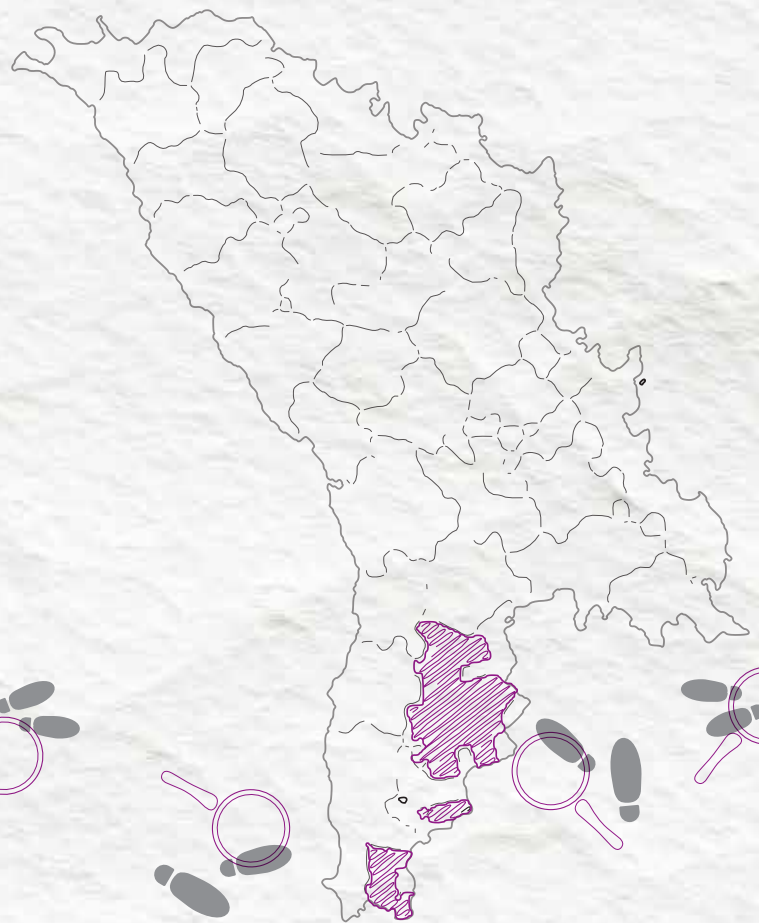


REPORT NO. 1

Promo-LEX Observation Mission
for the Regional Elections in

ATU GAGAUZIA

15 November 2026



OBSERVATION PERIOD **3 July – 13 October 2026**

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Promo-LEX

Advancing democracy and human rights



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Political context. The regional elections of 15 November 2026 are taking place against the background of an institutional crisis in ATU Gagauzia and complex relations between the authorities of the autonomy and the central authorities. The conviction of Evghenia Guțul and the finding that the office of Governor (Bashkan) was vacant, together with the repeated postponement of elections to the People's Assembly, whose mandate expired in November 2025, have deepened the difficulties in the functioning of the regional institutions. Public perception reflects these difficulties: 39.2% of respondents to the Promo-LEX survey of March 2026 consider the current People's Assembly legitimate, while 38.9% consider it illegitimate.

Electoral competition retains the features of a system in which candidates registered as independents play an important role in shaping political power, favoured by local name recognition and by the nature of single-member constituencies. In these circumstances, informal political ties between candidates declared independent and certain political formations, including those associated with Ilan Șor, pose a risk, to address which the legislator introduced the notion of a "camouflaged independent candidate", applied for the first time in these elections. At the same time, the experience of previous elections, including the 2023 election of the Governor (Bashkan), points to risks associated with illegal financing and voter bribery.

The regional context is also shaped by differences in geopolitical orientation compared to the rest of the country, by the presence of Russian Federation influence in the media and political space, and by the predominant consumption of political information through social networks, with TikTok being the main source of information (61.4%). In these circumstances, monitoring of electoral financing, of possible forms of voter bribery and of the information environment remains essential for assessing the integrity of the electoral process.

Legal framework. The organisation of the regional elections of 15 November 2026 was marked by institutional deadlocks, disputes over the competences of the authorities of Gagauzia, and amendments to the regulatory framework shortly before the start of the electoral period. The elections to the People's Assembly were set after two previous failed attempts, about one year after the expiry of the members' mandate. In the case of the election of the Governor (Bashkan), setting the date fell to the Central Electoral Commission after the People's Assembly failed to adopt a decision within the deadline.

The Constitutional Court Judgment of 9 July 2026 and the amendments introduced by Law No. 192/2026 reshaped the legal framework of the regional elections, consolidating their integration into the national electoral system and delimiting the competences of the authorities involved. Although the principle of stability of electoral legislation does not prevent the enforcement of constitutional court judgments, Law No. 192/2026, which entered into force 81 days before the elections, was not limited to the interventions needed to enforce the judgment, but also included amendments on the financing of electoral campaigns, independent candidates, voting with a digital identity document and media coverage of the elections. The harmonisation of the legislation on the special status of Gagauzia with the Electoral Code needs to continue, in particular as regards Art. 8 and Art. 12 of Law No. 344/1994, in order to clarify the competences and deadlines applicable to the authorities involved and to ensure a coherent and predictable legal framework, compatible with international electoral standards.

Electoral bodies. The regional elections of 15 November 2026 are the first elections to the People's Assembly and for the office of Governor (Bashkan) organised within the unified national system of electoral bodies. Following the legislative amendments adopted in August 2026, the Central Electoral Commission (CEC) took over the role of assisting and supervising the electoral process, while the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia (CECG) is responsible for the direct administration of the elections. During the reporting period, the CEC adopted 19 decisions for the elections to the People's Assembly and 21 for the election of the Governor, within the deadlines set by the calendar programmes.

The CECG was established with 15 members by applying the adjusted mechanism for forming electoral bodies at national level, which allowed all parliamentary parties to appoint members. During the monitored period, it acted in line with its legal competences, adopted 43 decisions on the organisation of the elections, the registration of electoral competitors, the establishment of lower-level electoral bodies and other aspects of the electoral process, and accredited 56 Promo-LEX observers. The three first-level district electoral councils were established within the legal deadlines. Gender representation within

them is unbalanced, with men accounting for only about 17% of all members. Monitoring also revealed shortcomings in the accessibility of their premises. Moreover, data on the certification of electoral officials are not publicly available disaggregated by administrative-territorial unit, which prevents observers from assessing the number of certified persons in ATUG.

The use of the State Register of Voters (SRV) to generate voter lists is a major change compared to previous regional elections, when the lists were drawn up by local authorities and the number of voters included in them fell from 113,940 in 2021 to 92,563 in 2023. According to the SRV, 129,613 voters are registered in ATU Gagauzia, unevenly distributed across the 35 single-member constituencies (from 402 in SMC 23 Carbalia to 6,847 in SMC 12 Baurci), which undermines the principle of equal voting power.

Nomination and registration of competitors. According to CEC decisions, only 38 of the 66 registered political parties were entitled to take part in the regional elections of 15 November 2026. In the elections of members of the PAG, a total of 138 candidates were nominated and 135 registered for the 35 constituencies established. Of these, 92 are independent candidates and 43 are candidates of political parties (PSRM – 23; PPG – 9; PPAM – 7; PPT – 2; MAN – 2). Of all registered candidates, 23 are women (17%) and 112 are men (83%). The electoral bodies adopted 3 decisions refusing the registration of candidates, two of them on the grounds of the applicants' party membership.

The largest number of candidates registered in SMC 26 Chirsova – 7, SMC 2 Comrat – 7 and SMC 30 Copceac – 6. At the other end, only one candidate was registered in constituency No. 33 Chioselia Rusă, and two candidates each in SMC No. 10 Vulcănești, 13 Beșalma, 17 Cioc-Maidan and 19 Joltai. Compared to the 2021 PAG elections, we find that about 10% more candidates registered in 2026, with an increasing presence of parties in the regional elections.

For the election of the Governor of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026, eight candidates were nominated and registered, three of them by political parties (PSRM, PPG, NOI) and five self-nominated. The initiative groups collected the required signatures within 5–7 days, with validation rates ranging between 76.8% and 94.6%.

Electoral complaints. During the monitored period, at least four petitions and complaints were identified concerning electoral campaigning, the use of administrative resources, eligibility conditions and the registration of candidates. They were resolved by rejection, by a finding of inadmissibility or by examination as petitions, without confirmation of the alleged violations.

Upholding the refusal to register an independent candidate who had submitted a request to leave the party before the 70-day deadline, but was still recorded by the PSA as a member of the party's central governing body, requires an assessment of the proportionality of the restriction on the right to be elected. Moreover, petitions, complaints and the acts resolving them are not published fully and systematically, which makes it difficult to follow electoral practice.

Potential electoral competitors. The period preceding the electoral campaign was marked by at least 293 activities with electoral character (260 in the context of the elections to the People's Assembly and 33 in the context of the election of the Governor (Bashkan)), consisting mainly of signature collection and online promotion. At the same time, the announcement of the intention to run and the individual promotion of certain potential candidates before the legal nomination deadline, including in the case of a candidate for Governor who announced his candidacy almost a month before the vacancy of the office was established, affect the principle of equal opportunities and facilitate the circumvention of the provisions on the financing of electoral campaigns.

Fourteen cases that could potentially qualify as use of administrative resources were also documented, including the redistribution across electoral constituencies of MDL 1.53 million from the reserve fund of the People's Assembly after the start of the electoral period, the involvement of some mayors who are candidates in electoral activities during working hours, and claiming credit for public investments. At the same time, the activity of certain third parties, including pages administered from abroad, through sponsored advertisements, as well as coordinated inauthentic behaviour amplifying narratives that discredit the electoral process and the institutions involved, point to the vulnerability of the regional information space in the context of these elections.

Observation of the financing of electoral activities. The financing of the regional elections of 15 November 2026 takes place under a legal framework amended shortly before the start of the electoral

period, including through the introduction of a financial reporting obligation for the pre-electoral period, a recommendation previously made by Promo-LEX Association. The CEC budget for organising the elections amounts to MDL 13,608,490, and the ceiling on financial means that may be transferred to the “Electoral Fund” account for the election of the Governor is MDL 3,122,416.28.

Financial reporting by electoral competitors was marked by uneven application of the information obligations. None of the five initiative groups for the office of Governor opened a bank account, only 14 of the 92 independent candidates for Member of the PAG opened an “Electoral Fund” account, and some candidates, as well as one of the electoral councils, were unaware of the reporting obligations. By 13 October 2026, no electoral competitor had declared any expenditure, while the expenditures estimated by Promo-LEX EOM amounted to at least MDL 52,978, including MDL 18,282 for the promotion of a candidate for Governor before nomination. The discrepancy between the declarations of not opening accounts and the activities observed, estimated at over MDL 6,000 each in the case of two initiative groups, requires verification by the electoral bodies.

