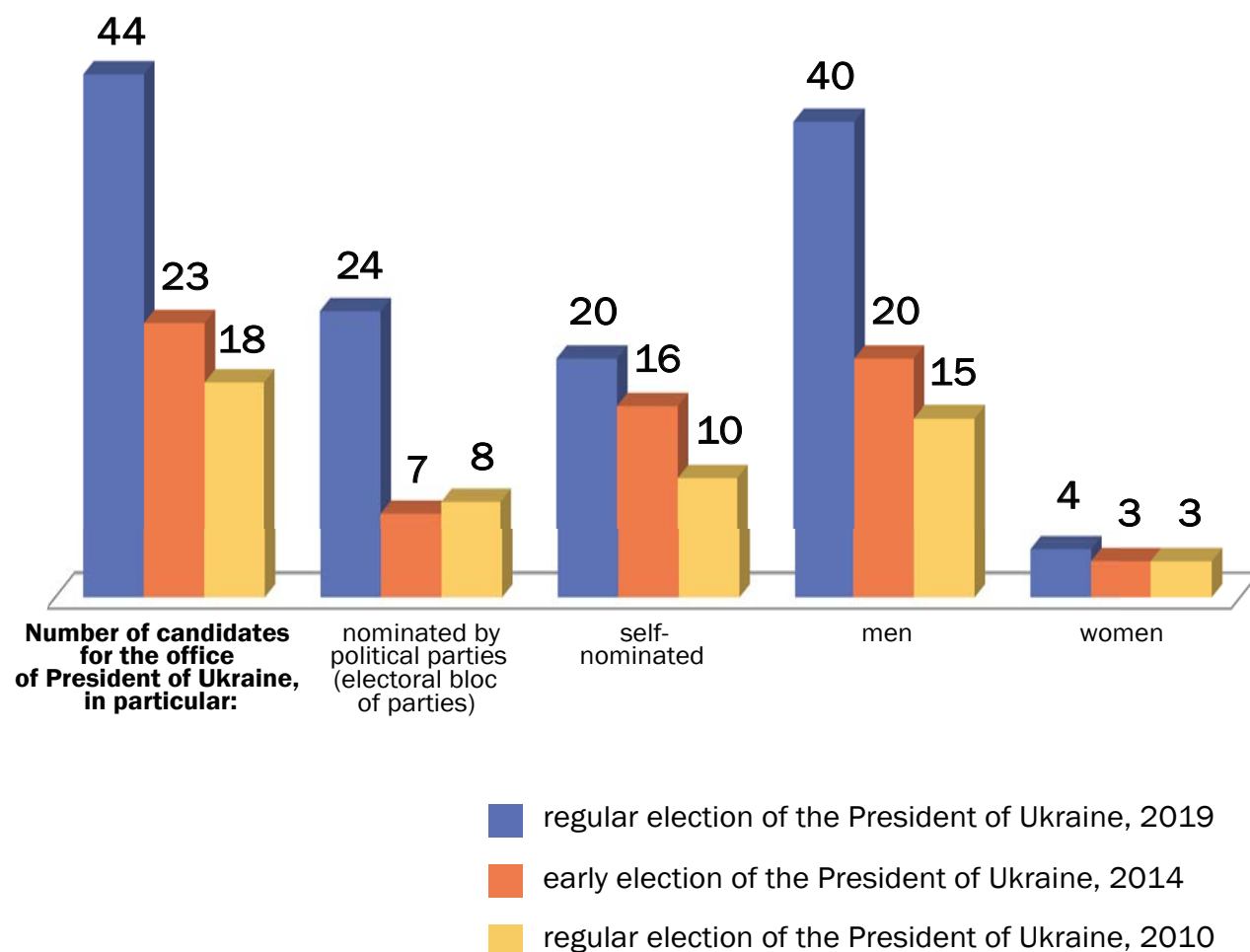
Moreover, six applicants (Y.I. Andrukhiv, O.M. Soloviov, T.D. Kostanchuk, I.I. Kachailo, Y.P. Ivanytskyi, and V.V. Kononenko) submitted candidate electoral programs that contained provisions aimed at eliminating the independence of Ukraine, a violent change of the constitutional order, violation of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, propaganda of war, violence, or infringement upon human rights and freedoms.

In accordance with paragraph 8, Part 1 of Article 52 of the Law, P.M. Symonenko was denied registration as a candidate on account of being nominated by a party whose statute, name, and symbols fail to comply with Parts 1 and 2 of Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine On Condemnation of the Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Prohibition of Propaganda of their Symbols.

Subsequently, the registration of five candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine were cancelled upon their requests. That is, by the day of voting, March 31, 2019, there were 39 candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine remaining; their names were included in the ballot papers.

The two candidates that received the highest number of votes on March 31, 2019 were included in the ballot paper for the runoff on April 21, 2019, namely V.O. Zelenskyi and P.O. Poroshenko.

Comparison of numbers of candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine



3 CREATION OF DISTRICT AND POLLING STATION ELECTION COMMISSIONS

DECS:

The Law established a particular procedure for the creation of DECs for the election of the President of Ukraine such that the right to propose nominees for DECs is vested exclusively in the registered candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine (one nominee to each election commission per candidate). Moreover, the Law specifies that a DEC must have no less than 12 members, while establishing no upper limit to the number of members in a DEC.

For the purpose of organizing the preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine, the right to nominate candidates to DECs was exercised by 43 out of the 44 registered candidates. In particular, candidate A.O. Kornatskyi nominated no candidates to the DECs. The next smallest number of nominees to DECs – 11 – was proposed by candidate D.V. Hnap. A total of 19 candidates proposed nominees for each of the 199 DECs.

Overall, 7,395 nominees were proposed for DECs. Following the verification of submitted documents, as well as corrected submissions for some nominees, 40 nominees were withdrawn upon request from the respective nominators. The total number of nominees appointed to DECs was 7,355.

After considering the submissions for nominees to the DECs, the CEC created, within the timeframe specified by the Law, DECs for the election of the President of Ukraine at the regular election of the President of Ukraine on March 31, 2019 (CEC Resolution No. 331 of February 18, 2019). The CEC simultaneously ensured the right of representation of each candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine among the top officials of these commissions, pursuant to Part 8 of Article 23 of the Law.

At the same time, during the pre-election period, the Commission adopted 3,123 decisions making changes to the composition of DECs related to personal applications to withdraw from a commission (50); submissions for replacement of a commission member by the respective nominator (2,475); appeals from an election commission about the systematic failure of the chairperson, the deputy chair, the secretary, or member of the commission to perform their duties (100); decisions by a higher-level commission (the Commission's Resolution No. 534 of March 12, 2019, «On Certain Issues of the Activities of the District Election Commission for the Election of the President of Ukraine of TED No. 163») – (33); and in

connection with deregistration of a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine (463).

On the day of voting, the greatest number of DEC members was 37 (DECs of TEDs 75, 76, 95, 145, 149, 151, 174, 205), and the smallest was 27 in TEDs. 39 and 105). At the point of their creation, there was a total of 7,355 DEC members. Of these, 4,652 (63.24 percent of the total number of DEC members) remained on the commission on the day of voting, including 83 DEC chairpersons (41.7 percent of the total number of chairpersons), 120 deputy chairpersons (60.3 percent of the total number of deputy chairpersons), and 91 secretaries (45.72 percent of the total number of DEC secretaries).

Thus, from the point of creation of DECs until the day of voting, 36.76 percent of the original members of those commissions left their posts. Replacements involved 116 positions of DEC chairpersons (58.3 per cent), 79 DEC deputy chairpersons (39.7 percent), and 108 positions of DEC secretaries (54.2 percent).

Immediately after creating the DECs, the CEC, with support from the International Foundation of Electoral Systems (IFES) in Ukraine, organized and conducted a series of cascade trainings on the electoral process for the election of the President of Ukraine. Approximately 38 percent of the members of these commissions were trained. The considerable level of rotation among the members of these commissions, especially their leadership, reduced the effectiveness of the conducted training almost to zero. An analogous situation was also observed among the precinct commissioners, whose training was organized by the DECs.

Pursuant to Part 5 of Article 85 of the Law, to conduct the runoff voting on April 21, 2019, a new set of DECs were created, each now consisting of 14 members, 7 persons representing each of the two candidates – V.O. Zelenskyi and P.O. Poroshenko – as per CEC Resolution No. 773 of April 10, 2019, «On the Composition of DECs for the Election of the President of Ukraine». Since V.O. Zelenskyi proposed no nominees for DECs for TEDs No. 57 and 58, the composition of these commissions was completed on the basis of a submission from the Chairwoman of the CEC.

The total number of nominees that became members of DECs for the runoff on April 21, 2019 was 2,786.

Decisions on making changes to the composition of DECs formed for the runoff, were adopted by the

Commission only on the basis of a submission for the replacement of a commission member presented by the respective nominator to the commission in question; these decisions concerned 202 persons; thus, the rotation of membership of DEC during the organization of preparation and conduct of the runoff voting was not high.

At the point of their creation, the runoff DECs had a total of 2,786 members. Of these, 2,545 remained on the commission on the day of voting (91.35 percent of the original total), including 176 DEC chairpersons (88.44 percent of the total), and 177 secretaries (88.94 percent of the total).

