



Republika e Kosovës  
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo  
*Komisioni Qendror i Zgjedhjeve*  
*Centralna Izborna Komisija*  
*Central Election Commission*



**THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION (CEC)**, pursuant to Article 64, paragraph 2, subparagraph 2.1. and 2.2. and Articles 13, 14 and 18 of Law No. 08/L-228 on General Elections in the Republic of Kosovo (LGE) and Articles 13, 20 and 29.2 of the Law no. 03/072 on Local Elections in the Republic of Kosovo (LLE) and Article 17 of the Law no. 03/L-174 on Financing Political Parties, amended and supplemented with the Law no. 04/L-058 and the Law no. 04/L-122, dated 06.03.2024, adopts this:

**ELECTION REGULATION NO. 01/2024**

**REGISTRATION AND FUNCTIONING OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

**Article 1**

**Purpose**

This Regulation defines procedures for the registration of political parties, rejection of registration requests, appeals, content of the party statute, internal elections, suspension and de-registration of political parties, and legal obligations towards the CEC.

**Article 2**

**Registration of Political Parties**

1. A political party applies for registration by submitting to the Office for Registration, Certification and Financial Control of Political Entities (the Office):
  - 1.1. A completed application in the form as described in the Appendix that includes the following data:
    - 1.1.1. official name of the political party, acronym, address, municipality, telephone number and postal code;
    - 1.1.2. information on the political party chairperson: name, surname, address and telephone number, e-mail address and municipality of residence;
    - 1.1.3. information on the political party contact person: name, surname, address and telephone number, e-mail address and municipality of residence;

- 1.1.3.1. The contact person will be the authorized person to communicate with the Office on issues related to regular annual activities of the party, and election activities.
    - 1.1.4. information on authorized financial representative of the political party: name, surname, address and telephone number, e-mail address and municipality of residence;
      - 1.1.4.1. Financial representative is the person authorized to communicate with the Office on matters related to financing of the political party.
    - 1.1.5. statement signed by the Chairperson of the Party to uphold and abide by the Code of Conduct for Political Parties;
  - 1.2. The statute of the party in accordance with Article 11 of this Regulation in physical and electronic form;
  - 1.3. Any acronym or seal of the Party;
  - 1.4. The last financial statement of the party, including the following:
    - 1.4.1. proof of payment of registration fee in the bank;
    - 1.4.2. financial statement of the political entity, showing the donors who contribute to the registration;
    - 1.4.3. contract of the use of office space or bank statement for rent payments.
  - 1.5. The act of establishment of the political party, appendix II -Founding convention/assembly form, which contains the declaration on ethnic affiliation that the political initiative represents if it runs for the guaranteed seats;
  - 1.6. Names and addresses of at least 500 supporters of political initiative who reside in Kosovo and who are on the Final Voters List (FVL): Appendix III, in physical and electronic format, including the following:
    - 1.6.1. name and surname,
    - 1.6.2. date of birth,
    - 1.6.3. address,
    - 1.6.4. phone number,
    - 1.6.5. personal number,
    - 1.6.6. signature.

- 1.7. The political program of the party that has been submitted for registration, in physical and electronic form, approved by its highest body, which sets the political objectives and activities of the party and which must be in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo and LGE.
2. The review of all applications for registration of political parties submitted to the Office will be suspended on the day election date is announced by the President of the Republic of Kosovo. The review of applications for registration of political parties will resume ten (10) days after the certification of final results.
3. A citizen initiative that has won seats in the Assembly of Kosovo must register as a political party in order to exercise its rights under the applicable law on financing political entities and to benefit from the fund for supporting political entities.
  - 3.1. Within thirty (30) days of the constitution of the Assembly of Kosovo, the citizen initiative must apply for registration as a political party;
    - 3.1.1. After the final results are certified by the CEC, the Office contacts the citizen initiative and informs them about the procedure for registration as a political party.
  - 3.2. The application of the citizen initiative for registration as a political party must include all the documents specified in paragraph 1 of this article, except for sub-paragraph 1.4, items 1 and 2, and sub-paragraph 1.6.
  - 3.3. If the citizen initiative does not apply for registration as a political party, it will be deprived of allocation from the fund for supporting political entities.