INTRODUCTION

Overall, Report No. 1 covers the period from 3 July 2026, when the People's Assembly adopted the decision setting the date for the election of members of the People's Assembly, to 13 October 2026. The main findings and trends of this report concern the socio-political and legal context of the elections, the activity of the electoral bodies, the activities of potential competitors with electoral impact, the nomination and registration of candidates, the financing of the elections and of the electoral campaign, etc.

During the Mission, Promo-LEX will present two interim observation reports on the first round, a report on the second round (should one be held) and a Final Report. On election day, Promo-LEX EOM will hold two press conferences and present three statements on the observers' findings, and on the day after the elections the results of the parallel vote tabulation will be presented.

The objectives of the Promo-LEX EOM reports are: to inform society about the trends observed in the electoral process; to notify the electoral bodies, in real time, of the observation findings on the quality of the procedures for organising and conducting the elections; to hold electoral actors accountable; and to prevent possible violations of electoral legislation.

The observation methodology applied by Promo-LEX is based on international standards in the field and involves both long-term observation (the electoral period) and short-term observation (election day). Observation during the electoral period will be carried out by the core team and by three long-term observers (LTOs), deployed in the three districts of ATU Gagauzia: Comrat, Ceadâr-Lunga and Vulcănești. The LTOs will collect and analyse information from direct observation as well as from the analysis of political/electoral activity online (including that of third parties), will conduct field visits, interviews and meetings with various interlocutors (representatives of electoral bodies, candidates/electoral competitors, representatives of civil society organisations, media, experts, etc.), and will consult official documents. On election day, Promo-LEX EOM will deploy 76 short-term observers (STOs), both to cover each polling station with static observers and to monitor, as part of four mobile teams, events outside the polling stations. On election night, after Promo-LEX observers receive copies of the results protocols, we will also conduct a parallel vote tabulation both in the single-member constituencies and in the regional constituency for the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia.

The observers' activity is managed by the core team of the Mission. All Promo-LEX observers and monitors are trained in seminars organised by the Observation Mission. Observers also sign and undertake to comply with the Code of Conduct¹ of the Promo-LEX independent national observer, committing to act promptly, in good faith and in a non-partisan manner.

The observation reports are prepared by the core team of Promo-LEX EOM, based on its own findings and on those reported by the long-term observers (LTOs) on the activity of all actors involved in organising and conducting the elections: (potential) electoral competitors, public authorities, electoral bodies, political parties and civil society. LTO findings are reported through thematic forms and stored on the web platform www.data.promolex.md, a secure system with restricted access managed by Promo-LEX.

Monitoring of campaign financing is an important component of the work of Promo-LEX EOM. It involves observing electoral competitors in terms of the financial resources raised and used for campaign activities. Promo-LEX will estimate the expenditures incurred by electoral competitors by applying minimum market prices and will compare them with those declared by the competitors to the relevant electoral bodies, in order to assess the transparency and fairness of the financing of the electoral competition. We acknowledge that there may be some discrepancies between the costs applied by Promo-LEX for its estimates and the actual costs of electoral competitors; it is important to note, however, that these prices are applied at minimum rates and uniformly to all competitors.

Promo-LEX EOM is not a political opponent of the competitors and participants in the electoral process, is not an investigative body and does not assume an express obligation to prove the findings observed. Nevertheless, the observers' reports are accompanied, as far as possible, by photo and video evidence, which may be made available to law enforcement bodies and to the Central Electoral Commission upon

¹ [Code of Conduct](#) of the Promo-LEX independent national observer (in Romanian).

appropriate request, and under no circumstances to the competitors. At the same time, the violations, including alleged ones, contained in this report must be treated by the electoral authorities as petitions and examined according to their competence, in light of Art. 88 para. (9) of the Electoral Code. The EOM for the regional elections of 15 November 2026 is a project carried out by Promo-LEX Association within the Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections (CALC).

The Promo-LEX Mission manages the web platform www.electorala.monitor.md, on which anyone can report activities with electoral character. Relevant information from the observers' reports is stored on the same platform. Reports from citizens may be verified by observers.

Promo-LEX is a public association that aims to develop democracy in the Republic of Moldova, including in the Transnistrian region, by promoting and protecting human rights, monitoring democratic processes and strengthening civil society. The Association has organised election observation missions in the Republic of Moldova since 2009, and this EOM is its 33rd. The Association's staff and members also have international experience, having taken part in election observation within International Missions in Armenia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Georgia, Estonia, Montenegro, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, etc.

The international standards referred to in this report are those developed by the UN, the OSCE, the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), the European Union and the Council of Europe. Each report ends with recommendations to public authorities, electoral bodies, electoral competitors and other stakeholders, with the aim of ensuring the proper organisation and improvement of the electoral process.

This report was prepared with the financial support of Sweden. Responsibility for the opinions expressed lies with Promo-LEX Association and does not necessarily reflect the position of the donors. In case of discrepancies between the Romanian text and its translation into another language, the Romanian version of the report shall prevail.

I. SOCIO-POLITICAL CONTEXT

1.1. Institutional framework of the regional elections

Under Art. 111 para. (1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, Gagauzia is an autonomous territorial unit with a special status, an integral and inalienable part of the Republic of Moldova, which independently resolves, within the limits of its competence and in the interest of the entire population, issues of a political, economic and cultural nature.² The special legal status of the autonomy was regulated by Law No. 344 of 23 December 1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz-Yeri),³ adopted after the social and political tensions in the south of the country in the early 1990s.

Under Law 344, the representative authority of the autonomy is the People's Assembly, composed of 35 members elected for a four-year term, which adopts local normative acts within the limits of its competence. The Governor (Bashkan) is elected by direct vote, also for four years, and is the highest official of Gagauzia, to whom all public administration authorities of the autonomy are subordinated. The Governor is confirmed as a member of the Government of the Republic of Moldova by decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova. The permanent executive body of the autonomy is the Executive Committee, formed by the People's Assembly for the duration of its mandate.

Two elections will be held concurrently on 15 November 2026. The elections to the People's Assembly are regular but are taking place one year late, as the mandate of the legislature elected in 2021 expired on 12 November 2025. The election of the Governor is an early election, triggered by the termination of Evghenia Guțul's mandate. The date of the first election was set by the People's Assembly on 3 July 2026.⁴ The date of the second was set by the CEC on 1 September 2026, after the People's Assembly failed to adopt a decision within the deadline. The CEC exercised this competence under Art. 159 para. (1¹) of the Electoral Code, introduced by Law No. 192 of 25 August 2026⁵ (see the chapter "Legal Framework").

The elections of 15 November 2026 are the first regional elections organised entirely under Electoral Code No. 325/2022, with the CEC as the hierarchically superior electoral body. Previous elections, including those to the People's Assembly in 2021 and for Governor in 2023, were organised under the normative acts of the autonomy and administered by the regional electoral body. At the same time, the members will be elected for the last time in 35 single-member constituencies. The next elections to the People's Assembly are to be held under a proportional system.⁶

1.2. Domestic socio-political context

The institutional crisis of 2025–2026 and relations between the central authorities and those of the autonomy. The institutional crisis in ATUG affected the functioning of both administrative authorities of Gagauzia.

As regards the institution of the Governor (Bashkan), on 5 August 2025, the Chișinău Court (Buiucani office) sentenced Evghenia Guțul to seven years' imprisonment for the illegal financing of the former Political Party "Șor", and on 28 May 2026 the Centre Court of Appeal upheld the sentence.⁷ Consequently, on 17 August 2026 the People's Assembly established the vacancy of the office of Governor (Bashkan).⁸

The powers of the Governor are exercised by Ilia Uzun, First Deputy Chairperson of the Executive Committee, who has been included by the Council of the European Union on the list of persons sanctioned for actions destabilising the Republic of Moldova, being associated with Ilan Șor.⁹ We recall that

²[Constitution](#) of the Republic of Moldova, Art. 111 para. (1).

³[Law No. 344 of 23.12.1994](#) on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz-Yeri).

⁴[Decision of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia No. 546-B3/VII of 03.07.2026](#) on the date of the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia.

⁵[Law No. 192 of 25.08.2026](#) amending Electoral Code No. 325/2022; [CEC Decision No. 4701](#) of 01.09.2026 on setting the date of the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia (in Romanian).

⁶[Law No. 192](#) of 25.08.2026 amending Electoral Code No. 325/2022.

⁷[Decision of the Criminal Panel of the Centre Court of Appeal of 28.05.2026](#) (in Romanian).

⁸[Decision of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia No. 562-XLVI/VII of 17.08.2026](#), published in the Official Bulletin of Gagauzia "EKSPRES-KANON" No. 32 of 21.08.2026.

⁹[Council Decision \(CFSP\) 2024/2701](#) of 14 October 2024 amending Decision (CFSP) 2023/891 concerning restrictive measures in view of actions destabilising the Republic of Moldova.

throughout Evghenia Guțul's mandate, the President of the Republic of Moldova did not sign the decree confirming her as a member of the Government, citing the Governor's ties with the group led by Ilan Șor.¹⁰

The functioning of the People's Assembly was in turn affected by the protracted process of organising new elections. After its mandate expired, the regional legislature set the elections for 22 March and, subsequently, for 21 June 2026. These decisions were adopted under the normative acts of the autonomy, which had not been brought into line with the Electoral Code. They were challenged in administrative court proceedings by the Comrat Territorial Office of the State Chancellery and suspended by the courts¹¹ (see the chapter "Legal Framework").

The institutional crisis was also reflected in the fact that the leadership of the People's Assembly changed three times in less than a year,¹² and several convened sittings did not take place for lack of a quorum.¹³

The problems in the functioning of the institutions are also reflected in public perception. According to the survey conducted in March 2026 at the request of Promo-LEX Association, 39.2% of respondents in ATU Gagauzia considered the current People's Assembly legitimate, while 38.9% considered it illegitimate.¹⁴

Another important aspect of the functioning of democratic institutions in ATUG is the quality of relations with the central authorities. In the view of Promo-LEX, the delimitation of competences between the central and regional levels has remained an unresolved issue since the autonomy was established. As early as in the context of the 2016 elections to the People's Assembly, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe found ambiguities regarding the delimitation of the autonomy's competences.¹⁵ The applications concerning the appointment of the Chief Prosecutor of ATU Gagauzia, examined by the Constitutional Court in 2025,¹⁶ and concerning the organisation of the 2026 regional elections¹⁷ are evidence of these findings.

In fact, Constitutional Court Judgment No. 8 of 9 July 2026 and the subsequent amendments to the Electoral Code were publicly criticised by representatives of the regional authorities and by some opposition parties, who presented them as a limitation of the autonomy.

The Promo-LEX survey data also show that 49.9% of respondents rate relations between the central authorities and those of the autonomy as "bad" or "very bad", and 12% as "good" or "very good".¹⁸

Political actors and electoral competition. Electoral competition in ATU Gagauzia is dominated by independent candidates. In the legislatures elected in 2012, 2016 and 2021, independents won between 25 and 28 of the 35 seats,¹⁹ and all elections for Governor up to 2023 were won by independent candidates.²⁰ The majoritarian system has favoured candidates with local name recognition to the detriment of parties.