PECS:

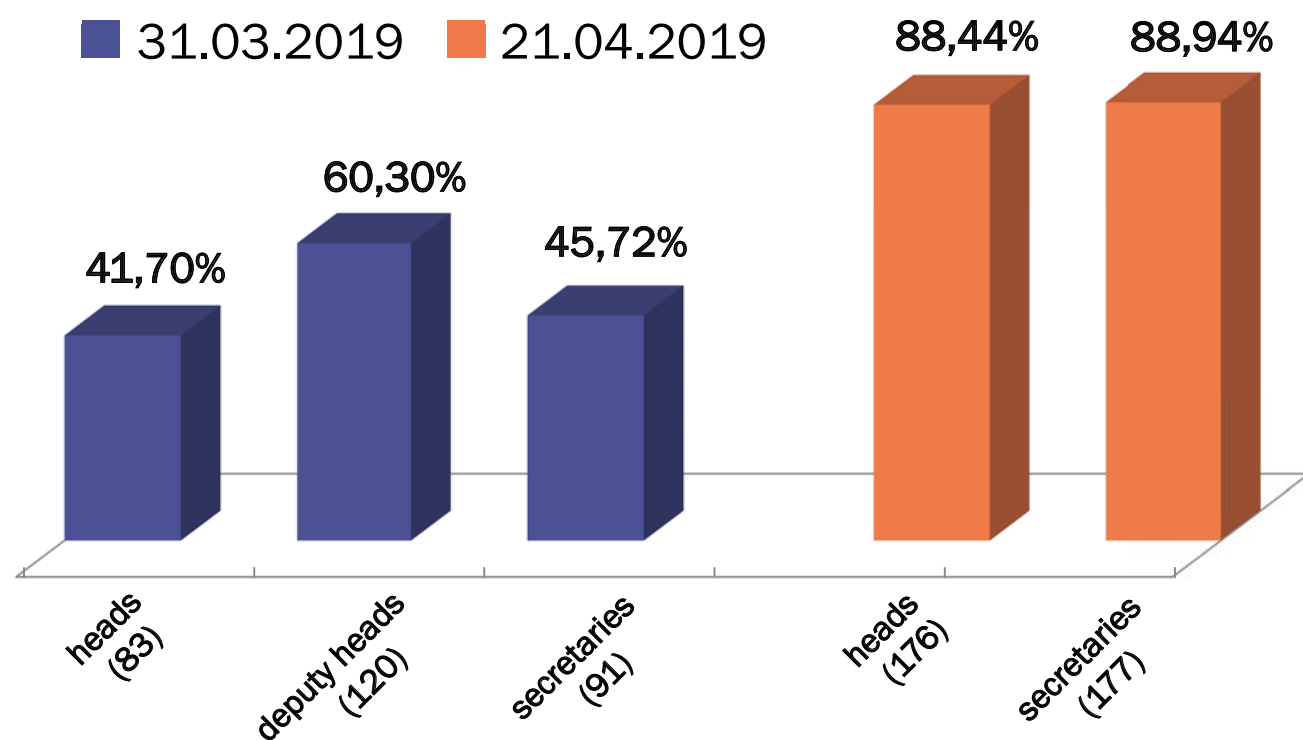
To organize and conduct voting and counting of votes at the election precincts, PECs for the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine were created by the respective DECs. Article 24 of the Law specifies the procedure for the creation of PECs by the respective DEC: each candidate can propose one nominee to each PEC. Three of the thirty-nine candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine did not use their right to nominate

candidates to PECs: I.H. Bohoslovka, A.O. Kornatskyi and R.M. Nasirov.

Within the timeframe set out by the law, 29,989 PECS with a total of more than 450,000 members were created.

Pursuant to Part 3 of Article 21 of the Law, the CEC acts as the DEC for the out-of-country election district. The PECs of out-of-country election precincts were created as prescribed by Article 24 of the Law. The CEC complied with this requirement within the timeframe specified by the Law, creating, through Resolution No. 531 of March 12, 2019, 101 election commissions with 1,437 members on the basis of submissions from candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine and the submission from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. Of the thirty-nine candidates for the office of President, only four (Y.A. Boiko, A.S. Hrytsenko, R.V. Koshulynskyi and Y.V. Tymoshenko) used their right to nominate members to the PECs of the out-of-country election precinct, proposing, respectively, 2, 18, 13, and 34 nominees. Based on the submission from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, 1,370 persons were appointed to the PECs of out-of-country election precincts.

Number of DEC heads, deputy heads, secretaries fulfilling their mandate from the point of creation of the commissions to the day of voting (runoff voting) for the election of the President of Ukraine



RUNOFF

To organize the preparation and conduct of the runoff on April 21, 2019, the respective DECs formed new PECs on the basis of submissions from the candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine that were included on the ballot for the runoff voting.

At the same time, since candidates for President did not propose nominees to all of the PECs, there was an overall shortage of about 60,000 nominees to the PECs. Therefore, the composition of most PECs was completed as required by the Law on the basis of submissions from the chairperson of the respective DECs.

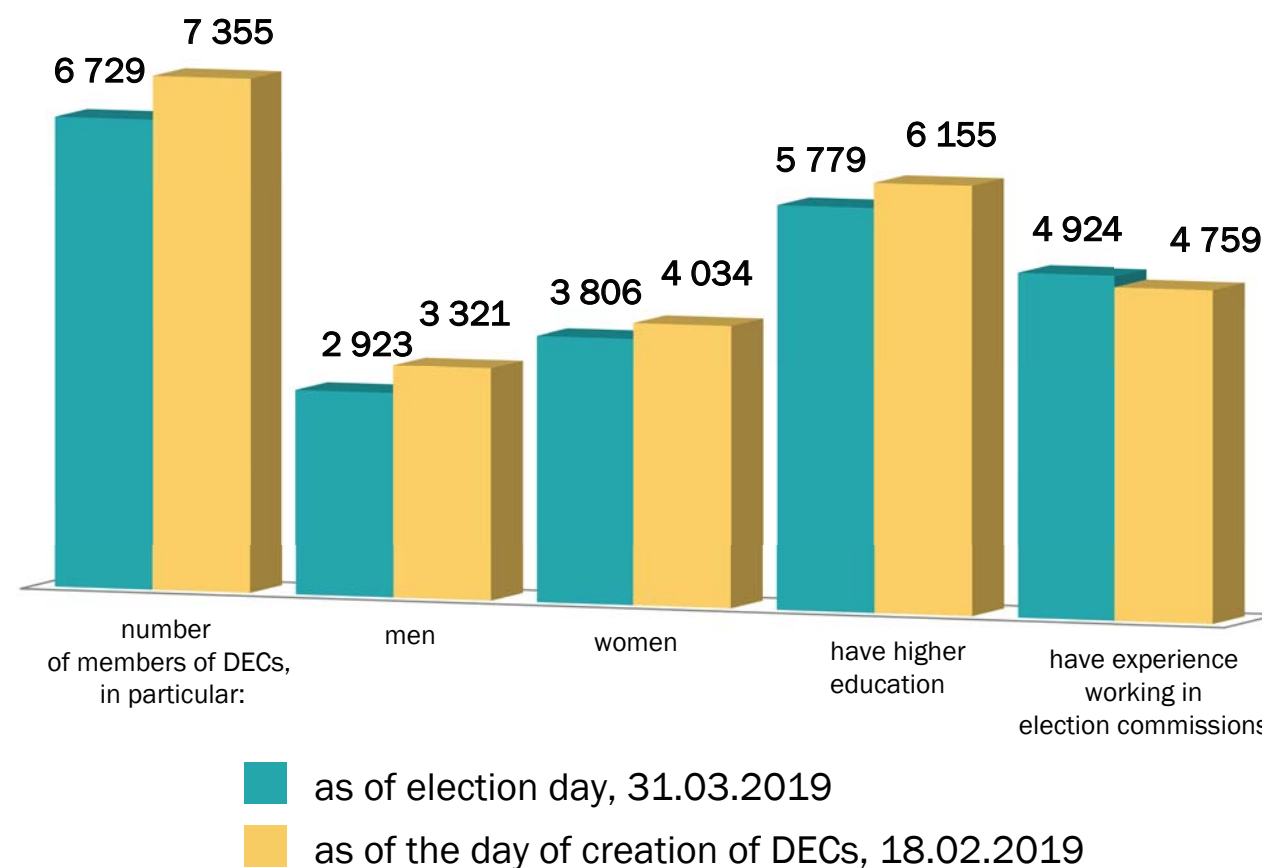
The composition of DECs formed for organizing the preparation and conduct of voting for the March 31, 2019 election of the President of Ukraine was not much different in gender from the composition of these commissions for the runoff voting on April 21, 2019: approximately 43 and

40 percent men, respectively, and approximately 57 and 60 percent women, respectively.

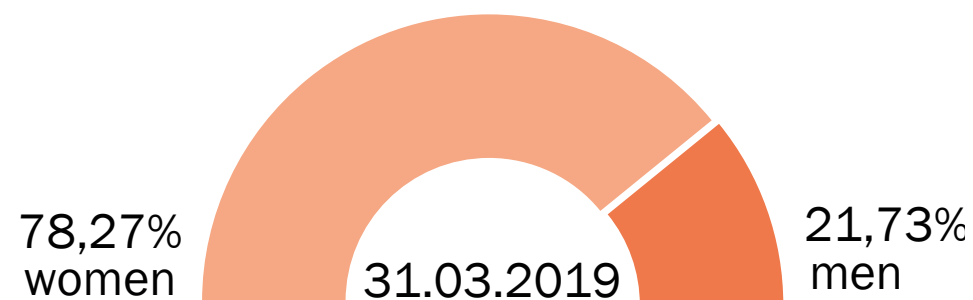
An analysis of the qualitative composition of DECs shows that most members were people with higher education (86 percent in the first round and 89 percent during the runoff voting). And nearly 73 percent of DEC members in the first round and 86 percent during the runoff voting already had some experience in previous elections.

The composition of PECs was not much different in gender make-up from the composition of the commissions in charge of organizing the preparation and conduct of the runoff: 21,73 percent men in first round and 21,83 percent in the runoffs, and 78.27 percent and 78.17 percent women, respectively. Half of the PEC members have higher education (47 percent in the first and 50 percent in the runoff). Contrary to the composition of DECs, which had almost equal shares of men and women, PECs were dominated by women (78 percent).

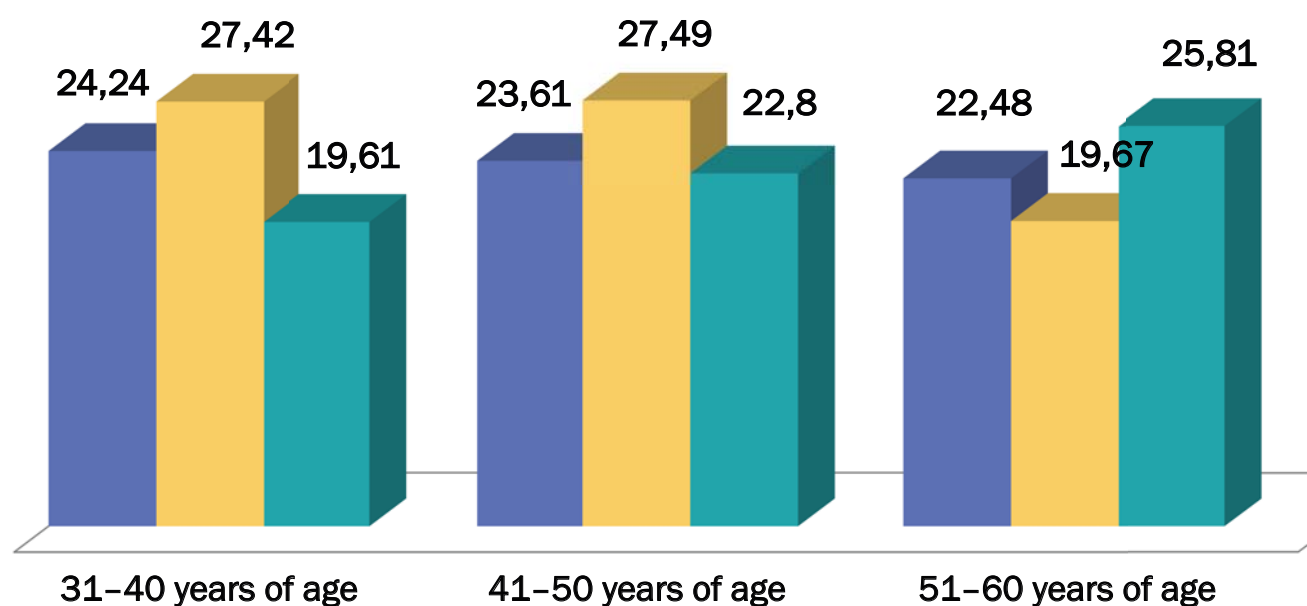
Composition of district election commissions