### **Article 3**

#### **Review of applications**

1. Within thirty (30) days of receiving the application, the Office shall inform the CEC of the application's status, recommending either registration or non-registration, or suggesting and requesting corrections, improvements, additions, or changes.
2. The Office reviews the applications within ten (10) days from the date of their receipt.
3. If the application is incomplete, or if additional information is needed for the review of the request, the Office for registration of political parties will ask the initiative to make corrections, improvements, additions, or changes within five (5) days of receiving the request by the Office.
4. If the Office accepts the political initiative's application for registration as complete, it will be made public in official languages of Kosovo on CEC's official website within seven (7) days.

5. Any citizen of the Republic of Kosovo may challenge the request based on one or more reasons outlined in Article 4 of this Regulation by submitting written objections to the Office, along with any supporting evidence or material, within seven (7) days from the publication of the request, as stipulated in paragraph 4 of this article.
6. If there are no objections as per paragraph 5 of this article and the Office determines that there are no grounds for refusing the registration as per Article 4 of this Regulation, the Office will, within three (3) days, recommend the CEC to register the political party and will inform the party accordingly.
7. If there are objections as per paragraph 5 of this article, the Office will inform the political initiative of the objection within 24 hours of receiving it, and will request additional clarifications from the political initiative within three (3) days. The Office reviews the objection and additional clarifications within three (3) days of receiving the objection and recommends to the CEC either to approve or reject the registration application. If the CEC approves the application for registration of the political party, it will notify the party and parties that submitted objections of its decision through the Office.
8. After the CEC's decision, the Office will promptly notify the political initiative that applied for registration and the parties that submitted objections about rejection of application and the reasons for rejection.
9. The notice of rejection of application for registration that is sent to the initiative will include written reasons for the rejection and informs the initiative about non-registration of the political party, as well as its right to appeal according to Article 8 of this Regulation.
10. The political party which is entered into the Register of Political Parties acquires the status of a legal entity with the ability to own property, enter into contracts, sue, and be sued.
11. The application for the registration of a political party can be withdrawn at any time before the CEC issues a decision on party's registration by submitting a written request for withdrawal, signed by all individuals who initially signed the founding document of the political party, as per Appendix II.

## **Article 4**

### **Reasons for denying the registration**

1. Based on the Office's recommendation, the CEC will reject the political initiative's registration application if:
  - 1.1. the registration documents, including party statute, do not meet the requirements of this Regulation, or are in conflict with the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo and LGE;

- 1.2. the initiative presents a name, acronym, or symbol that, in the Office's assessment, could incite inter-ethnic, religious, or gender-based hatred;
- 1.3. the founding documents express an intent to use violence to gain power, or advocate and support racial, religious, or ethnic hatred;
- 1.4. it is necessary to ensure public order, public health, national security, prevent disturbances, violence, and crime, or protect the rights of others;
- 1.5. the initiative applies for registration with a name, acronym, or symbol that is identical or similar to a symbol of a party previously registered by the CEC;
- 1.6. there are two applications for registration of political initiative with the same or similar names, acronyms, or symbols. The Office will decide which of them has the right to register with its name or symbol, considering general circumstances such as:
  - 1.6.1. the time when each initiative submitted the request;
  - 1.6.2. the time when each initiative first used its name or symbol.
- 1.7. The political initiative was created outside the territory of the Republic of Kosovo.

## **Article 5**

### **Suspension of registered political parties**

1. The CEC will suspend a political party from the register:
  - 1.1. if the party fails to hold its convention/assembly in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 1 of this Regulation;
    - 1.1.1. with CEC's decision on suspension, the political party is required to hold its convention/assembly within 45 days;
    - 1.1.2. the political entity is obliged to notify the Office of the convention/assembly at least five (5) days prior to its occurrence.
  - 1.2. Upon the suspension of a political party's registration, immediately the Office will:
    - 1.2.1. record the suspension in the political parties' register;
  - 1.3. The political party, whose registration has been suspended, will not be certified by the CEC to participate in elections.

## **Article 6**

### **Extension of registration**

1. A registered political party must submit a signed registration extension form, either electronically or in physical form, no later than March 31 of the calendar year, as per Appendix IV.
  - 1.1. The registered political party must submit the registration extension form to the Office between March 1 and March 31 of each calendar year.