At the same time, a relevant feature of electoral competition in the region in these elections may be the existence of informal political ties between candidates declared independent and certain political formations. In this context, we recall that Ilan Șor, leader of the former Political Party "Șor" (declared

¹⁰Moldova 1. [President Maia Sandu refuses to appoint the Bashkan of Gagauzia to the Government of the Republic of Moldova](#) (in Romanian).

¹¹[Decision of the Supreme Court of Justice](#) in the administrative case brought by the Comrat Territorial Office of the State Chancellery against the People's Assembly of Gagauzia (in Romanian).

¹² Namely Dmitri Constantinov, Nicolai Ormanji and Valentin Gaidarji.

¹³ For example, in August – September 2026, for lack of a quorum, the People's Assembly failed in three consecutive sittings to set the date of the election of the Bashkan.

¹⁴Survey. [Perceptions of the socio-political situation, elections and institutional relations in ATU Gagauzia](#) (in Romanian). Data collected by ATEs Research Group on 14–18 March 2026; 410 respondents; margin of error $\pm 4.6\%$.

¹⁵[Information report on elections in the Popular Assembly of the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia, Republic of Moldova \(20 November 2016\)](#).

¹⁶[Constitutional Court Judgment No. 4 of 14.04.2025](#) on the constitutional review of Article 21 of the Law on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia and of Articles 25 para. (3) and 26 of the Law on the Prosecutor's Office (in Romanian).

¹⁷ [Judgment No. 8 of 9 July 2026](#) on the constitutional review of certain provisions of Law No. 344 of 23 December 1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia, Law No. 320 of 27 December 2012 on the Activity of the Police and the Status of the Police Officer and the Electoral Code (Applications No. 46a/2026 and No. 147a/2026) (in Romanian).

¹⁸Promo-LEX survey in ATU Gagauzia, March 2026 (ATEs Research Group).

¹⁹[Elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia](#).

²⁰[Elections of the Governor of Gagauzia](#).

unconstitutional²¹), previously announced the closure of “social projects” in the Republic of Moldova and urged affiliated local elected officials to resign, while declaring that he would create a “common national front”.²² In these circumstances, persons associated with his network may take part in the elections as formally independent candidates. In the same context, the Promo-LEX EOM for the new local elections of 17 (31) May 2026 found that “in these elections, especially in the constituencies where mayors supported by Ilan Șor had resigned, the share of independent candidates was high”.²³

To prevent such situations, the legislator, through Law No. 192/2026, introduced into the Electoral Code the notions of “camouflaged independent candidate” and “camouflaged support for electoral competitors”, as well as sanctions for such situations (see the chapter “Legal Framework”). The application of these provisions for the first time, in elections in which independents have traditionally held the majority of seats, will be followed as a priority by Promo-LEX EOM.

Illegal financing and electoral corruption. The integrity of elections and the prevention, documentation and sanctioning of illegal financing and electoral corruption are essential for ensuring the free and fair character of electoral processes. These risks have become particularly relevant in the Republic of Moldova in the context of the elections held in recent years and are of particular importance for the regional elections in ATU Gagauzia.

We recall that the 2023 election of the Governor took place with the direct involvement of the PPȘ and of structures associated with Ilan Șor. In that campaign, the CEC initiated eight contravention proceedings for cash donations exceeding the legal ceiling of MDL 11.700. The excess amounts totalled about MDL 1.42 million, of which MDL 458,800 in the case of Evghenia Guțul’s 65 donors.²⁴ Certain mechanisms of illegal financing and voter bribery were also reported by Promo-LEX EOM in the 2023 general local elections and in the 2024 elections.²⁵

On 15 April 2025, the Police announced that 6,000 persons had been sanctioned for electoral corruption.²⁶ At the same time, in April 2025, the Police announced searches at several addresses in ATU Gagauzia in a case concerning a scheme in which voters, including public sector employees and pensioners, were offered money “for the benefit of the Șor criminal organisation”.²⁷ The scale of the phenomenon in the region is also shown by data from the Partnership for Development Centre (CPD).²⁸ In the period 1 September 2024 – 28 August 2025, 13.1% of the 25,822 contravention reports drawn up for passive electoral bribery concerned ATU Gagauzia.

In the period preceding the elections of 15 November 2026, the regulatory framework and institutional mechanisms for preventing and combating electoral corruption were strengthened, including by expanding the tools for documenting and sanctioning such acts. These measures drew criticism from some political and social actors; at the same time, preventing and combating electoral corruption remains relevant for protecting the freedom of voters to form and express their electoral will without pressure or material incentives.

1.3. Geopolitical context and the information space

Geopolitical orientation. The geopolitical preferences of voters in ATU Gagauzia consistently differ from those of the majority of the country’s population. The pro-Russian orientation has been actively promoted and exploited by regional political actors, including through initiatives that directly challenged

²¹Constitutional Court Judgment No. 10 of 19 June 2023 on the constitutional review of the Political Party “Șor”.

²²Europa Liberă Moldova. [How to understand Șor’s announcement that he is closing social projects in Moldova and withdrawing his local elected officials](#) (in Romanian), 02.12.2025.

²³ [Final Report](#). Promo-LEX Observation Mission for the New Local Elections and Local Referendums of 17 (31) May 2026 (in Romanian).

²⁴ [CEC press release](#). The CEC initiates 8 contravention proceedings for illegal financing, consisting of exceeding the ceilings on cash donations, in the electoral campaign for the elections held in ATU Gagauzia (in Romanian).

²⁵ [Final Report](#). Promo-LEX Observation Mission for the General Local Elections of 5 (19) November 2023, p. 70; [Report No. 1](#). Promo-LEX Observation Mission for the Presidential Election and the Republican Constitutional Referendum of 20 October 2024, pp. 8–9 (in Romanian).

²⁶ [Press conference](#) of the head of the General Police Inspectorate, Viorel Cernăuțeanu.

²⁷ [INI officers](#) and PCCOCS prosecutors conduct searches in ATU Gagauzia (in Romanian).

²⁸ [CPD. Electoral Corruption in the Republic of Moldova](#): Social Profiles, Gender Disparities and Institutional Response (in Romanian). Chișinău: 2025.

the state's foreign policy. In the view of Promo-LEX EOM, throughout the period since the autonomy was established, the policies of the central authorities aimed at integrating the region into the common political and information space of the Republic of Moldova have been limited and inconsistent.

We recall the example of the illegal referendum²⁹ organised by the ATUG authorities on 2 February 2014, according to which, with a turnout of about 70%, 98.47% of voters allegedly voted for accession to the Customs Union and 2.57% for European integration.³⁰ A decade later, in the constitutional referendum of 20 October 2024, only 5.16% of voters in ATU Gagauzia voted for enshrining the objective of EU accession in the Constitution, while at national level the "YES" option received 50.35% of the votes.³¹

The Promo-LEX survey of March 2026 confirms the trend: 41.7% of respondents favour a foreign policy balanced between East and West, 38.7% favour closer ties with the Russian Federation, and 6% favour accession to the European Union.³²

The Russian Federation exerts influence in the region both through the media space and through non-transparently financed political projects coordinated by Ilan Șor from the Russian Federation.³³ Turkey is another state with influence in the autonomy. It is present in the region mainly through the development projects of the TİKA agency. According to the authorities of the Republic of Moldova, of the approximately 500 TİKA projects implemented in the country since 1994, about 90% were implemented in ATU Gagauzia.³⁴

Information space. The consumption of political information in the autonomy differs from that at national level. According to the Promo-LEX survey, the main platforms used in ATU Gagauzia for political information are TikTok (61.4%), YouTube (59.2%), Facebook (58.4%) and Instagram (57.4%), followed by Telegram (50.2%).³⁵ At national level, Facebook is used by 80.1% of respondents and TikTok by 51.3%.³⁶ Among TV channels, respondents in the region most frequently name as their first choice the regional public broadcaster GRT, followed by 1TV (Russian Federation), ATV and Moldova 1.³⁷

The autonomy's public broadcaster GRT, founded and financed by the People's Assembly, has been repeatedly sanctioned in recent years by the Audiovisual Council (AC). In the campaign for the 2025 parliamentary elections, the AC found violations of the principles of fairness, balance and impartiality, as well as the broadcasting of messages that may constitute disinformation and of discriminatory messages, and imposed a public warning and fines on the broadcaster.³⁸ In this context, on 8 October 2025 the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova approved amendments to the Audiovisual Media Services Code of the Republic of Moldova, changing the mechanism for appointing the management of the autonomy's public broadcaster.³⁹

²⁹ [Ruling](#) of the Civil, Commercial and Administrative Panel of the Supreme Court of Justice of 26 August 2014 (Case No. 3ra-1025/14) (in Romanian).

³⁰ Veaceslav Berbeca. [Causes and Effects of the Referendums in ATU Gagauz-Yeri](#) (in Romanian). IDIS "Viitorul", Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, 2014, p. 5.

³¹ [Results](#) of the republican constitutional referendum of 20 October 2024 (in Romanian)

³² [Promo-LEX survey](#). Perceptions of the socio-political situation, elections and institutional relations in ATU Gagauzia (in Romanian).

³³ [Report No. 1](#). Promo-LEX Observation Mission for the Presidential Election and the Republican Constitutional Referendum of 20 October 2024, pp. 8–11 (in Romanian).

³⁴ [Official](#). Igor Grosu discussed with Kürşad Zorlu, member of the Turkish Parliament, the development of ATU Gagauzia and the strengthening of the partnership with the Republic of Turkey (in Romanian).

³⁵ [Promo-LEX survey](#). Perceptions of the socio-political situation, elections and institutional relations in ATU Gagauzia (in Romanian).

³⁶ National survey. [Citizens' perceptions of the quality of elections and the functioning of democratic processes in the Republic of Moldova](#) (in Romanian). Data collected by ATES Research Group from 22 February to 12 March 2026; 1,226 respondents; margin of error $\pm 2.8\%$. The share is calculated among respondents who use social networks.

³⁷ Promo-LEX survey in ATU Gagauzia, March 2026 (ATES Research Group).

³⁸ [Report](#) on the activity of the Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Moldova in 2025 (in Romanian). Approved at the public meeting of the Audiovisual Council of 25 February 2026, Annex to Decision No. 24.

³⁹ [Adopted draft law](#) amending certain normative acts (Audiovisual Media Services Code of the Republic of Moldova No. 174/2018 – Arts. 1, 2, 4, etc.; Law No. 174/2021 on the mechanism for screening investments of importance for state security – Art. 2) (in Romanian).

The regional media space also includes independent platforms, which have developed in recent years and diversified the local media offer. These include projects such as the Nokta portal, GagauzMedia, LAF, NTS, etc.

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. Setting the date of the elections

2.1.1. *Organisation of the elections of members of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia*

On 3 July 2026, the People's Assembly of Gagauzia, exercising the power provided for in Art. 12 para. (3) letter d) of Law No. 344/1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz-Yeri), set 15 November 2026 as the date of the elections of members of the People's Assembly.⁴⁰ Promo-LEX EOM notes that the date of the elections was set about one year after the expiry of the mandate of the members of the People's Assembly, which occurred on 12 November 2025.