Gender representation in the polling station election commissions



Main age groups of members of district election commissions

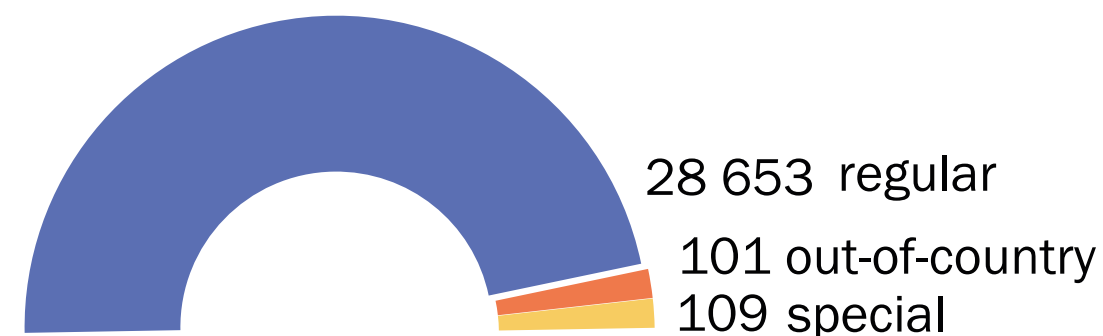


- regular election of the President of Ukraine-2019
- regular election of the President of Ukraine-2019, runoff
- early election of the President of Ukraine-2014

4 | VOTER LISTS

To ensure voting on election day, preliminary and corrected voter lists were compiled by the respective local register bodies, on the basis of information from the State Voter Register database, for 28,653 regular election precincts, 109 special election precincts at penitentiaries, and 101 out-of-country election precincts.

Election precincts for which voter lists were prepared by State Voter Register Maintenance bodies



The smallest number of voters in a territorial district was 2,681, the largest - 204,122.

The number of voters included in the corrected voter lists for regular election precincts was 29,456,400;

for special precincts - 35,905; and for out-of-country precincts - 435,133.

As preliminary voter lists were compiled, personal invitations were produced for voters at regular and out-of-country election precincts.

Number of voters included in voter lists for the 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine



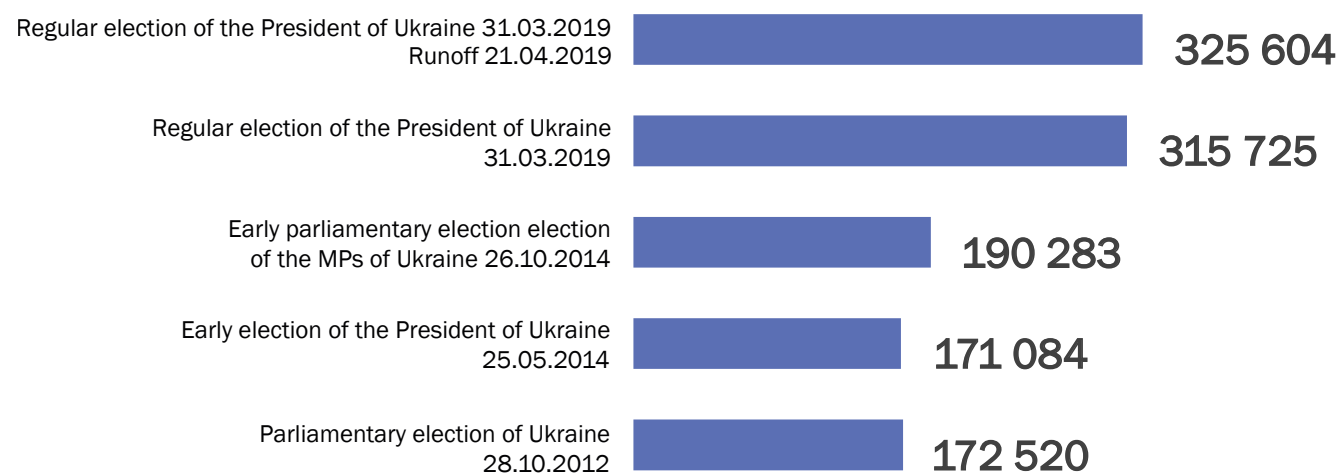
For the runoff, 2019, 29,522,476 voters were included in the voter lists for regular election precincts; 35,708 – for special precincts; and 449,175 – for out-of-country precincts.

At special election precincts other than penitentiaries, voter lists were compiled by the respective precinct commissions. The information on lists was provided to the State Voter Register maintenance bodies so that the latter

would enter special marks in the database to denote voters who would not vote at their election address. In the course of the entire election process, such information was entered for 262,775 voters.

Voters wishing to vote at a location other than their voting address had the opportunity to use the procedure of temporary change of place of voting without changing their voting address.

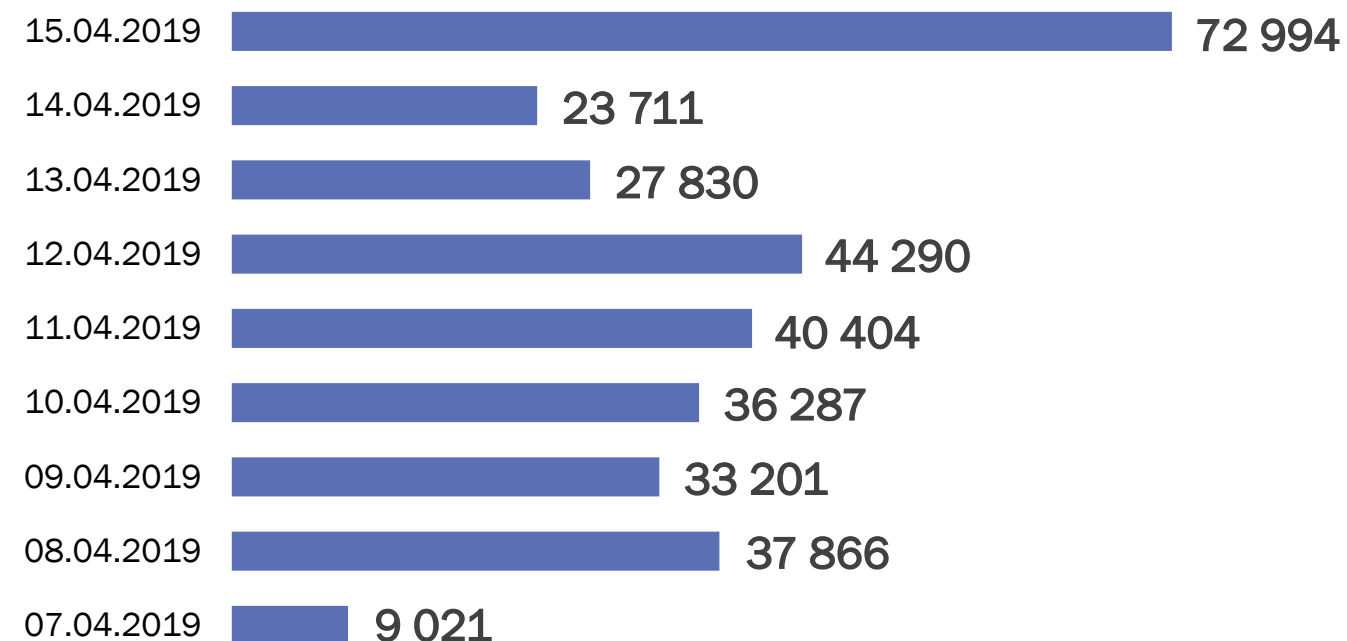
Number of voters whose voting place was temporarily changed, recent election campaigns / rounds



Thus, in the period from December 31, 2018 to March 25, 2019, voters submitted 318,517 applications for temporary change of voting place. Of these, 315,725 applications were approved.

For the purpose of participation in the runoff, 327,034 such applications were filed with the State Voter Register maintenance bodies between April 7 and April 15, 2019 and 325,604 were approved.

Number of voters whose place of voting was temporarily changed for the runoff on April 21, 2019



On April 15, 2019 (the last day for filing such applications), alone nearly 73,000 applications from voters seeking temporary change of the place of voting without changing their voting address was processed.

5 OFFICIAL OBSERVERS

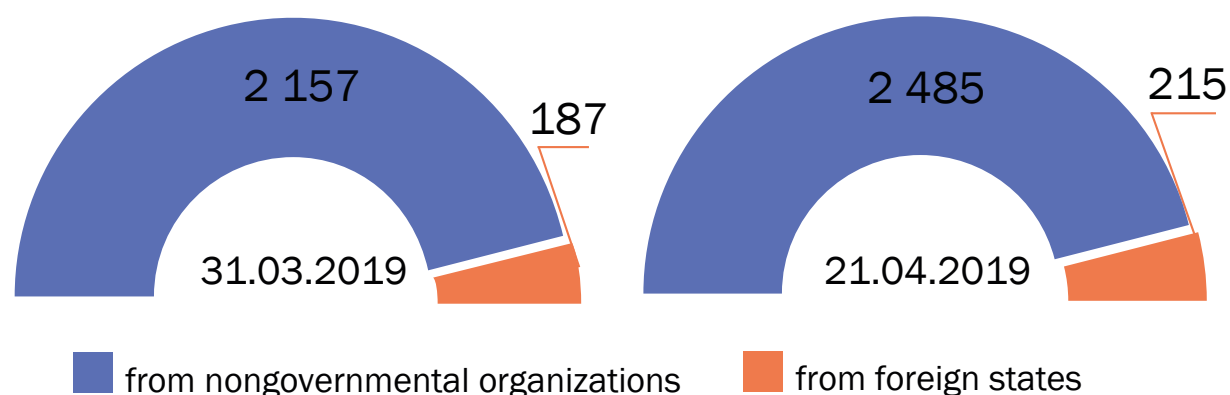
The CEC granted permission for official observation of the March 31, 2019 election of the President of Ukraine to 139 nongovernmental organizations. For comparison, in 2014 such permission was granted to 10 NGOs.

Moreover, the Commission registered 153 official observers for observation of out-of-country voting; and on the day of the runoff, 122 official observers.