## **Article 7**

### **Deregistration of political parties from the Register**

1. By CEC decision, the Office will remove a political party from the register of political parties if:
  - 1.1. A criminal sanction against the registered political entity results in the de-registration of that entity, as determined by the court;
  - 1.2. The registered political party fails to submit the registration extension form to the Office by March 31 of each calendar year. In the event of failure to re-register in accordance with this Regulation, a political party will be removed from the political parties' register if:
    - 1.3. It has voluntarily dissolved in accordance with its statute;
    - 1.4. It has been suspended according to provisions of Article 5 of this Regulation and has not acted within the additional deadline set by the CEC's suspension decision;
    - 1.5. after registration, it changes its internal organizational acts to include elements defined in Article 4 of this Regulation.
2. A political party that has been deregistered from the political parties' register in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article will lose its status as a legal entity and will be considered dissolved. The distribution of its assets will be carried out in accordance with the party's statute.
3. If there is no agreement of the political entity regulated by the party's statute, distribution of assets will be done by the competent court.

## **Article 8**

### **The right of appeal**

The political entity, through its authorized representative, has the right to file an appeal against the decision of CEC to reject registration or deregistration with the ECAP within five (5) working days after the decision is published.

## **Article 9**

### **Notice of changes through the convention/assembly**

1. The registered political party must notify the Office within five (5) working days after holding the convention/assembly: Appendix V - The form for notifying about changes to the political party, if it:
  - 1.1. Changes its president, finance officer, or membership of its highest executive body;
  - 1.2. The Office shall be informed of any change in political party's president or financial officer shall be notified within five (5) working days of changes.
  - 1.3. changes the official name, acronym or symbol. Such changes will be coordinated in advance with the Office, taking into account the requirements of Article 4, paragraph 1 of this Regulation;
  - 1.4. changes its statute or political program;
  - 1.5. is voluntarily dissolved;
  - 1.6. changes the identity, address, or phone number of the contact person, financial representative, or party representatives in any municipality where the party is active;
  - 1.7. opens or closes a branch of the party.
2. The registered political party, along with the notice of any change outlined in paragraph 1 of this article, must also submit a copy of the meeting minutes or the procedure by which the change was approved, which must be certified by the party's president.
3. The registered political party, along with the notice of any change to the party's statute or political program, must submit to the Office a copy of the amended statute or political program.

## **Article 10**

### **Notice of changes to other annual data**

1. The registered political party must continuously update and submit the modified data to the Office, either through the electronic platform or in signed physical form, identifying the annual data changes within five (5) days from the moment of the change, as outlined in Appendix V, as follows:
  - 1.1. The first and last name, current address of the party president, members of the highest executive body, contact person, financial representative, and party representative in each municipality where the party is active;

- 1.2. the current address of the main headquarters of the political party;
  - 1.3. current addresses of all local branch offices of the party in Kosovo;
  - 1.4. any changes to the party's statute or political program made during the previous year.
2. If the Office notices that the party has submitted the form with incomplete data regarding the executive body, political party is then required to complete the information about the highest executive body within five (5) working days from the notification.
  3. The Office, through the CEC Secretariat (CECS), may verify the data regarding offices of political parties in municipalities, which must be completed within fourteen (14) calendar days from the submission of the request.

## **Article 11**

### **Statute of the party**

1. Every registered political party has a statute that governs the party's actions as a whole.
2. The statute of the registered political party includes, but is not limited to:
  - 2.1. procedures through which citizens can become members and cease to be members of the party, as well as the rights and responsibilities of members;
  - 2.2. procedures for amending the party's statute or political program;
  - 2.3. procedures for electing the party president, members of the highest executive body, or other elected officials of the party;
  - 2.4. procedures and methods for exercising internal financial control, and develop internal financial control mechanisms in order to prevent and combat corrupt practices, enhance financial management and transparency;
  - 2.5. determination of membership fees or exemption of members from paying membership fees;
  - 2.6. establishment of a dispute resolution body within the party related to interpretation of the statute
  - 2.7. gender representation in its internal organs regulated;
  - 2.8. allocation of remaining assets after all debts are settled in the event of party's dissolution;
  - 2.9. the rules of procedure to be followed in regular and extraordinary party member assemblies, including ensuring a quorum, agenda, and decision-making;
  - 2.10. dissolution procedures.



3. Any amendment to the statute of a registered political party that does not comply with the requirements of this Regulation is considered invalid.
4. The statute of a registered political party is a public document and must be published in at least one of the official languages of Kosovo on political party's website.