Setting the elections for 15 November 2026 was the People's Assembly's third attempt to fix the date of the elections. Previously, the elections had been set for 22 March 2026, by the People's Assembly decision of 27 November 2025, and for 21 June 2026, by the decision of 17 March 2026. The elections set for 22 March 2026 did not take place after the Supreme Court of Justice, on 20 January 2026, suspended the acts on the establishment of the regional electoral body,⁴¹ the court finding serious and reasonable suspicions as to their legality, given that the decisions of the People's Assembly concerned the establishment of the "Central Electoral Commission of Gagauzia", whereas the national Electoral Code provided for the "Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia" as an integral part of the system of electoral bodies and prohibited the establishment of electoral bodies not provided for by the Code. On 22 January 2026, the People's Assembly repealed its decision on the date of the elections.

In the case of the elections of 21 June 2026, on 3 April 2026 the South Court of Appeal ordered the suspension of the decisions adopted on 17 March 2026, including the one setting the date of the elections, pending the examination of the case on the merits, citing inconsistencies between the acts of the People's Assembly and the national electoral regulatory framework, as well as their adoption after the expiry of the People's Assembly's mandate.

Thus, after two failed attempts to fix the date, the elections for the new composition of the People's Assembly were scheduled about one year after the legal deadline.

2.1.2. *Organisation of the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia.*

By Decision No. 562-XLVI/VII of 17 August 2026 (published in the Official Bulletin of Gagauzia "EKSPRES-KANON" No. 32 of 21 August 2026),⁴² the People's Assembly established the vacancy of the office of Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia, following the sentence convicting Evghenia Guțul becoming final⁴³. Under Art. 15 para. (3) of Law No. 344/1994, elections for this office are to be held no later than 3 months after the vacancy occurs.

Under Art. 159 para. (1¹) of Electoral Code No. 325/2022, the election of the Governor takes place on the second or third Sunday of November. The date is set by decision of the People's Assembly no later than 80 days before election day. That is, for the elections of 15 November 2026, the decision had to be approved by 27 August 2026. If the Assembly does not adopt the decision within the deadline, the date is set by CEC decision no later than 75 days before election day.

By letter No. CEC-8/10907 of 26 August 2026,⁴⁴ the CEC asked the People's Assembly to adopt, within the legal deadline, the decision setting the date of the elections and recommended setting the election for 15 November 2026, concurrently with the elections to the People's Assembly, for the efficient and coordinated organisation of the electoral process. The CEC also informed the People's Assembly that,

⁴⁰ [Decision](#) of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia No. 546-B3/VII of 3 July 2026 "On the date of the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia". Published on 10.07.2026. Available on the official webpage of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia.

⁴¹ [Ruling](#) of the Supreme Court of Justice of 20 January 2026 suspending PAG Decisions No. 501-XLI/VII and No. 502-XLI/VII of 16 December 2025 (in Romanian).

⁴² [Decision](#) of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia No. 562-XLVI/VII of 17.08.2026, published in the Official Bulletin of Gagauzia "EKSPRES-KANON", No. 32 of 21.08.2026.

⁴³ [Decision](#) of the Criminal Panel of the Centre Court of Appeal of 28 May 2026, dismissing the defence's appeals as unfounded and upholding the sentence of the Chișinău Court (in Romanian).

⁴⁴ [Letter](#) of the Central Electoral Commission No. CEC-8/10907 of 26.08.2026 to the People's Assembly of ATU Gagauzia (in Romanian).

should the decision not be adopted, the date would be set by the CEC. No reply from the People's Assembly was recorded.

The People's Assembly made three attempts to examine the setting of the election for Governor (Bashkan) in a sitting, on 17 August, 26 August and 1 September 2026, without adopting any decision, owing to the lack of a quorum. Under these circumstances, on 1 September 2026, on the basis of Art. 32 and Art. 159 para. (1¹) of the Electoral Code and Art. 15 para. (3) of Law No. 344/1994, the CEC set the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia for 15 November 2026.

Promo-LEX EOM notes that the date of the elections was set by the CEC, in place of the People's Assembly, on the last day of the 75-day deadline, and the election was scheduled concurrently with the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia. The substitution mechanism provided for in Art. 159 para. (1¹) of the Electoral Code is of a special nature, having been established for the regional elections in Gagauzia in order to prevent or overcome a possible institutional deadlock where the initially competent authority does not set the date of the elections within the deadline.

For other types of elections, the Electoral Code does not provide for a similar mechanism of subsidiary takeover of competence. Therefore, the solution applicable to the regional elections in Gagauzia differs from the general regime for other elections and highlights the specific nature of this provision within the current architecture of the Electoral Code.

2.2. Constitutional Court judgment of 9 July 2026 (Applications No. 46a/2026 and No. 147a/2026)

Subject matter, solution and effects. The Constitutional Court Judgment of 9 July 2026 came in a context marked by institutional deadlocks and disputes over the organisation of elections in Gagauzia, in particular as regards the establishment, composition and competences of the electoral bodies of the autonomy.

On 9 July 2026, the Constitutional Court examined two joined applications: No. 46a/2026, lodged by the Minister of Justice,⁴⁵ and No. 147a/2026, lodged by the People's Assembly of Gagauzia.⁴⁶ The first concerned, in essence, the competences of the authorities of Gagauzia to participate in the appointment of certain officials of central authorities (justice, police, security, the electoral field). The second concerned provisions of the Electoral Code on the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia (CECG), invoking Art. 111 para. (7) of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova.

By Judgment No. 8 of 9 July 2026,⁴⁷ the Constitutional Court upheld Application No. 46a/2026 and declared unconstitutional, in electoral matters: the text "and approval of the composition of the Central Electoral Commission for conducting the elections" in Art. 12 para. (3) letter d) of Law No. 344/1994; the first sentence of Art. 36 para. (1) of the Electoral Code, on the approval of the composition of the CECG by the People's Assembly; and two phrases in Art. 155 para. (1) of the Electoral Code. Application No. 147a/2026, lodged by the People's Assembly, was declared inadmissible.

To this end, on the basis of Art. 41 and Art. 44 para. (3) of the Law on the Constitutional Court, the Court sent Parliament an address⁴⁸ requesting the amendment of the relevant legislation in line with the reasoning of the judgment.

The main effect of the solution was to consolidate the integration of the regional elections into the national electoral system. Whereas previously certain specific aspects of the organisation and conduct of elections could also be regulated by acts adopted by the authorities of the autonomy, the Court ruled out the possibility of a parallel electoral regulatory framework, establishing that the rules applicable to regional elections must derive from legislation adopted by Parliament, and that the CECG must be established and operate in accordance with the Electoral Code.

⁴⁵ [Application](#) of the Ministry of Justice No. 46a of 09.03.2026 to the Constitutional Court (in Romanian)

⁴⁶ [Application](#) of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia No. 147a of 07.07.2026 to the Constitutional Court

⁴⁷ [Judgment](#) of the Constitutional Court No. 8 of 9 July 2026 on the constitutional review of certain provisions of Law No. 344 of 23 December 1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia, Law No. 320 of 27 December 2012 on the Activity of the Police and the Status of the Police Officer and the Electoral Code (in Romanian)

⁴⁸ [Address](#) of the Constitutional Court to the President of Parliament No. PCC-01/46a-334 of 09.07.2026 (in Romanian)

The legislative amendments were adopted by Law No. 192/2026 on 25 August 2026 and entered into force on 26 August 2026, 81 days before the elections of 15 November 2026. During this period, Parliament had to adjust the legislative framework, and the Central Electoral Commission had to adapt the secondary regulations and put into practice the new architecture of electoral bodies needed to organise the regional elections.

In this context, before Law No. 192/2026 was adopted, Promo-LEX stated that amending the electoral legislation for the organisation of the regional elections of 15 November 2026 was a necessary and urgent measure, including in the context of enforcing the Constitutional Court Judgment, provided that the legislative interventions were limited to those needed to implement it and to organise the current elections.⁴⁹

Reconfiguration of the competences of the People's Assembly in electoral matters. The Court held that the autonomy of Gagauzia is exercised within the unitary character of the state and cannot imply the existence of a distinct level of state power or of an autonomous legal order. The competences of the autonomy are limited to the areas established by the Constitution and the organic law and cannot extend to powers reserved to national constitutional authorities (§§ 70–84).

In electoral matters, the Court found that the CECG is an integral part of the system of electoral bodies of the Republic of Moldova and does not constitute an autonomous electoral body separate from the national electoral system (§§ 102–106). Consequently, the approval of its composition by the People's Assembly was considered an interference with a competence that cannot be exercised autonomously at regional level. The Court therefore declared unconstitutional the provisions granting the People's Assembly the competence to approve the composition of the electoral body, establishing that the CECG is set up and operates in accordance with the Electoral Code.

At the same time, the constitutional review did not cover the entire provision of Art. 12 para. (3) letter d) of Law No. 344/1994. The part concerning “setting, organising and conducting the elections of members of the People's Assembly” was not declared unconstitutional. After the amendments introduced by Law No. 192/2026, however, this wording must be interpreted in conjunction with the Electoral Code: the People's Assembly retains the competence to set the date of the elections, under the conditions provided for by the Code, while the organisation and administration of the electoral process are carried out by the CEC and the electoral bodies established under national electoral legislation.

This delimitation highlights the need to align the provisions of Law No. 344/1994 with the new architecture of competences established by the Electoral Code, in order to avoid divergent interpretations of the role of the People's Assembly in the organisation of regional elections.

Regulatory framework applicable to regional elections. The Court recalled that, under Art. 72 para. (3) letter a) of the Constitution, the electoral system is regulated by Parliament through organic law. The notion of “electoral system” covers all types of elections, including regional ones, and encompasses the manner of organising and conducting elections, voting conditions, constituencies and the rules for allocating seats (§§ 110–111).

On this basis, the Court held that Parliament cannot delegate to a local representative authority a competence that the Constitution reserves to the organic legislator, since such a solution would amount to establishing a parallel regulatory framework in electoral matters (§ 112). The phrases “by the People's Assembly of Gagauzia,” and “Law No. 344/1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz-Yeri) and of” in Art. 155 para. (1) were declared unconstitutional as contrary to Art. 1 para. (1), 72 para. (3) letter a), 109 and 111 para. (1) of the Constitution (§ 115). Regional elections are organised and conducted according to the rules adopted by Parliament through organic law (§ 114).

In enforcement of this Constitutional Court judgment, through Law No. 192/2026, Parliament regulated in the Electoral Code the method of electing members of the People's Assembly, establishing the proportional system. Its application, however, was provided for the next elections, while for the elections of 15 November 2026 the law established a transitional regime, maintaining the election of members in single-member electoral constituencies. Thus, the Electoral Code regulates both the organisation and

⁴⁹ [Position](#) of Promo-LEX on draft law No. 280 of 27.07.2026 amending the Electoral Code (in Romanian).

conduct of regional elections and the essential elements of the method of electing members of the People's Assembly.