To increase the transparency of the election process and the level of confidence in the results of the 2019

election, the CEC registered 2,344 official international observers (187 representatives of foreign states and 2,157 of international organization)s. Observations of the runoff voting on April 21, 2019, within the framework of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine were conducted by 2,700 official international observers (215 representing foreign states and 2,485 – international organizations).

Official international observers registered by the Central Election Commission at the 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine



Moreover, the CEC accredited at this election 1,149 representatives of 192 mass media outlets.

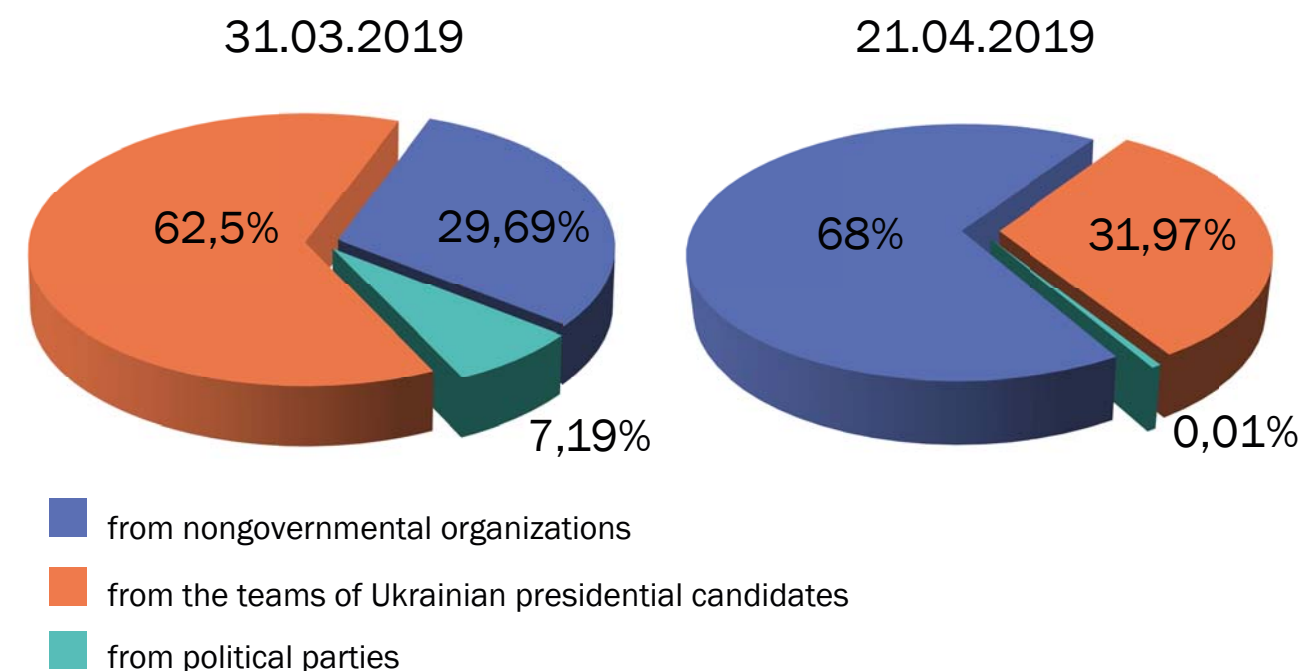
According to data from the Unified Information and Analytical System «Vybory», the DEC registered, for observation of the electoral process within the framework of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President

of Ukraine, more than 320,000 official observers, in particular more than 200,000 official observers from candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine, more than 23,000 from political parties that nominated candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine, and about 95,000 from nongovernmental organizations.

Observations of the runoff voting on April 21, 2019, within the framework of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine were conducted by about 122,000 official observers, in particular some 39,000 official observers from the two candidates for

the office of the President of Ukraine included in the ballot paper for the runoff voting, more than 83,000 from nongovernmental organizations, and 10 from the POLITICAL PARTY «SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE».

Official observers registered by district election commissions for the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine



6 ELECTION CAMPAIGNING

The CEC plays an important role in ensuring election campaigning by candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine. Pursuant to the Law of Ukraine «On the Election of the President of Ukraine» (below – the Law), the CEC, while administering this stage of the electoral process, does the following:

- ✓ establishes the procedure for providing air time and printed space to candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine at the expense and within the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election;

- ✓ decides, in accordance with the Law and other laws of Ukraine, on the use of mass media for election campaigning;

- ✓ ensures provision, at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine, of air time for election campaigning to the candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine in electronic (audiovisual) media on nationwide TV and radio channels based on the results of the drawing of lots conducted by the Commission;

- ✓ ensures the publication, in the same printed format, of the electoral programs of the candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine in the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* and *Uriadovyi Courier*.

The election campaign of a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine begins on the next day after the day of the candidate's registration by the CEC and ends at 24:00 hours of the last Friday before election day. However, potential candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine started campaigning activities long before the beginning of the election campaign in practically all of the regions of Ukraine. Such campaigning was conducted beyond the electoral process and hence beyond possible control as regards compliance with the requirements regarding its conduct and funding. The law does not provide the CEC with any levers of influence to enable it to ban campaigning ahead of time. However, the CEC warned potential candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine against doing so.

In connection with applications from nongovernmental organizations and electoral subjects received by the CEC, it approved on February 22, 2019, through Resolution No. 376, a Clarification on the implementation of the provisions of Part 6 of Article 64 of the Law of Ukraine «On the Election of the President of Ukraine».

In the Clarification, the Commission drew attention

to the fact that election campaigning can be conducted in any form and by any means that are not in conflict with the Constitution of Ukraine and laws of Ukraine and that the possibility to carry out election campaigning is an integral part of the electoral rights exercised by citizens of Ukraine that are voters.

The Commission emphasized that compensation for the actual expenses of natural persons directly involved in election campaign activities does not amount to bribery.

In addition, for the purpose of ensuring unreserved compliance by candidates with the requirements regarding election finance, the Commission clarified separately that expenses related to election campaigning must be paid exclusively from the candidates' election funds and that the respective transactions must be reflected in the financial report.

The CEC performed the following activities at the expense of funds allocated from the State Budget of Ukraine for the preparation and conduct of the election:

- ✓ production of information posters of candidates, in the amount of two copies per election precinct. Overall, 2,582,150 posters were produced to be posted at the election precincts during the voting on March 31, 2019. Also, at the request of DEC's, the Commission produced and addition 59,732 posters of candidates for the runoff;

- ✓ publication of the election programs of candidates in separate special issues of the newspapers *Holos Ukrainy* (No. 43 – 44 (7049 – 7050), March 2, 2019) and *Uriadovyi Courier* (No. 47 (6410), March 7, 2019);

- ✓ each candidate was provided with 30 minutes of air time for election campaigning on nationwide sociopolitical channel Suspilne TV, and on the nationwide sociopolitical channel of Suspilne Radio, both of the National Public Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine. The air time schedule was determined by the CEC on the basis of drawing of lots as approved by the Commission's Resolution No. 354 of February 21, 2019, «On Approving the Results of the Drawing of Lots for Providing Candidates for the Office of the President of Ukraine with Air Time for Election Campaigning at the Expense and within the Funds of the State Budget of Ukraine Allocated for the Preparation and Conduct of the Regular Election of the President of Ukraine on March 31, 2019».

Not all candidates, however, used their right to conduct election campaigning at the expense of funds of

the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the election. Forty-one out of 44 registered candidates used this opportunity to campaign on Suspilne TV and 31 on Suspilne Radio.

Moreover, the runoff candidates were provided with 30 minutes of airtime each for election campaigning on the nationwide TV channel and the nationwide radio channel, in accordance with the order determined by CEC Resolution No. 784 of April 12, 2019, «On the Order of Provision of Candidates for the Office of the President of Ukraine V.O. Zelenskyi and P.O. Poroshenko with Air Time for Election Campaigning for the Runoff Voting on April 21, 2019, within the Framework of the March 31, 2019 Regular Election of the President of Ukraine at the Expense and within the Funds of the State Budget of Ukraine Allocated for the Preparation and Conduct of the Respective Election».

Pursuant to Article 62 of the Law of Ukraine «On the Election of the President of Ukraine» and «The Regulations on the Procedure for the Holding by the National Public Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine of the Pre-Election Television Debates between the Candidates for the Office of the President of Ukraine Included in the Ballot Paper for the Runoff Voting, at the Expense and within the Funds of the State Budget of Ukraine Allocated for the Preparation and Conduct of the

Election of the President of Ukraine», approved by CEC Resolution No. 472 of May 5, 2014, the National Public Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine agreed to organize the respective 60-minute television debates, but since one of the candidates refused to take part in the television debates, the respective air time was provided to the other candidate for his election campaigning.

One of the most acute topics related to the March 31, 2019 election of the President of Ukraine was the presidential debate. A television debate at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine, which is legally required to be conducted by Parts 1 through 5 of Article 62 of the Law, was to take place on the last Friday before the day of runoff voting – i.e. on April 19, 2019 – between 19 and 22 hours, and to be broadcast live, lasting for no less than 60 minutes. The candidates for the office of President of Ukraine used their right for campaigning in the form of debate (paragraph 3, Part 1 and Part 7 of Article 58 of the Law) on April 19, 2019 at 19 hours in the National Stadium (Kyiv), at the expense of their own electoral funds. One of the candidates, V.O. Zelenskyi, did not take part in the debate conducted at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine, which was to take place at 20 hours that same day; and so the other candidate used the time for his own election campaigning.



Drawing of lots in connection with granting air time to the candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine for election campaigning at the expense and within the funds of the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine. *January 21, 2019. Central Election Commission*

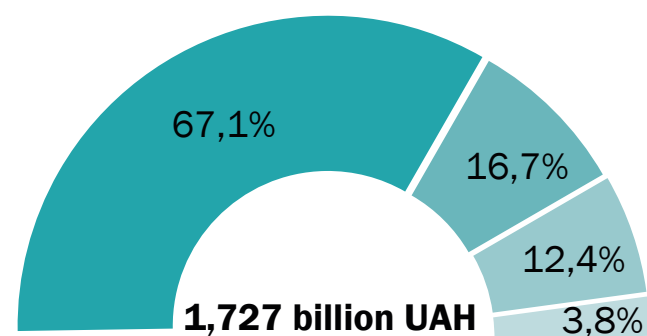
7 GENERAL INFORMATION ON OVERSIGHT OF CANDIDATES' ELECTION FUNDS

Pursuant to the Law of Ukraine «On the Election of the President of Ukraine», a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine registered by the CEC must create, for the purpose of election campaign funding, an election fund, to be formed in accordance with the procedure specified by the Law.

It should be noted that during the preparation and conduct of the March 31, 2019 election, all candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine created their election funds. At the same time, the election funds of O.M. Vashchenko, M.O. Haber, D.V. Hnap, O.V. Danyliuk, R.M. Nasirov and R.O. Ryhovanov were not formed (no money was used).