## **Article 12**

### **The election of political party's governing bodies**

1. The registered political party must hold a convention/ assembly within six (6) months from the date of its registration and then at least every forty-eight (48) months, where the party elects its president and other governing bodies in a democratic and transparent manner, as stipulated in its statute submitted to the CEC.
2. Each member of the registered political party, either directly or through a delegate appointed according to the relevant procedure, has an equal vote in all decisions made by the convention/assembly, including the election of the president and the highest executive body of the party.
3. The registered political party shall invite the Office to observe the election of party's governing bodies within 5 working days from the scheduled date of the convention/assembly.
4. The registered political party must notify the Office within 5 working days from the date of its convention/assembly about the changes, list of delegates participating in the organized convention/assembly, and submit to the Office a copy of the minutes and all materials required with the Change notification form (Appendix V), which must be certified by the party president.
5. The Office may request from the CECS to observe the convention of the political party, whose headquarters is outside the Municipality of Pristina, which will prepare a report on the observation of the convention, as outlined in Appendix VI.
6. In case the political party is certified to participate in local or central elections, then the same is not obliged to hold the electoral assembly for up to three (3) months after the certification of results by the CEC.
7. The political party may request an additional term for holding the convention of political party, if:
  - 7.1. The request for an additional deadline is submitted at least 10 working days before the deadline for holding the convention in case the convention is made impossible by:
    - 7.1.1. a health emergency declared by state institutions;
    - 7.1.2. natural disasters;

- 7.1.3. state of emergency declared by state institutions.
- 7.2. In the circumstances outlined in subparagraph 7.1, political parties are granted an additional period of up to three (3) months to hold the convention, after the end of the prevailing conditions.
- 7.3. The Office reviews the requests as per paragraph 1 of this Article.
- 7.4. If the situation described in paragraph 7.1 of this article persists for more than six (6) months, the political party may submit a new request, which shall be reviewed by the CEC.

## **Article 13**

### **Access to documents of political parties**

1. The office updates and maintains the following political party documents:
  - 1.1. Program;
  - 1.2. Statute;
  - 1.3. final versions of all annual financial reports submitted to the Office, along with the audit statement of political entities and register of donors, in accordance with the Law on Financing of Political Parties.
2. Access to the documentation of political party registrations is governed by Law No. 06/L-081 on Access to Public Documents.

## **Article 14**

### **Fines**

1. The CEC imposes sanctions on registered political parties for breaches of this Regulation in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the Law on Financing Political Parties (LFPP).
2. Despite the suspension, political party is required to pay the imposed fine.
3. Imposing a fine does not prejudice any criminal sanctions that may be applied. Cases that could suggest a criminal offense will be forwarded by the CEC to the State Prosecutor's Office.
4. Fines collected by the Office are transferred to the Kosovo Budget.
5. The CEC, based on the Office's recommendation, fines political entities for failing to submit the required documentation according to Articles 9, 10, and 12 of this Regulation, based on representation criteria and deadlines.

- 5.1. Political entities represented in the Assembly of Kosovo are fined €1,000 for failing to declare.
- 5.2. Registered political parties that are not represented in the Assembly of Kosovo are fined €500 for delays.

## **Article 15**

### **Other sanctions**

1. Political entities fined under Article 14 of this regulation are required to submit the requested documents within fifteen (15) days from the issuance of the fine.
2. If the political entity does not submit the required documents within this time, as specified in paragraph 1 of this article, the political entity will not be certified for central or local elections.

## **Article 16**

### **Transitional and final provisions**

1. Upon the entry into force of this Regulation, the Rule No. 01/2023 on Registration and Functioning of Political Parties is repealed.
2. A citizen initiative that has won seats in the Assembly of Kosovo before the entry into force of the LGE is required to register as a political party within sixty (60) days after the adoption of this regulation.
3. The following are integral part of this Regulation:
  - 3.1. Appendix I - Political party registration form;
  - 3.2. Appendix II - Founding convention/assembly form;
  - 3.3. Appendix III - Supporters' List for Political Party Registration;
  - 3.4. Appendix IV - Political Party Registration Renewal Form;
  - 3.5. Appendix V - Update Form
  - 3.6. Appendix VI - Political Party Change Notification Form;
  - 3.7. Appendix VII - Electoral Assembly Observation Report.
4. Within sixty (60) days after the entry into force of this regulation, the Office is required to develop the procedure for registration of political parties.

## **Article 17**

**Entry in to Force**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

**Chairperson**

**Central Elections Commission**

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**Kreshnik Radoniqi**