2.3. New provisions of the Electoral Code relevant to the regional elections of 15 November 2026

Art. 11 para. (1) of the Electoral Code enshrines the principle of stability of electoral relations, according to which the electoral system and the manner of establishing constituencies and electoral bodies may not be amended less than one year before national elections. A similar rule is laid down in the Venice Commission's Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters,⁵⁰ which recommends that the fundamental elements of electoral law should not be amended in the year preceding elections, in order to protect legal certainty and confidence in the electoral process.

At the same time, the Venice Commission's Revised Interpretative Declaration specifies that the principle of stability cannot be invoked to prevent the enforcement of constitutional court judgments.⁵¹

In this context, the Electoral Code was amended by Law No. 192 of 25 August 2026, which entered into force on 26 August 2026, 81 days before the regional elections in Gagauzia of 15 November 2026. Although the amendments sought to enforce Constitutional Court Judgment No. 8 of 9 July 2026, the law was not limited to the interventions needed to implement it, but also included other amendments concerning alternative voting methods, the financing of electoral campaigns, independent candidates and media coverage of the elections.

In analysing the amendments adopted by Law No. 192/2026,⁵² a distinction must be made between provisions of general application, which entered into force on 26 August 2026, and the transitional rules established for the first elections of members of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia organised after the entry into force of that law.

2.3.1. Transitional regime applicable to the elections of 15 November 2026

Conceptually, Law No. 192/2026 establishes the proportional electoral system for the election of members of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia. However, for the first elections organised after the entry into force of the law, namely those of 15 November 2026, the system of election in single-member electoral constituencies was maintained on a transitional basis, as were the boundaries of the constituencies used in the 2021 elections.

The derogating rules are not limited to maintaining the single-member system; they also provide for a requirement of domicile or residence in the constituency in which the person runs, separate deadlines for establishing constituencies and electoral councils, and special signature thresholds for independent candidates. Separate rules also govern the nomination and registration of candidates in single-member constituencies, the conditions for election in the first round and for holding a second round, and the procedures for confirming the legality of the elections, validating mandates, declaring elections invalid or null and void, repeat voting and holding new elections.

As regards the actual conduct of the electoral process, Law No. 192/2026 provides for the application of the general mechanisms of the Electoral Code, including as regards the establishment of polling stations, the powers of electoral bodies, voter lists, the electoral campaign, ballot papers, voting and the vote count. In this way, the rules applicable to the elections of 15 November 2026 temporarily retain some rules previously used for the election of the People's Assembly, while other aspects of the electoral process are governed by the general provisions of the Electoral Code.

Therefore, the maintenance of the single-member system is temporary: starting with the elections following those of 15 November 2026, members of the People's Assembly are to be elected under the proportional system provided for by the Electoral Code.

⁵⁰ [Code](#) of Good Practice in Electoral Matters. Guidelines and Explanatory Report. Adopted by the European Commission for Democracy through Law at its 52nd Plenary Session (Venice, 18–19 October 2002), p. 11

⁵¹ [Revised](#) Interpretative Declaration to the Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters on the Stability of the Electoral Law. Adopted by the Venice Commission at its 139th Plenary Session (Venice, 21–22 June 2024).

⁵² [Law](#) No. 192/2026 amending Electoral Code No. 325/2022.

At the same time, Promo-LEX EOM notes that Art. 8 of Law No. 344/1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia⁵³ continues to regulate the election of the People's Assembly in territorial constituencies, as well as the principle of representation of one member per 5 thousand voters, with at least one member guaranteed for each locality. As this is the organic law regulating the special status of Gagauzia, its amendment requires the votes of three fifths of the elected members of Parliament, which explains why these provisions were not adjusted at the same time as the Electoral Code was amended.

Therefore, once the transitional regime applicable to the elections of 15 November 2026 has run its course, a regulatory inconsistency will persist between the Electoral Code and Law No. 344/1994 as regards the system for electing members of the People's Assembly. To ensure the coherence and predictability of the electoral framework, Parliament should harmonise the provisions of Law No. 344/1994 with those of the Electoral Code.

2.3.2. General rules applicable to regional elections

Beyond the transitional rules applicable to the elections of members of the People's Assembly of 15 November 2026, Law No. 192/2026 introduced into the Electoral Code a general framework applicable to regional elections. It expressly includes regional elections in the notion of "elections", strengthens the powers of the Central Electoral Commission in organising and supervising them, and regulates the status, manner of establishment, composition and competences of the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia. It also sets common rules on setting the date of regional elections and on the procedure for challenging the acts of electoral bodies.

As regards the election of members of the People's Assembly, the Electoral Code sets the eligibility conditions for candidates, regulates the confirmation of the legality of the elections and the validation of mandates, and establishes the proportional electoral system, applicable from the elections following those of 15 November 2026.

In the case of the election of the Governor (Bashkan), Law No. 192/2026 expressly regulates the eligibility conditions, including the minimum age of 35, the 10-year residence period and knowledge of the Gagauz and Romanian languages.

Overall, Law No. 192/2026 extends to regional elections a number of mechanisms already applicable at national level, contributing to the harmonisation of the legal framework for the organisation and conduct of the electoral process. At the same time, it retains separate rules determined by the specific nature of the elections in Gagauzia, including on setting the date of the elections, the eligibility conditions for members and the Governor, the role of the CECG and the method of electing the People's Assembly.

2.3.3. Other general amendments to the Electoral Code

In addition to the amendments adopted in the context of enforcing Constitutional Court Judgment No. 8 of 9 July 2026, Law No. 192/2026 introduced other amendments to the electoral framework, separate from those required to enforce that judgment, notably:

- introducing the possibility of using an identity document in digital format for voting (the digital version of the identity card or identity document, generated through the digital identity wallet) – Art. 78 para. (6) of the Electoral Code;
- regulating the "camouflaged independent candidate" and "camouflaged support for electoral competitors" (prohibiting coordination or hidden support between independent candidates and political parties or electoral blocs for the purpose of circumventing electoral rules) – Art. 1 of the Electoral Code;
- amending the regime for financing electoral campaigns (extending the categories of entities prohibited from financing or materially supporting electoral campaigns, regulating in-kind donations of goods and services and volunteering, prohibiting certain sources of financing such as credits, loans and virtual assets, and introducing a financial reporting obligation for the pre-electoral period – a recommendation previously made by Promo-LEX Association (Arts. 53–54 of the Electoral Code));⁵⁴

⁵³ [Law](#) No. 344/1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia.

⁵⁴ [Proposals](#) of Promo-LEX EOM in the Summary Table to the draft amendments to the Electoral Code and related legislation, p.

- establishing additional restrictions for independent candidates (a prohibition on receiving financial, material, organisational, logistical or media support from political parties or electoral blocs) – Art. 54 para. (5¹) of the Electoral Code;
- amending the rules on the nomination and registration of candidates and the establishment of initiative groups, including additional obligations regarding the participation of the candidate and the group members in the founding meeting – Arts. 65, 68, 114 and 140 of the Electoral Code;
- adjusting the regime of electoral sanctions, by sanctioning camouflaged independent candidacies and camouflaged support for electoral competitors – Art. 102 of the Electoral Code;
- amending the rules on media coverage of elections (strengthening the requirements of fairness, balance and impartiality, as well as the principle of equal and non-discriminatory conditions for electoral advertising) – Arts. 89–90 of the Electoral Code.

2.3.4. Constitutional review of certain amendments to the Electoral Code in the context of the regional elections of 15 November 2026

In the context of the amendments introduced by Law No. 192/2026, Application No. 188a/2026 was lodged for the constitutional review of the phrase “*and Romanian*” in Art. 161 para. (4) of the Electoral Code,⁵⁵ challenging the new eligibility condition for the office of Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia concerning knowledge of the Romanian language.

In Constitutional Court Judgment No. 11 of 2 October 2026,⁵⁶ the Court examined the constitutionality of this requirement, including in relation to the relevant international standards. The Court noted that, according to the Venice Commission, requiring knowledge of the official language for holding public or elective office may pursue a legitimate aim, provided that the level of proficiency required is proportionate to the public interest pursued and adapted to the nature and category of the office. Similarly, the European Court of Human Rights recognised in *Podkolzina v. Latvia* that requiring sufficient knowledge of the official language from an election candidate may pursue a legitimate aim.

Applying these standards to the office of Governor of Gagauzia, the Constitutional Court considered that the requirement of knowledge of the Romanian language does not in itself constitute an unjustified restriction of the right to be elected, given the nature of the office and the need to exercise it in relation to the public authorities of the Republic of Moldova.

2.4. Problematic and interpretative aspects of the legal framework applicable to the elections of 15 November 2026

Monitoring of the electoral process for the elections of 15 November 2026 revealed several aspects of the legal framework that require separate examination in terms of the clarity and predictability of the rules. They concern mainly the participation of political parties and candidates in the elections, eligibility conditions, the accreditation of observers, the distribution of competences between electoral authorities and the determination of certain deadlines relevant to the conduct of the elections.

Accreditation of national observers for regional elections

Promo-LEX EOM finds that the current rules on the accreditation of national observers for regional elections do not make it possible to monitor the entire electoral period. Under Art. 155 para. (5) of the Electoral Code, national observers for regional elections are accredited by the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia. At the same time, Art. 88 para. (5) allows accreditation applications to be submitted even before the start of the electoral period.

In the case of the elections of 15 November 2026, the CECG began its activity on 17 September 2026, although several actions relevant to the organisation of the elections had already been carried out before that date. Moreover, in the Calendar Programme approved for the organisation of the regional elections, the Central Electoral Commission indicated its own competence in respect of the accreditation of

97 (in Romanian).

⁵⁵ [Application](#) No. 188a/2026 of 28.08.2026 (in Romanian).

⁵⁶ [Judgment](#) of the Constitutional Court No. 11 of 02.10.2026 on the constitutional review of the phrase “and Romanian” in Art. 161 para. (4) of Electoral Code No. 325/2022 (in Romanian).

observers, which reveals an inconsistency between the administrative planning of the electoral process and the special rule in Art. 155 para. (5) of the Electoral Code. This situation shows that the mechanism for accrediting national observers for regional elections is not regulated with sufficient clarity and coherence.

In the view of Promo-LEX EOM, the regulatory framework should be adjusted by granting the Central Electoral Commission the competence to accredit national observers for regional elections, which would ensure the coherence of the rules and the uniform application of the accreditation procedure.

Vacancy of the Office of Governor and setting the date of the elections

Under Art. 15 para. (3) of Law No. 344/1994, new elections for the office of Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia are held no later than three months after the vacancy of the office occurs. In the case at hand, the sentence convicting Evghenia Guțul (the Governor elected in the 2023 elections) became final on 28 May 2026, and the People's Assembly established the vacancy of the office on 17 August 2026.

Promo-LEX EOM notes that the regulatory framework does not expressly establish the moment from which the three-month period begins to run. Consequently, the question arises whether the period should be calculated from the date on which the legal ground for termination of the mandate arose or from the date on which the People's Assembly formally established the vacancy.