The intermediate and final financial reports on the receipt and use of candidate election funds were presented by the account administrators of the 44 candidates for the office (including candidates deregistered by the Commission). It should also be noted that the reports were submitted within the timeframe established by the Law.

The total size of the electoral funds of the candidates amounts to more than 1.728 billion UAH. Collectively, the candidates spent 1.727 billion UAH to finance their campaigns. Payments to mass media account for the largest share of the total expenses (67.1 percent or 1.16 billion UAH). Other services related to election campaigning account for 16.7 percent of the total expenses; spending on the production (purchase) of campaign materials, 12.4 percent; and other campaigning-related spending, 3.8 percent.



The CEC, together with the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption (NAPC), approved analyses of the interim and final financial reports on the receipt and

use of the resources of the election funds of candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine.

An analysis of the final financial reports shows that certain inaccuracies and violations of the Law made when compiling the interim financial reports by the respective administrators of the accumulation accounts were corrected.

When overseeing the election funds of the candidates and analyzing the respective reports, the following violations of the Law were established:

1. Violation of Part 1 of Article 42 of the Law (appointment by a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine of someone other than his/her proxy as administrator of the accumulation account of the election fund).

2. Violation of Part 3 of Article 43 of the Law (contributions made by persons who have an outstanding tax debt).

3. Violation of Part 4 of Article 43 of the Law (contributions made by persons not providing the full information required by the Law in the payment documents).

4. Violation of Part 2 of Article 42 of the Law, Part 9 of Article 61 of the Law, Parts 5 and 6 of Article 63 of the Law (conclusions of contracts/agreements) on the purchase, in accordance with the established procedure, of goods, performance of works, provision of services related to the election campaign of a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine, by the candidate himself/herself rather than the administrator of the current election fund account).

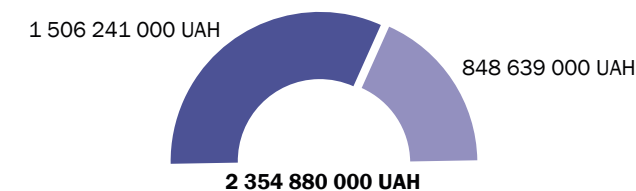
5. Violation of the Procedure for Overseeing the Receipt, Registration and Use of the Resources of the Election Funds of Candidates for the Office of the President of Ukraine approved by CEC Resolution No. 252 of December 20, 2018, Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine Decree No. 646 of December 20, 2018, Decision No. 860 of December 19, 2018, of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine, and endorsed by NAPC Decision No. 3100 of December 14, 2018 (as regards payment designation compliance with the expense item codes).

6. Presence of inaccuracies in the presentation of certain figures in the Report.

It should be noted that the financial reports were published, for the first time ever, in open data format on the website of the CEC.

8 STRUCTURE OF STATE ELECTION-RELATED EXPENDITURES

The Law of Ukraine «On the State Budget of Ukraine for 2019» allocated budget funds for the preparation and conduct of the election under Budget Program 6731040 «Conduct of the Election of the President of Ukraine» in the amount of 2,354,880,000 UAH: 1,506,241,000 UAH was allocated for organizing the preparation and conduct of the regular election on March 31, 2019, and 848,639,000 UAH – for the runoff.



The itemized structure of expenditures is as follows:
 ✓ the salary fund, with payments to election commissioners and invited specialists – 1,808,985,000 UAH, or 76.8 percent of total expenditures;

✓ expenses of the CEC for the preparation and conduct of the election of the President of Ukraine (production and delivery to the DEC of election documentation, payment for mass media services, communication services, production and delivery to the DEC of numbered single-use seals for sealing ballot boxes, safety packages, stamps for DEC and PEC, etc.) – 231,569,000 UAH, or 9.8 percent of total expenditures;

✓ expenses of the DEC and PEC related to the fulfillment of their mandate as regards organization and preparation of elections (payment for transportation services, communication services, purchase of office supplies, installation of booths for secret voting, compensation for maintenance of premises, etc.) – 285,064,000 UAH, or 1.2 percent; and expenses for out-of-country election precincts – 29,262,000 UAH, or 1.2 percent.



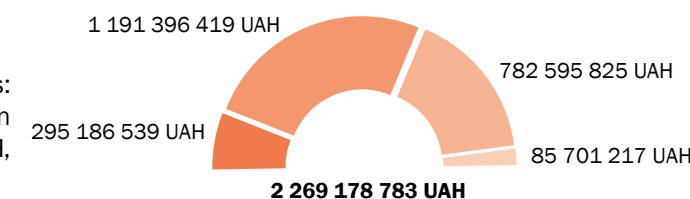
During the electoral process, 2,269,178,000 UAH were distributed, in particular for the following:

✓ expenses of the CEC for the preparation and conduct of the election, inclusive of runoff voting on April 21, 2019 – 295,186,539 UAH;

✓ expenses of the DEC for the preparation and conduct of the election, inclusive of own expenses and expenses for PEC needs – 1,191,396,419 UAH;

✓ expenses of the DEC for the preparation and conduct of runoff voting on April 21, 2019, inclusive of their expenses and expenses of the PECs – 782,595,825 UAH;

✓ non-distributed – 85,701,217 UAH.



Within seven days of the official promulgation of the results, the CEC withdrew the leftover resources of the general fund of the State Budget that were not used by the DEC, oblast state administrations, or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As of May 18, 2019, the withdrawn amount totaled 120,716,775 UAH.

The total amount saved under Budget Program 6731040 «Conduct of the Election of the President of Ukraine» was 206,417,992 UAH.

Thus, the amount of actual expenses under Budget Program 6731040 «Conduct of the Election of the President of Ukraine», as of May 20, 2019, is 2,148,462,008 UAH, or 91.2 percent of the budget allocation for 2019.

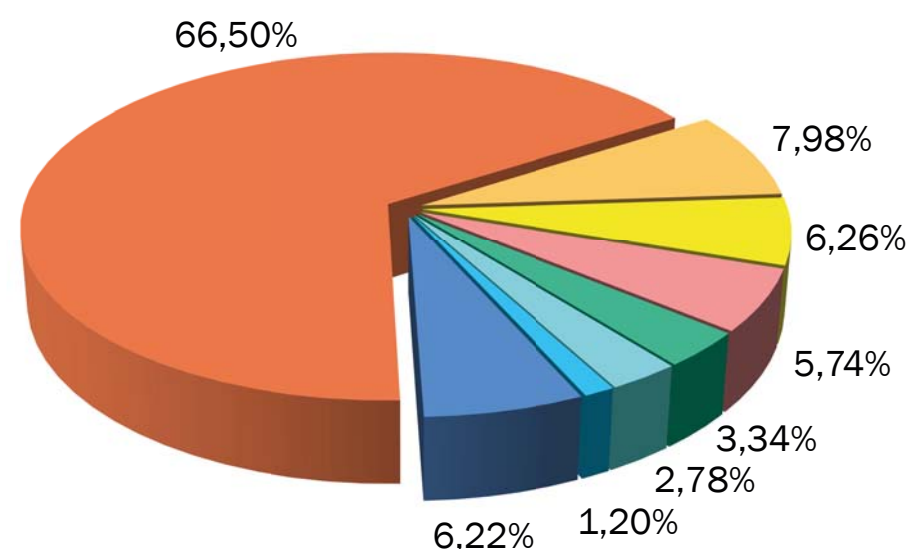
Information on tenders for purchase of goods and services for preparation and conduct of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine

Goods and services for the preparation and conduct of the March 31, 2019 election of the President of Ukraine were purchased at State expense by the Commission's Tender Committee on the basis of the Annual Procurement Plan for the Preparation and Conduct of the March 31, 2019 Regular Election of the President of Ukraine approved by the Commission's Tender Committee decision of December 22, 2018 (as amended and supplemented).

The Commission's Tender Committee conducted 30 procurement procedures for goods and services, in particular – 15 according to the open bidding procedure (4 – with publication in English) and 15 according to the negotiable bidding procedure.

Based on the results of the conducted procurement procedures, contracts worth a total of 250,555,803.21 UAH were awarded.

Structure of tender purchases



- production of ballot papers
- airtime from PJSC «National Public Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine»
- modification and support from the IAS «Election of the President of Ukraine»
- forms of protocols and acts
- information posters of candidates for the office of President of Ukraine
- production of seals for DEC and PECs
- transportation and delivery of items between CEC and DEC
- other goods and services

9 | USE OF THE UNIFIED INFORMATION AND ANALYTICAL SYSTEM (UIAS) «VYBORY»

During the 2019 modification of the UIAS «Vybory» work was done to provide for the possibility to publish in open data format the results of the election of the President of Ukraine, the addresses of DEC and PECs, the boundaries of election districts, candidate financial reports, and other information based on experience of previous election campaigns.

Moreover, to increase the security of the CEC's information resources the system software, the Internet resources access server, the antivirus protection management server, and the comprehensive information protection system UIAS «Vybory» were modernized and updated, modern telecommunication and information protection equipment was installed, and backup Internet access channels were created.

Pursuant to the Law of Ukraine «On the Protection of Information in Information and Telecommunication Systems» state-owned information must be processed within the system using a comprehensive information protection system with confirmed conformity. Conformity must be confirmed through state testing and certification, in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Ukraine. Such testing was performed and a positive conclusion and Certificate of Conformity were obtained.

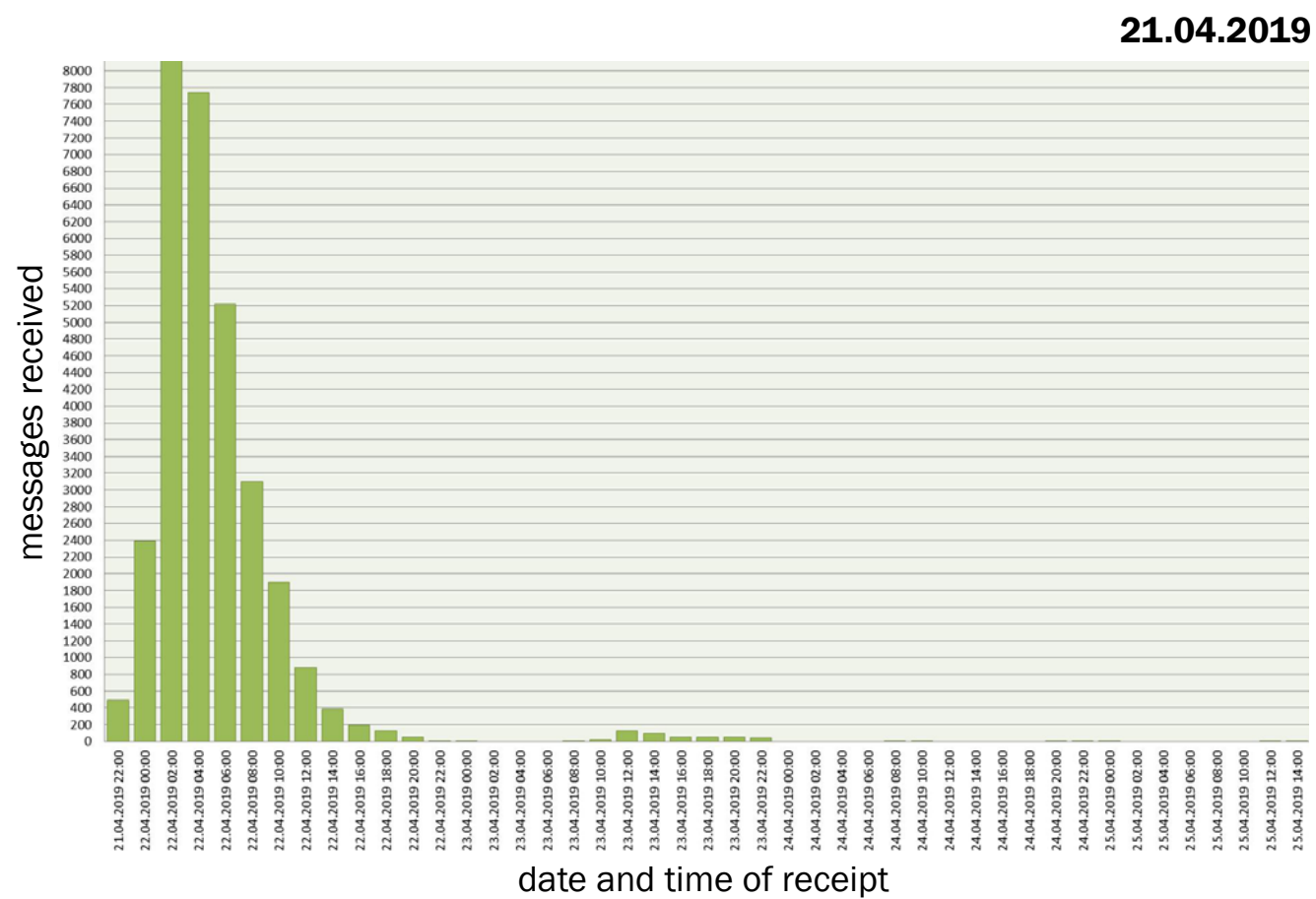
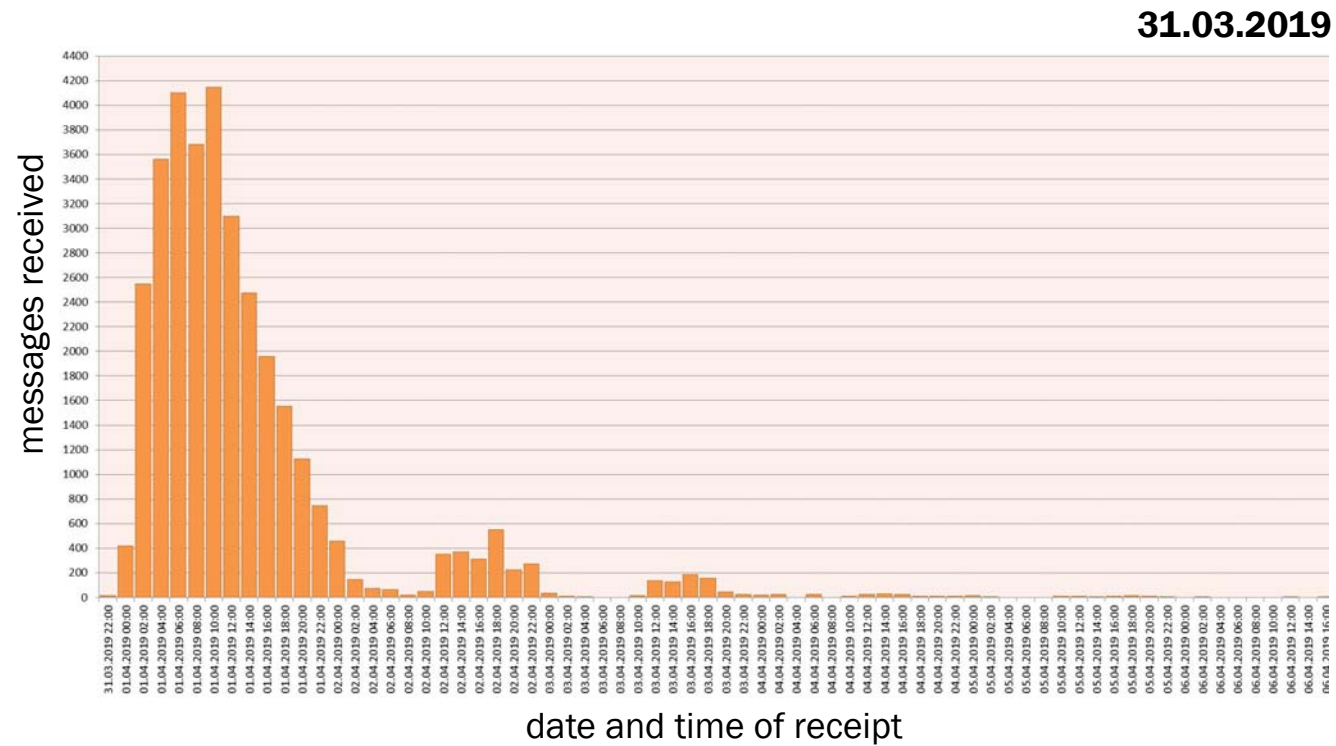
On both election days – March 31 and April 21, 2019 – the UIAS «Vybory» units were used to obtain and publish data on voter activity and counting results from the 29,989 election precincts on the Commission's official website.

For each precinct, information was provided on the number of ballot papers received by the PEC; the number of voters on in the voter list; the number of voters in the voting list excerpt for voters' voting at their place of stay; the number of unused ballot papers; the number of voters who received ballot papers on the voting premises; the number of voters who received ballot papers at their place of stay; the number of ballot papers not subject to counting; the number of ballot papers declared invalid; the number of voters who took part in the voting; the number of votes cast for each candidate; the date and time when the protocol of the PEC on the results of vote counting at the precinct was compiled.

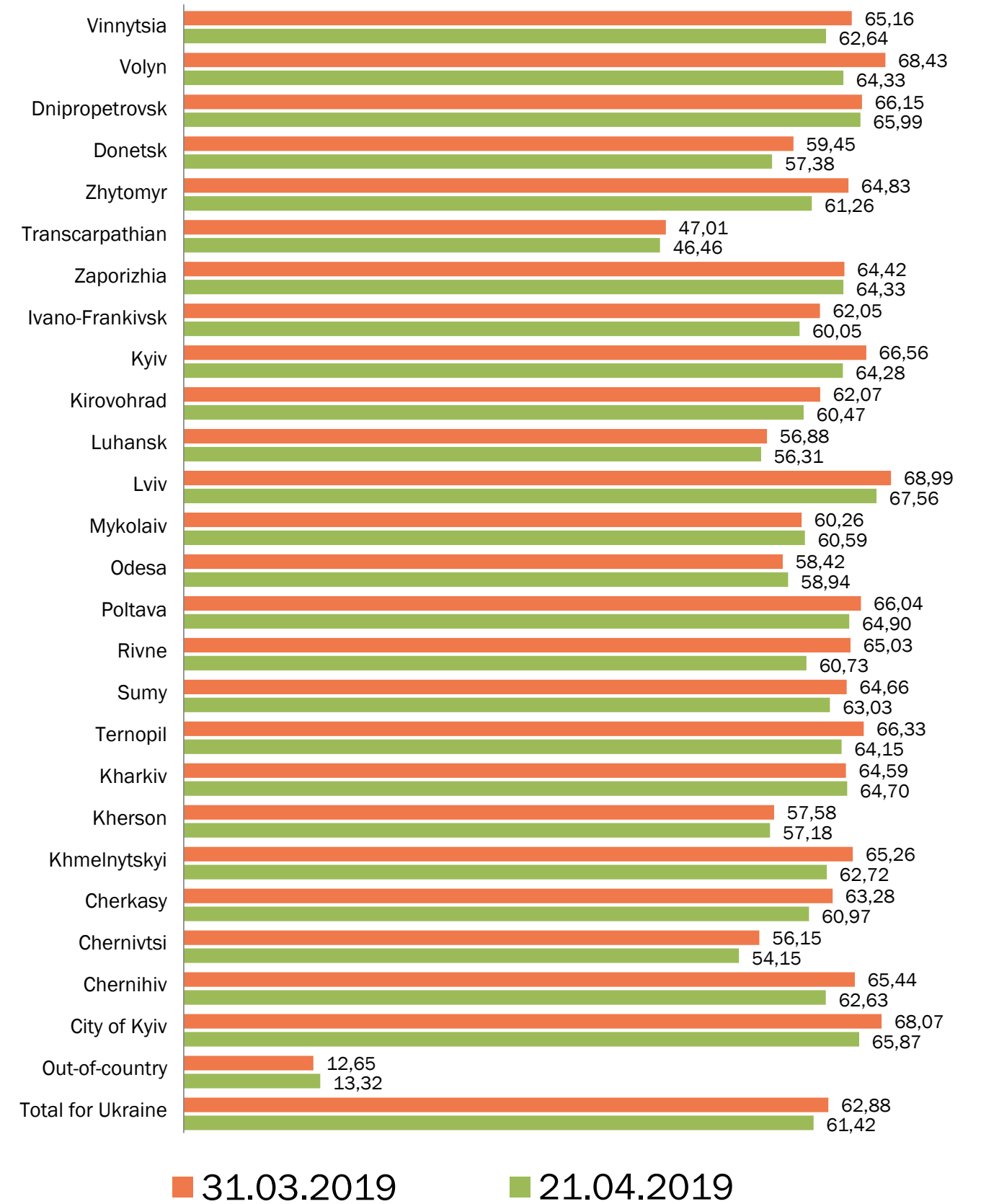
Information on voter activity and vote-counting results were updated on the official web-site of the Commission daily, every 15 minutes; and on the screens at the Commission's Press Center in real-time.

On the first day after voting, 97.04 percent of reports on the content of the PEC results protocols were received. After runoff voting, 99.86 percent were received. The dynamics of the process is presented below.