Given the sequence of these two moments, Constitutional Court Judgment No. 2 of 20 January 2015⁵⁷ is relevant: the Court held that a final court decision giving rise to incompatibility with the exercise of the mandate produces effects *ipso jure*, while the vacancy of the mandate is subsequently declared by the competent authority. In the same reasoning, the Court invoked Art. 81 para. (3) of the Constitution, under which the President of the Republic of Moldova is dismissed by operation of law on the date the conviction becomes final. Although these considerations are not directly applicable to the office of Governor of Gagauzia, they highlight the distinction between the termination of the mandate by operation of law and the formal establishment of the vacancy. In the absence of a special rule expressly determining which of these moments is the starting point of the three-month period, there remains an uncertainty with a direct impact on setting the electoral calendar.

This uncertainty is compounded by the fact that the legislation does not set any deadline by which the People's Assembly is obliged to establish the vacancy of the office. In the absence of such a deadline, the interval between the occurrence of the legal ground for termination of the mandate and the adoption of the decision establishing the vacancy may, in practice, influence the moment when the procedures for organising new elections are triggered.

Moreover, Art. 159 para. (1¹) of the Electoral Code establishes a subsidiary mechanism only for the stage of setting the date of the elections, granting the CEC the competence to set the date if the People's Assembly does not adopt the decision within the deadline. No similar mechanism is provided for the stage of establishing the vacancy of the office.

In the view of Promo-LEX EOM, in order to avoid interpretative uncertainty and possible institutional deadlocks, the regulatory framework needs to be supplemented by expressly establishing the moment when the vacancy of the office occurs, the relationship between the termination of the mandate by operation of law and the act establishing the vacancy, as well as a deadline for adopting this act and a subsidiary mechanism applicable in the event of inaction by the People's Assembly.

Eligibility of political parties to participate in the regional elections

On 28 August 2026, the Central Electoral Commission, on the basis of information submitted by the Public Services Agency, published the list of political parties entitled to participate in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026. According to the information sent by the PSA to the CEC by letter No. 01/7603 of 28 August 2026, of the 66 registered political parties, 37 met the

⁵⁷ [Judgment](#) of the Constitutional Court No. 2 of 20 January 2015 on the interpretation of Article 1 para. (3) in conjunction with Articles 69 and 70 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova (immunity and termination of the mandate of a member of Parliament) (in Romanian).

conditions for participating in the elections. Subsequently, on 18 September 2026, the CEC also included the Gagauz People's Party in the list, bringing the number of eligible formations to 38.

The PPG was not initially included in the list of eligible formations drawn up by the CEC on the basis of information submitted by the PSA. In letter No. 01/7603 of 28 August 2026, the PSA stated, among other things, that at that date there were no pending applications for the registration of amendments to the founding documents/data in the State Register of Legal Entities or concerning information on party members. Subsequently, in letter No. 01/7846 of 10 September 2026, the PSA informed the CEC that the procedure for registering amendments concerning the PPG, initiated on the basis of the application of 8 August 2025, had been completed and that the data submitted met the legal requirements, which led to the party's inclusion in the list on 18 September 2026. As this sequence of information gave rise to ambiguities, Promo-LEX requested further explanations from the PSA by letter No. 437 of 1 October 2026. At the time of this report, no reply had been received, and the issue will be analysed in the next report.

Another situation that raised questions about the application of eligibility conditions was that of the Political Party "Partidul Acasă Construim Europa" (PACE), which was not included in the list of formations entitled to participate in the elections.

In its reply No. 01/8426 of 29 September 2026 to the request for access to information submitted by Promo-LEX Association concerning the reason why PACE was not included, the PSA stated that, according to the data in the State Register of Legal Entities and in the party's record file, the submission of the numerical and nominal list of party members (namely, members falling within the categories of persons covered by the legislation on the declaration of assets and personal interests) had not been identified.

The PSA invoked Art. 11 para. (7) of Law No. 294/2007 on Political Parties, according to which parties that, by the start of the electoral period, have not submitted all the information provided for in Art. 11 para. (5) letter b) are not entitled to participate in elections. The PSA also stated that political parties had been informed of the obligation to submit this information on 3 July 2025.

The Political Party "Partidul Acasă Construim Europa" (PACE) disagreed with its non-inclusion in the list of political parties entitled to participate in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 and challenged it. The action, however, was not examined on the merits, being declared inadmissible on procedural grounds, namely for non-payment of the stamp duty. Consequently, the court did not rule on whether the non-inclusion of PACE in the list of parties entitled to participate in the elections was well-founded.

The PACE case brings back into discussion the legal mechanism by which the list of parties entitled to participate in elections is established. On the one hand, it aims to verify parties' compliance with their record-keeping and reporting obligations and can help identify formations that no longer carry out any actual activity. On the other hand, the legal effect of the mechanism is harsh, since failure to meet certain reporting obligations may lead directly to a party not being included in the list of formations entitled to participate in the elections, thus barring its access to the subsequent stages required for registration and effective participation in the electoral competition.

This issue is not new. In the context of the 2025 parliamentary elections, the constitutionality of the text "are not entitled to participate in elections" in Art. 11 para. (7) of Law No. 294/2007 was challenged, calling into question the proportionality of the prohibition in relation to the failure to meet reporting obligations. Although the Constitutional Court declared the application inadmissible, it addressed the nature of the measure, holding that the obligation to notify information on the members of the party's governing bodies is not an excessive burden and is justified by the need to ensure the transparency and accountability of political parties. The Court also considered that failure to submit the information is an objective situation, and that the prohibition on participating in elections is the result of a balancing exercise carried out by the legislator between the protected social interest and the seriousness of the act.

The 2025 situation described above has elements comparable to the PACE case, since in both cases the legal consequence derives from the failure to submit the information provided for in Art. 11 para. (5) letter b) of Law No. 294/2007. This precedent highlights the sensitive nature of the mechanism for establishing the list of parties entitled to participate in elections, which lies at the intersection between

the need to comply with legal reporting obligations and the guarantee of parties' effective participation in the electoral process.

At the same time, we recall that the Venice Commission, in Opinion CDL-AD(2026)007 on Law No. 100/2025,⁵⁸ expressed reservations about the scope of the obligations to transmit data from party membership registers to the authorities and stressed that *“any restrictions imposed on political parties must be proportionate and constitute the least intrusive means of achieving the aim pursued”* (§ 57). These considerations are also relevant for assessing the mechanism for establishing the list of parties entitled to participate in elections, insofar as failure to meet a reporting obligation may prevent a party from accessing the subsequent stages of the electoral process.

⁵⁸ [Venice Commission Opinion CDL-AD\(2026\)007](#), Republic of Moldova – Opinion on Law no. 100/2025 containing a set of legislative amendments aiming to combat electoral corruption, adopted at the 146th Plenary Session, Venice, 6–7 March 2026.

III. ELECTORAL BODIES

3.1. Responsibilities of electoral bodies in organising the regional elections

The regional elections of 15 November 2026 are the first elections to the People's Assembly and for the office of Governor (Bashkan) organised under Electoral Code No. 325 of 8 December 2022. They are also the first regional elections held within the unified system of electoral bodies, with the involvement of the Central Electoral Commission (CEC) in supervising the organisation and conduct of the electoral process.

Under Art. 17 of the Electoral Code, the system of electoral bodies consists of:

- a) the Central Electoral Commission;
- b) second-level and first-level district electoral councils;
- c) precinct electoral bureaus;
- d) the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia.

In regional elections, the CECG is an integral part of the national system of electoral bodies and exercises the powers of the central electoral body for the organisation and conduct of the elections to the People's Assembly and for the office of Governor (Bashkan). In parliamentary, presidential and local elections, the CECG exercises the powers of a second-level district electoral council.

The competences of the CEC and the mechanism for establishing and operating the CECG were finalised following Constitutional Court Judgment No. 8 of 9 July 2026 and the adoption of Law No. 192 of 25 August 2026 amending Electoral Code No. 325/2022 (see the section "Legal Framework"). Under the new provisions, the CEC assists and supervises the organisation and conduct of regional elections, while the CECG is responsible for the direct administration of the electoral process at regional level.

In the elections of 15 November 2026, the CECG is responsible for establishing the electoral constituencies and the first-level district electoral councils (DEC I), the polling stations and their precinct electoral bureaus (PEBs), and for coordinating the activity of lower-level electoral bodies. The CECG also exercises the powers provided for by the Electoral Code concerning the registration of candidates for the election of the Governor (Bashkan), the organisation of voting, the resolution of complaints, etc., within the limits of the competences established by law.

At the same time, another new element is the mechanism for establishing the CECG, adjusted to the rules applicable to electoral bodies in the national system, including through the participation of representatives of parliamentary political parties. When the CECG was established for the elections of 15 November 2026, all parliamentary political parties appointed members,⁵⁹ which reflects increased interest on the part of the national political class in the organisation and conduct of the regional elections.

At the same time, under the Electoral Code, the CEC is the hierarchically superior electoral body that assists and supervises the organisation and conduct of regional elections and issues decisions on the actions carried out. The role of the CEC became even more important with the addition of a new paragraph (12) to Art. 91 of the Electoral Code, which provides, among other things, that higher-level electoral bodies may, ex officio, examine the legality of administrative acts, actions or inactions of hierarchically lower electoral bodies where there are sufficient factual circumstances to establish a serious deviation liable to substantially affect the exercise of the right to vote or the right to be elected, the equal opportunities of electoral competitors, the secrecy of the vote, the vote count or the determination of election results.

3.2. Activity of the Central Electoral Commission and the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training

CEC activity. The entry into force, on 26 August 2026, of the amendments to Electoral Code No. 325/2022⁶⁰ in the context of implementing the Constitutional Court Judgment of 9 July 2026 reduced the time available for preparing the regional elections. Nevertheless, the CEC approved the decisions

⁵⁹ [CEC Decision No. 4731](#) on the establishment of the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia (in Romanian)

⁶⁰ [Law No. 192](#) of 25.08.2026 amending Electoral Code No. 325/2022.

relevant to the organisation and conduct of the regional elections within the deadlines set by the legal framework, including the calendar programmes for the two elections.^{61 62}

According to the findings of Promo-LEX EOM, during the reporting period the CEC adopted 19 decisions relevant to the elections to the People's Assembly and 21 for the election of the Governor (Bashkan), some of them concerning both elections. The decisions concerned, among other things, the approval of the calendar programmes, the establishment of the CECG, the specific arrangements for organising and conducting the elections, the authorisation of opinion polls, etc. Adjusting the CEC's regulatory framework to the new legal provisions on regional elections was another concern of the CEC during the monitored period.

The CEC also set the date of the election of the Governor (Bashkan), as the People's Assembly did not exercise this power. This highlights the role of the CEC in ensuring the continuity of the electoral process given the institutional particularities of the autonomy.