Rate of receipt of PEC protocols at the 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine



Voter activity at the 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine (%)

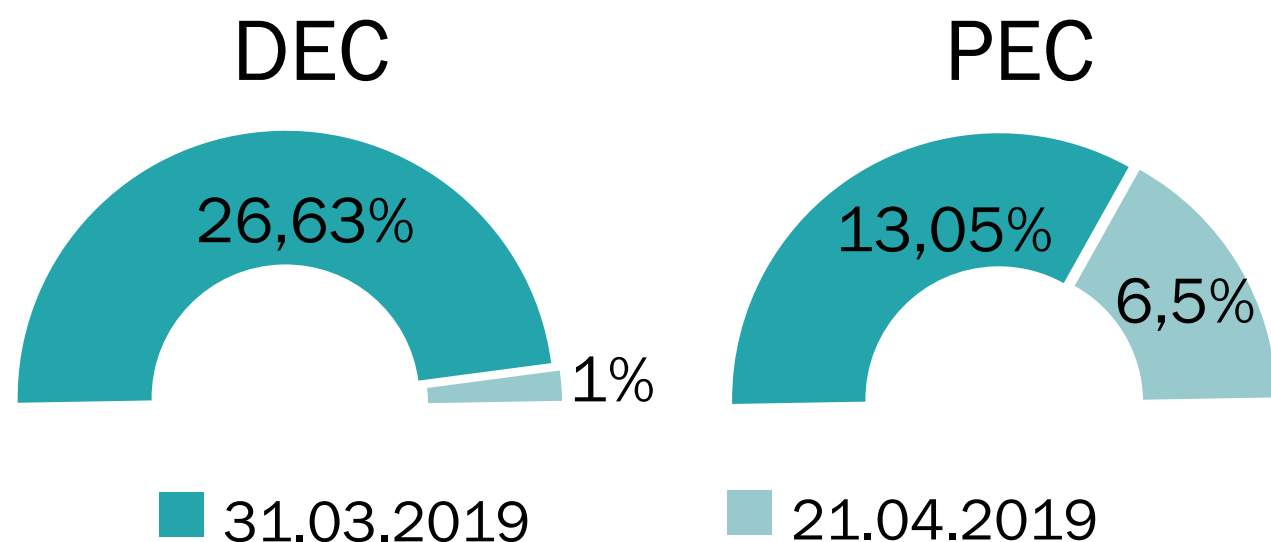


The CEC's vote counting protocol on the day of the election included 53 protocols marked «Corrected» (26.63 percent) of DEC protocols on the results of voting within the TED; and the CEC results protocol for the runoff contained 2 such protocols (1 percent).

The PECs compiled 3,916 protocols marked «Corrected» (13.05 percent) on the counting of votes from

March 31, 2019, and 1,952 such protocols (6.51 percent) after the April 21, 2019 runoff voting. Pursuant to Part 1 of Article 84 of the Law, the CEC is to establish the results of the election of the President of Ukraine and draw up a protocol to that effect at its meeting, to be held within ten days, but not later than on the third day after receiving all DEC protocols on the counting of votes within the

Share of DEC and PEC protocols marked «Corrected»



respective TEDs, based on the protocols, including those marked «Corrected», and the protocol of the CEC – on the results of out-of-country voting.

At its April 7, 2019 meeting, i.e. on the seventh day after voting, the CEC established the results of the regular election of the President of Ukraine, March 31, 2019, and

drew up a protocol to that effect.

The results of the runoff on April 21, 2019 were established by the CEC by way of drawing up a protocol at its April 30, 2019 meeting, i.e. on the ninth day after the day of the runoff.

10 | SPECIFICS OF THE ELECTION DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

The election of the President of Ukraine on March 31, 2019, was characterized by a somewhat higher number of election-related administrative proceedings in which the responding party was the CEC or its members, compared with the early election of the President of Ukraine on May 25, 2014.

Complainants alleging that decisions, actions or inactions of the CEC or some of its members violated the election legislation of Ukraine filed 99 lawsuits with the courts (compared with 22 in 2010). Twenty-eight of the lawsuits were dismissed without a hearing, 16 were returned to the plaintiffs, and 2 proceedings were terminated. In 45 cases, the courts delivered a judgment rejecting the claims. And in four cases the claims were upheld.

The results of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine were not challenged in court.

It should be noted, that the legal opinions and positions on the application of provisions of the election legislation expressed by the courts in their judgments on cases introduced during the electoral process, as well as the legal reasons presented in the respective judgments, are quite conclusive and noteworthy.

In particular, the judgment of February 6, 2019, by the Sixth Administrative Court of Appeals in case No. 855/20/19 that was upheld by the Supreme Court in its Ruling of February 9, 2019, confirmed that it is impossible to run in the election as a candidate nominated by a party advocating for a Communist and/or National Socialist (Nazi) totalitarian regime, using their symbols, and/or if a decision has been adopted, in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, stating that the activities, name, and/or symbols of that party fail to comply with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine «On Condemnation of the Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Prohibition of Propaganda of their Symbols». In this instance the candidate was denied registration based on paragraph 8, Part 1 of Article 52 of the Law of Ukraine «On the Election of the President of Ukraine».

When hearing cases No. 855/25/19 (judgment of February 9, 2019, by the Sixth Administrative Court of Appeals, with rationale changed by Supreme Court Ruling of February 13, 2019) and case No. 855/31/19 (judgment of February 12, 2019, upheld by Supreme Court Ruling of February 15, 2019), the courts concluded

that the CEC has discretionary power to assess whether or not the election programs of candidates include any provisions which are grounds for refusing to register them, along with mandatory statement of the reasons for the refusal in the respective decision. At the same time, such assessment must under no circumstances be based exclusively on a subjective interpretation by the Commission of the election program that distorts the real intentions of the candidate and/or is not supported by the norms of the current legislation of Ukraine.

The Supreme Court on March 1, 2019, issued a ruling on the basis of the results of its review of a judgment of the Sixth Administrative Court of Appeals of February 25, 2019, which upheld a decision of the court of first instance in case No. 855/53/19. The Supreme Court established that the Commission, having the status of owner of the «Election of the President of Ukraine's information and analytical system» within the UIAS «Vybory», is obliged to ensure by all means possible the protection of this system and the information it contains. The Court also found that the Commission is responsible to prevent unauthorized actions in relation to the system from other persons, in particular by adopting acts on the creation of working groups with the involvement of employees of the State Special Communications Service of Ukraine and the Security Service of Ukraine, in line with the functions and tasks of these bodies in the sphere of information security of the state.

In accordance with the Supreme Court Opinion presented during the hearing of cases No. 855/57/19 (judgment of February 28, 2019 by the Sixth Administrative Court of Appeals and Supreme Court Ruling of March 4, 2019) and No. 855/58/19 (judgment of March 1, 2019 by the Sixth Administrative Court of Appeals and Supreme Court Ruling of March 5, 2019):

«the right of the CEC to adopt decisions on clarification of provisions of the election legislation lies within the Commission's legislatively prescribed powers, and such decisions are to be adopted in the form of NLAs [normative legal acts] that are not subject to registration with the Ministry of Justice, but are binding upon all subjects specified by Article 13 of the Law of Ukraine «On the CEC».

«Pursuant to the norms of Part 1 of Article 12, Part 1 of Article 13, paragraph 5, Part 1 of Article 17 of the Law

of Ukraine «On the CEC», the CEC is to adopt, in the form of resolutions, its clarifications and recommendations on application of the election legislation of Ukraine which must be used by election commissions in their work and are binding upon all electoral subjects and executive bodies, local self-government bodies, their officials and officers, citizens' associations, enterprises, institutions, organizations of all forms of ownership, as well as citizens of Ukraine. Based on a systemic analysis of the tasks and operational principles of the CEC, the panel of Supreme Court judges agrees with the opinion of the court of first instance to the effect that the powers assigned to the CEC include the possibility to provide clarifications and recommendations exclusively on issues pertaining to the application of the legislation of Ukraine on elections and referendums. At the same time, in view of the norms of Part 1 of Article 13, paragraphs 4 and 5, Part 1 of Article 17 of the Law of Ukraine «On the CEC», the CEC's clarifications and recommendations can relate to persons other than members of election commissions or commissions on referendum, since the necessity to comply with them means, in essence, that they must be taken into account by each and every person when deciding on the application of the legislation on elections and referendum which is covered by the respective clarification and/or recommendation».

Moreover, in the Supreme Court Ruling of March 13, 2019, which revoked the judgment of March 9, 2019 by the Sixth Administrative Court of Appeals in case No. 855/71/19, the Court, when inquiring into the issue of the means for consideration of appeals to the CEC – collectively, by the entire Commission vs. single-handedly, by a CEC member – concluded that «the procedure for consideration of appeals received by the CEC during the electoral process, as well as for adoption of decisions based on the results of that consideration, depends on the nature of the issue raised by the claimant and does not provide for bringing up that issue at the meeting of the CEC for adopting a collective decision. Consideration of appeals is organized at the CEC in such a way that their preliminary review is conducted by a CEC member whose powers include, inter alia, deciding whether there

are sufficient grounds for the Commission to consider at its meeting the issues raised in the appeal and adopt a collective decision in that connection. The legislation contains no criteria that a CEC member should be guided by when deciding on the form in which a certain appeal received by the CEC should be considered; nor does it have an exhaustive list of issues specifically requiring collective adoption of decisions. This is the sphere of the discretionary powers of a CEC member which, however, must be exercised on objective grounds and in a way conforming to the prescriptions of the law. Deciding on the means by which appeals received by the CEC during the electoral process must be considered belongs to the discretionary powers of the CEC member and it is his/her right rather than obligation to recommend that the CEC should consider the application at its meeting and adopt a decision on such application. The legislation does not specify cases in which applications (appeals) are to be decided at CEC meetings, since the assessment of the content of an application and the determination of whether it is necessary to consider it at a meeting of the Central Election Commission or it is enough for the Commission member to solely reply to the claimant are assigned by the legislation to the discretionary powers of the Commission».

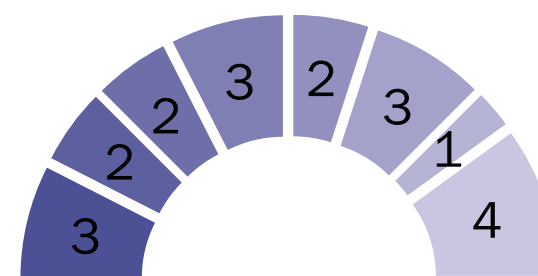
In the judgment of March 10, 2019, by the Sixth Administrative Court of Appeals that was upheld by Supreme Court Ruling of March 13, 2019, in case No. 855/72/19, the courts concluded that «the establishment of the form of the ballot paper for the election of the President of Ukraine and the approval of the text it contains belong to the discretionary powers of the CEC».

In the period from December 31, 2018, up to and including May 17, 2019, the CEC received 15,797 documents, 271 of which were complaints.