In terms of transparency, CEC decisions were published within the regulatory deadlines on the institution's official website, both in the general section dedicated to decisions and in the special sections devoted to the regional elections of 15 November 2026. CEC sittings were public and streamed online. The institution also informed the public and stakeholders through press releases on the main stages and aspects of the organisation of the elections. The CEC also held information and dialogue sessions in Comrat on the organisation and conduct of the regional elections of 15 November 2026.⁶³

Certification of electoral officials. The certification of electoral officials by the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training (CICDE) is an important component of election preparations, including in terms of ensuring the staff needed by electoral bodies at all levels.

According to the CICDE, in 2026, since the start of the certification session, 95 examinations have been held, attended by 1,717 persons, with a pass rate of 82.62%.⁶⁴ However, the general data published by the institution are not disaggregated by second-level administrative-territorial unit and therefore do not allow a direct assessment of the number of certified persons available for establishing electoral bodies in ATU Gagauzia. In this context, the availability of electoral officials for establishing and operating the precinct electoral bureaus in ATU Gagauzia remains an issue that requires continued monitoring by the CEC and the CICDE.

With regard to the monitored period, according to information published by the CICDE, 14 certification examinations were held in August–September 2026, including one in Comrat and six online. Another 16 examinations were planned for the period October – 6 November 2026, of which two in Comrat and five online.⁶⁵

In addition, on 17 September 2026, the CICDE started training the electoral officials involved in organising the regional elections.⁶⁶ The first training was for CECG members and was held in Comrat; subsequently, on 26–27 September, training seminars were held for the members of the three first-level DEC's in Comrat, Ceadr-Lunga and Vulcănești.

3.3. Activity of the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia

The Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia (CECG) was established on 15 September 2026⁶⁷ by CEC decision. The CECG is a collegial body which, under the law (Art. 36 para. (1) of the Electoral Code), should consist of an odd number of members, at least 7 and at most 11. Two members are appointed by the

⁶¹ [CEC Decision No. 4695](#) approving the Calendar Programme for organising and conducting the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

⁶² [CEC Decision No. 4703](#) approving the Calendar Programme for organising and conducting the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian)

⁶³ [CEC press release](#). The CEC in dialogue with electoral actors in ATU Gagauzia ahead of the regional elections of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian). [CEC press release](#). Campaign finance, complaints and representation of electoral competitors discussed at a seminar in Comrat (in Romanian).

⁶⁴ [CICDE press release](#). Summary of examinations, 28 September – 4 October, Certification, 2026 session (in Romanian).

⁶⁵ [Schedule](#) of certification examinations for training/specialisation in the electoral field in the 2026 session, as subsequently amended and supplemented (in Romanian).

⁶⁶ [The CICDE launched the training](#) of electoral officials and other actors involved in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia and the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia, set for 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

⁶⁷ [CEC Decision No. 4731](#) of 15.09.2026 on the establishment of the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia (in Romanian).

People's Assembly of Gagauzia, two by the Comrat Court and one by each political party or electoral bloc whose parliamentary mandates have been validated by Constitutional Court judgment.

At the same time, under Art. 245 para. (6) of the Electoral Code, the provisions on the appointment of CECG members containing the wording "each political party or electoral bloc whose parliamentary mandates have been validated by Constitutional Court judgment" will enter into force after the next parliamentary elections. Until these provisions enter into force, Art. 245 para. (7) of the Electoral Code allows a derogation from the maximum number of members set for the CECG, so that nominees of all 9 parties currently represented in Parliament may join the electoral body.

Moreover, under Art. 36 para. (10) of the Electoral Code, if the mandate of the CECG chairperson ends early, the CEC decides who will act as interim chairperson until the office is filled by another person.

Thus, the CECG for the regional elections of 15 November 2026 was established in the context of adjusting the mechanism for forming the electoral body to the national system. By reading these rules together, the CEC found that the legal conditions for establishing the CECG with 15 members were met. Under the CEC decision, for the electoral period of the regional elections of 15 November 2026, Svetlana Colesnic (chairperson of DEC II Bălți) will act as interim chairperson of the CECG⁶⁸. The interim arrangement is provided for by Art. 36 para. (10) of the Electoral Code, which stipulates that if the mandate of the CECG chairperson ends early, the interim chairperson is appointed by CEC decision until the office is filled by another person.

In terms of functioning, the CECG was operational and carried out the activities related to the preparation of the elections in line with the calendar programmes. The authority approved 43 decisions concerning, among other things: the establishment of single-member electoral constituencies and first-level district electoral councils, the registration of electoral competitors for the election of the Governor (Bashkan), the accreditation of observers, the establishment of polling stations, the examination of complaints, etc.

In terms of transparency, information on the CECG's activity was published on the CEC website (in the section dedicated to regional elections) and on the CECG website. However, the official CECG webpage (<https://cece.cec.md/ro/regions/uta-gagauzia>) became operational during the electoral period, with information available from 29 September 2026. Promo-LEX observers had access to the electoral documentation.

The composition of the CECG is gender-balanced: seven members are men and eight are women. Both the chairperson and the secretary are women.

As regards working conditions, the CECG initially did not have permanent premises and changed its temporary location during the electoral period, subsequently establishing permanent premises for its activity.⁶⁹ According to the observers, the current premises are located on the ground floor and are accessible to persons with locomotor disabilities.

Accreditation of observers. During the monitored period, the CECG accredited 56 observers from Promo-LEX Association.⁷⁰ No refusals of accreditation were recorded.

3.4. Activity of the first-level district electoral councils

The three first-level district electoral councils (DEC I) were established by the CECG within the legal deadlines.⁷¹ Their powers concern mainly the organisation and conduct of the elections to the People's Assembly of ATU Gagauzia, including the registration of candidates and the tabulation of voting results.

Although the establishing decisions provided for 11 members each, each of the three councils was composed of 10 persons. In total, the three DEC I have 30 appointed members, of whom only five are

⁶⁸ [CEC Decision No. 4764](#) of 02.10.2026 amending Central Electoral Commission Decision No. 4731/2026 "On the establishment of the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia" (in Romanian).

⁶⁹ [CECG Decision No. 11](#) amending point 2 of Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia Decision No. 1/2026 and point 1 of Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia Decision No. 6/2026.

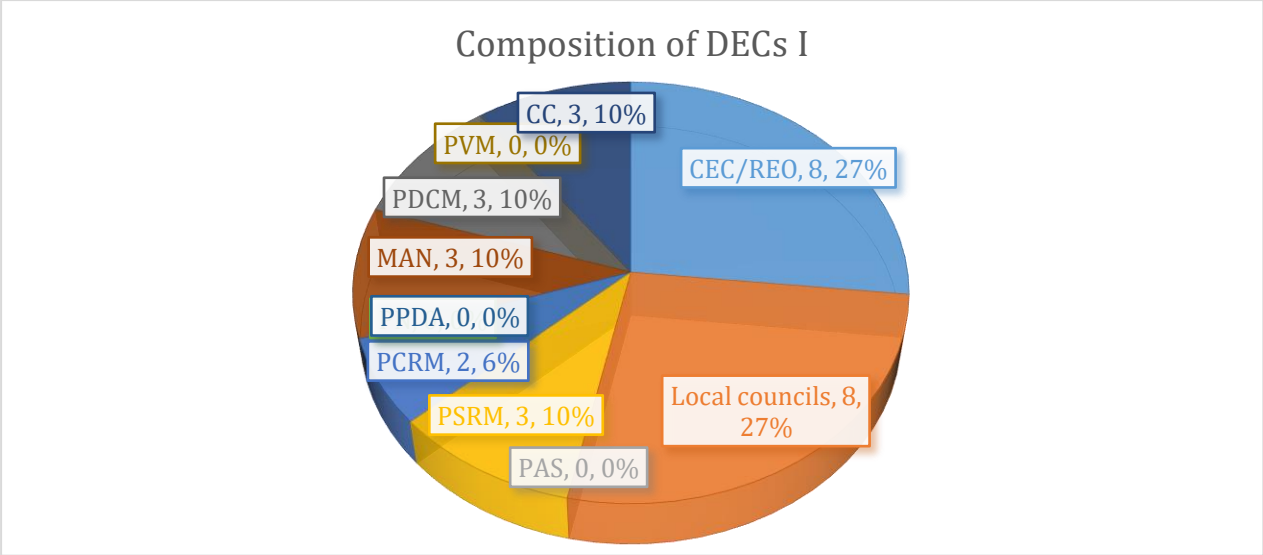
⁷⁰ [CECG Decision No. 9](#) of 22 September 2026 on the application for the accreditation of national observers from the Public Association "Promo-LEX" to monitor the regional elections of 15 November 2026.

⁷¹ [CECG Decision No. 12](#) of 24 September 2026 on the establishment of the Comrat District Electoral Council No. 1; [CECG Decision No. 13](#) of 24 September 2026 on the establishment of the Ceadâr-Lunga District Electoral Council No. 2; [Decision No. 14](#) of 24 September 2026 on the establishment of the Vulcănești District Electoral Council No. 3.

men, i.e. about 17%. At the same time, the leadership positions (chairperson and secretary) of all three councils are held by women.

In terms of the appointing entities, 14 of the 30 members come from political parties: PSRM, MAN, PDCM and CC – three members each, and PCRM – two. Local councils and the CEC, through the Register of Electoral Officials (REO), appointed eight members each. Four parliamentary parties – PAS, PN, PVM and PPDA – did not appoint members to the DEC I.

Chart No. 1



At the time of the observers’ visits, all three councils were complying with their working schedule. Promo-LEX observers had access to their electoral documentation.

As regards the accessibility of premises, the findings of Promo-LEX EOM point to shortcomings. Of the three councils, only the premises of DEC I Comrat were accessible to persons with locomotor disabilities. Moreover, the premises of DEC I Ceadr-Lunga are not located on the ground floor, which makes access even more difficult. These findings highlight the need to ensure adequate access conditions for persons with reduced mobility at the premises of electoral bodies.

3.5. Management of the State Register of Voters

The quality of voter lists has been a constant concern in previous regional elections in ATU Gagauzia.⁷² In the past, under the normative acts of ATU Gagauzia, responsibility for drawing up the voter lists for the elections to the People’s Assembly and for the office of Governor (Bashkan) lay with the mayors of the localities of the autonomy. Promo-LEX observers also reported a number of incidents on election day in the 2023 election of the Governor (Bashkan) concerning the inclusion/non-inclusion of voters in the lists.

Table No. 1. Evolution of the number of voters according to the lists approved by the local authorities of ATUG (2016–2023)

Number of voters, ATUG	People’s Assembly elections, 2016	Governor elections, 2019	People’s Assembly elections, 2021	Governor elections, 2023
	122 251	106 306	113 940	92 563

In particular, the sharp drop in the number of voters included in the main lists for the 2023 election of the Governor raises questions about the criteria and rules used by local authorities in drawing them up. This trend highlighted the need for clear, uniform and verifiable criteria for drawing up and updating

⁷² [Pilgrim-Demo](#), Election Observation Mission Elections to the People’s Assembly of Gagauzia 19 September 2021. Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions.

voter lists, so that the number of registered voters objectively reflects the available data and does not depend on insufficiently transparent administrative practices.