Of these complaints:

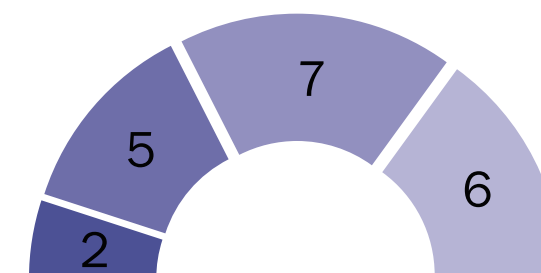
- 12 were withdrawn by the complainants;
- 185 were returned to the complainants by CEC members in connection with violation of the requirements regarding execution, with relevant clarifications;
- 20 were reviewed at a meeting of the CEC.

The complainants



The complainants included:

- 3 candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine;
- 2 authorized representatives of candidates for the office of the President of Ukraine;
- 2 proxies of a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine in the TED;
- 3 official observers from a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine in the TED;
- 2 official observers from an NGO;
- 3 members of DEC;
- 1 nongovernmental organization;
- 4 citizens.



The grounds for the complaint included:

- ✓ - inactivity of a candidate for the office of the President of Ukraine (2);
- ✓ - inactivity by DEC (5);
- ✓ - decisions of DEC (7);
- ✓ - actions by members of DEC.

11 | OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION

During the preparation and conduct of the March 31, 2019 election of the President of Ukraine, the CEC strictly abided by the principles of openness and transparency in its activities. In the first place, this was facilitated by the holding of a series of briefings and press conferences for mass media representatives, including events conducted jointly with the heads of other state bodies and institutions involved in the electoral process.

Shortly before the beginning of the electoral process, the CEC and the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine jointly initiated, within the framework of the nationwide project «I Have the Right!», a broad awareness-raising campaign «I Have the Right to Elect». This information campaign is focused primarily on voters who have attained the age of 18 and who were to take part in an election for the first time ever, internally displaced persons, as well as citizens living in a place other than the place of their registered residence, and is aimed at raising citizens' awareness about their electoral rights as well as about the electoral processes.

An important area of the Commission's activities was the signing of a series of memorandums. For the first time in the history of the CEC, a Memorandum of Cooperation was concluded between the CEC and the Council of Europe. Signatories intend to cooperate in strengthening the capacity of the CEC to organize and conduct the electoral process in line with the European electoral standards and good practices and also to build the capacity of the Commission to educate different electoral stakeholders, including voters.

Also, for the first time, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the CEC and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine. The purpose of this memorandum is to consolidate cooperation efforts on preventing violations of citizens' electoral rights as well as in ensuring observance of the principles and fundamentals of the electoral process established by the Constitution of Ukraine and the electoral legislation.

An important step was the signing of a Memorandum between the Commission and the Ombudsperson of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. This document is aimed at protecting the electoral rights and freedoms of citizens and preventing any forms of discrimination during the election.

The official website of the CEC now has a new section: «For citizens of Ukraine». It provides voters with

the opportunity to familiarize themselves, in the form of questions and answers, with useful information primarily related to electoral procedures.

The section «Relevant information» presents important information and clarifications, much of which is also available in English. This data is useful for all electoral stakeholders.

During the formation of PECs that were to provide for the conduct of runoff voting on April 21, 2019, quite a lot of the DECAs faced the problem of an insufficient number of nominations to PECs; this prevented them from forming those commissions. Therefore, the CEC, on its official website and on the Commission's Facebook page, asked citizens to participate in the electoral process and fill the vacancies of PEC members. As a result, the DECAs succeeded in forming all PECs in a timely manner.

Feedback from civil society was provided to the CEC in the form of responses to various requests for information. Overall, during the election period the Commission received more than 280 requests. Moreover, the CEC received more than 100 inquiries from mass media, none of which went unanswered.

Throughout the electoral process, the official website of the commission presented information on temporary change of the place of voting without changing the voting address. Civil society had an opportunity to follow the changes in the number of voters that used the mechanism for changing their place of voting and could follow the changes practically in real time online, across each region of Ukraine and across the whole country.

It is also noteworthy that during this electoral process the CEC offered, for the first time ever, electronic services on the SVR website. Voters had the opportunity to check their information in the State Voter Register database and receive detailed information on the location of their election precinct for voting. More than 2,150,000 requests were made to check a voter's record.

Using the electronic «Feedback» function, more than 9,800 citizens received over 10,800 exhaustive replies to questions that were of interest to them in the course of the electoral process. This brought the CEC closer to the voters and reduced the response time to questions asked.

The «Open data» function contains a number of data sets that were undoubtedly used by the candidates' IT teams, official observers, and NGOs. Information presented in open data format became the basis for the

creation of new startups and e-services.

Another no less important channel of ensuring openness and publicness during the electoral process consisted in meetings between leadership and members of the Commission and representatives of organizations conducting observations of the regular election of the President of Ukraine. The most noteworthy of these events were as follows:

- a meeting of the members of the Commission with representatives of nongovernmental organizations to discuss urgent issues of organizing the preparation and conduct of the regular election of the President of Ukraine;

- a meeting of the members of the Commission with representatives of nongovernmental organizations entitled «Public Procurement of Goods and Services during the Electoral Process: Challenges and Threats»;

- a meeting of the leadership of the CEC and the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption with representatives of international and nongovernmental organizations entitled «Overseeing the Election Funds of Candidates for the Office of the President of Ukraine. Financial Reports on the Receipt and Use of the Resources of These Funds».

Moreover, conferences were held with representatives of the National Public Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine and authorized candidate representatives to the CEC, the guests having an advisory voice during preparation of the drawing of lots to distribute the air time for election campaigning among the candidates. Also important was the conference with authorized representatives on ballot paper numbering, and the meeting with the candidate's authorized representatives to the CEC on the conduct of the television debates.

Openness and transparency were also facilitated by means of holding numerous briefings and press conferences. Overall, 16 such events were conducted, attended by the Chairwoman, the Deputies, the Secretary and members of the Commission, and also the Chief Administrator of the State Voter Register.

Moreover, a series of joint briefings took place as follows:

- a joint briefing of the Chairwoman of the Commission, the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, the Head of the Security Service of Ukraine and the Minister of Internal Affairs devoted to the preparation and conduct of the regular election of the President of Ukraine;

- a joint briefing of the Chairwoman of the Commission and the Director of the State Enterprise «Ukraine Printing and Publishing on Production of Securities», as well as demonstration of the process of production of ballot papers for voting on the day of the regular election of the President of Ukraine;

- a joint briefing of the Chairwoman of the Commission and representatives of the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption entitled «Intermediate

Financial Reports of Candidates for the Office of the President of Ukraine and their Analysis»;

- a joint briefing of the Chairwoman of the Commission and the Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine on ensuring law and order at the election precincts, protecting the precinct and DECAs on the day of voting, March 31, 2019;

- a joint briefing of the Chairwoman of the Commission and the Chairman of the Board of the PJSC «The National Public Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine» entitled «On the Procedure for Conducting Television Debates between the Candidates for the Office of the President of Ukraine Included in the Ballot Paper for the Runoff Voting on April 21, 2019».

A distinct and actual direction of work was reacting to fake news and attempted spreading of disinformation about the Commission's activities or the electoral process.

To refute fake reports about «an anomalous increase in the number of voters in the Voter Register», quantitative characteristics of the voter population for the nine years since the inception of State Voter Register were posted to the website.

To counter disinformation, technology used for widescale, round-the-clock monitoring of the online space was further improved. An algorithm was used to carefully check relevant resources and search for the source of origin of such information, and the false information was promptly refuted. Depending on the specific situation, the false information was refuted in writing on the CEC website and Facebook page. Moreover, thematic briefings were held when it was necessary to counter inaccurate information as it, for instance, happened when false information was being spread about the number of voters, the number of procured ballot papers, the procurement of storage boxes, etc.

In the course of the electoral process the Chairwoman, Deputy Chairpersons and the Secretary of the Commission, as well as other relevant members of the Commission took part in interviews and made numerous comments to national and foreign media.

Reports on the results of each meeting of the Commission and other topical and high-profile events related to the electoral process were promptly posted on the CEC's official website and Facebook page, and were distributed to mass media. During the presidential election period alone approximately 180 reports and press releases were prepared.

During the election of the President of Ukraine, 802 media representatives of 88 national media outlets and 345 representatives of 104 media outlets from 33 foreign countries were accredited at the Commission on a permanent basis.

As a result of these measures, the Commission endeavored to demonstrate its openness to media and willingness to partner with citizens, non-governmental organizations and the international community.



A delegation of the Central Election Commission was on a working visit to the Council of Europe Headquarters on the initiative and invitation of the CE's Directorate General of Democracy. *December 6-7, 2017, Strasbourg, France*



Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine Arsen Avakov and Head of the Central Election Commission Tetiana Slipachuk signed a Memorandum of Cooperation between the MIA and the CEC on ensuring law and order during the election. *December 5, 2018, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine*



Press conference entitled «I Have the Right to Vote» with the participation of the Minister of Justice Pavlo Petrenko, Head of the Central Election Commission Tetiana Slipachuk and Secretary of the Central Election Commission Natalia Bernatska. *December 21, 2018, press center of the Interfax-Ukraine information agency*



The Head of the Central Election Commission together with the ambassadors of the G7 countries and representatives of international organizations. *April 21, 2019, Kyiv, Central Election Commission*



Commissioner for Human Rights of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Ludmyla Denysova and Head of the Central Election Commission Tetiana Slipachuk signed a Memorandum of Cooperation between the agencies in ensuring the electoral rights of people with disabilities. *January 21, 2019*

REGULAR ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE on March 31, 2019



Conference with the participation of the Head of the Central Election Commission Tetiana Slipachuk, Prosecutor General of Ukraine Yuriy Lutsenko, Head of the Security Service of Ukraine Vasyl Hrytsak and Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine Arsen Avakov on current issues of preparation and conduct of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine. *March 12, 2019, Central Election Commission*



Joint briefing of the Head of the Central Election Commission Tetiana Slipachuk and the Director of the State Enterprise «Ukraine Printing and Publishing» Yuriy Onyshchenko. *March 21, 2019, SE «Ukraine Printing and Publishing»*



Joint briefing of the Head of the Central Election Commission Tetiana Slipachuk and the Chairman of the Board of the PJSC «The National Public Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine» Zurab Alasania. *April 9, 2019, Central Election Commission*



Announcement of the results of the March 31, 2019 election of the President of Ukraine. *April 30, 2019, Central Election Commission*



Inauguration of the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyi. *May 20, 2019, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine*



Announcement of the results of the first round of the March 31, 2019 election of the President of Ukraine. *April 7, 2019, Central Election Commission*



Workshop with the chief accountants of district election commissions on financial and logistical support for ensuring the preparation and conduct of the March 31, 2019 regular election of the President of Ukraine. *March 5, 2019, Central Election Commission*