The use of the State Register of Voters (SRV) to generate voter lists is a major change from previous practice and creates the preconditions for reducing the problems identified. The effects of this mechanism on the quality of voter lists, however, will have to be assessed on the basis of the findings from the electoral period and, in particular, from election day.

The CEC continued to publish monthly data on the number of voters included in the SRV, ensuring public access to the relevant statistics (see Table No. 2). Over the last three years, we note a relatively stable trend in the number of voters in ATUG, in line with the general trend of a slight increase in the number of voters nationwide.

Table No. 2. Evolution of the number of voters in ATUG according to the SRV

Number of voters, ATUG	October 2023	October 2024	October 2025	August 2026	October 2026
	129 432 ⁷³	126 115 ⁷⁴	127 359 ⁷⁵	129 041 ⁷⁶	129 613 ⁷⁷

The CEC also published data on the distribution of voters across the 35 single-member electoral constituencies⁷⁸ for the elections to the People's Assembly (see Annex No. 1). The SRV data show considerable differences between constituencies: the number of voters ranges from 402 in Carbalia constituency No. 23 to 6,847 in Baurci constituency No. 12.

We recall that, under the legislation in force, these elections to the People's Assembly are the last to be organised on the basis of majoritarian single-member constituencies. Under Art. II para. (2) of Law No. 192 amending the Electoral Code,⁷⁹ by way of derogation from the provisions of the Electoral Code, in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 the number of members is determined according to the criteria set out in Art. 8 para. (2) of the Law on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz-Yeri),⁸⁰ which provides for the requirement of "one member per 5 thousand voters, provided that each locality has at least one member". In other words, the current elections are held on the basis of the same constituencies that have existed since the first elections to the People's Assembly.

In practice, the constituencies in the same locality do not always have more than 5 thousand voters. For example, all three constituencies in Vulcănești are below the 5 thousand threshold.

We also find that this distribution of voters across constituencies seriously affects the principle of "equal voting power" established by the Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters.⁸¹ Consequently, the number of voters per seat differs significantly from one constituency to another, which means that voters' votes carry different weight in the election of representatives to the People's Assembly.

In this context, the transition to the proportional electoral system from the 2030 elections for the new composition of the People's Assembly could help ensure fairer representation of voters and reduce the discrepancies generated by their distribution across single-member constituencies. At the same time, the effective application of this system requires creating favourable conditions for the participation of political parties in the public and electoral life of the region. In this regard, a more active and consistent involvement of political parties in ATU Gagauzia, including by strengthening their territorial structures and developing a stable political presence, will help prepare the context needed for the effective and organic implementation of the proportional system in the next elections to the People's Assembly.

⁷³ [CEC press release](#). The number of voters included in the SRV as of 2 October 2023 is 3,302,399 (in Romanian).

⁷⁴ [CEC press release](#). The number of voters registered in the SRV as of 2 October 2024 is 3,302,142 (in Romanian).

⁷⁵ [CEC press release](#). The number of voters registered in the SRV as of 1 October 2025 is 3,300,086 (in Romanian).

⁷⁶ [CEC press release](#). The number of voters registered in the SRV as of 3 August 2026 is 3,305,709 (in Romanian).

⁷⁷ [CEC press release](#). The number of voters registered in the SRV as of 1 October 2026 is 3,306,682 (in Romanian).

⁷⁸ [CEC press release](#). The CEC presents updated data on the number of voters in ATU Gagauzia (in Romanian).

⁷⁹ [Law No. 192](#) of 25.08.2026 amending Electoral Code No. 325/2022.

⁸⁰ [Law No. 344](#) of 23.12.1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz-Yeri).

⁸¹ [Code of Good Practice](#) in Electoral Matters. Guidelines and Explanatory Report. Adopted by the European Commission for Democracy through Law at its 52nd Plenary Session (Venice, 18–19 October 2002). Paras. 13–15.

IV. NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES

4.1. Political entities entitled to participate in the regional elections

According to CEC Decision No. 4697 of 28.08.2026⁸² and CEC Decision No. 4706 of 04.09.2026⁸³ (amended by Decision 4739), only 38 of the 66 registered political parties are entitled to participate in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia and, accordingly, for the office of Governor of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026. According to the Public Services Agency (hereinafter PSA), these parties submitted the information provided for in Art. 11 para. (5) of Law No. 294/2007 on Political Parties, and their activity is not restricted and/or terminated. However, only six of them exercised this right by nominating candidates. The ruling party, the Party of Action and Solidarity, did not nominate candidates either for the office of Governor or for the People's Assembly.

At the same time, we recall that of the 66 registered political parties, according to the PSA website, the list of political parties submitted to the CEC and the websites of the courts:

- 7 parties have been dissolved – the Party “United Moldova” – “Единая Молдова”, the Conservative Party; the Party of Regions of Moldova; the Political Party “Şansă”, PP “Renaştere”, PP “Forţa de Alternativă şi de Salvare a Moldovei”; PP “Victorie”;⁸⁴
- The activity of three parties is restricted – the Political Party “MOLDOVA MARE”; PP Modern Democratic Party of Moldova (activity restricted until 08.10.2026); PP Republican Party “Inima Moldovei” (activity restricted until 24.09.2026);
- 24 parties did not submit the numerical and nominal list of members of the political party who fall under Art. 3 para. (1) letter e5) of the Law on the Declaration of Assets and Personal Interests.

One political party,⁸⁵ which according to the CEC Decision would not be entitled to participate in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia, expressed its disagreement with the decision, since no sanction had been applied to it by the CEC. It challenged CEC Decision 4697/2026 in court, but the action was declared inadmissible. At the same time, the party's vice-chairperson and 15 other members submitted requests to leave the party, stating that they were obliged to do so in order to run as independents in the regional elections, given the deadline of 70 days before election day.⁸⁶

4.2. Nomination and registration of candidates for the People's Assembly of Gagauzia

Under Art. II of Law No. 192/2026, in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026, members are elected in single-member electoral constituencies. At the same time, under Art. 8 para. (3) of Law No. 344/1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia (Gagauz-Yeri), a citizen of the Republic of Moldova who has reached the age of 21 and, at the time of the elections, lives in the territory of the territorial constituency (locality) he or she will represent may be a member of the People's Assembly.

Candidates are nominated after the establishment of the three district electoral councils, which are set up at least 50 days before election day (26 September). A political party and/or electoral bloc may nominate one candidate for each single-member constituency.

In the elections of members of the PAG, a total of 138 candidates were nominated. Of these, only 43 (31%) were nominated by five political parties (PSRM – 23; PPG – 9; PPAM – 7; PPȚ – 2; MAN – 2). The other 95 candidates ran independently, collecting signatures in their support.

⁸² CEC Decision No. [4697](#) of 28.08.2026 on the list of political parties entitled to participate in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian)

⁸³ CEC Decision No. [4706](#) of 04.09.2026 on the list of political parties entitled to participate in the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian)

⁸⁴ By the Decision of the Centre Court of Appeal of [22 July 2026](#), the court ordered the dissolution of the political party “Şansă”, and by the Decision of the Centre Court of Appeal of [22 July 2026](#), the court ordered the dissolution of PP “Renaştere”, PP “Şansă”, PP “Forţa de Alternativă şi de Salvare a Moldovei” and PP “Victorie”, finding that they were successor political parties of PP Şor (in Romanian).

⁸⁵ [PACE press release](#) of 28.08.2026 (in Romanian)

⁸⁶ V. Gaidarji's [request](#) to leave PACE of 4 September 2026. PACE [press release](#) of 4 September 2026 (in Romanian).

4.2.1. Collection and verification of ICs' signature lists

Under Art. II para. (17) of Law No. 192/2026, a citizen of the Republic of Moldova may run as an independent candidate for election to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia if supported by 1% of the number of voters in the constituency, but not fewer than 100 persons, and in the case of a woman candidate – not fewer than 50 persons. By way of derogation from this provision, if there are fewer than 500 voters in the electoral constituency concerned, the independent candidate shall submit to the district electoral council signature lists with at least 50 signatures.

Independent candidates collected between 58 and 150 signatures each. Although the law provides a lower signature threshold for women candidates than for men, only 13 women (13.68% of all independent candidates) ran independently in the elections of 15 November.

Most independent candidates collected signatures on their own, without registering initiative groups. In the absence of a decision registering an IG and of any mention of the date on which the signature lists were issued in the decisions registering the ICs,⁸⁷ the period in which the signatures were collected cannot be determined. In this regard, Promo-LEX EOM recommends expressly including the date of issue of the signature lists in the electoral bodies' decisions on applications for the registration of independent candidates.

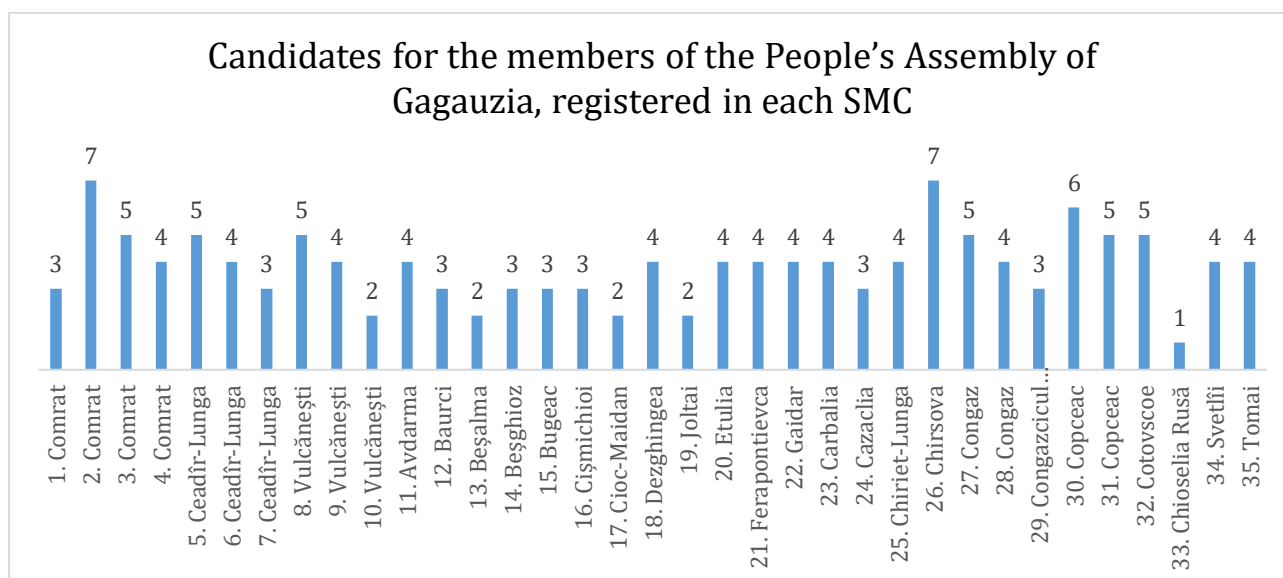
Having verified the signature lists collected by independent candidates, the district electoral councils found between 78% and 98% of the signatures valid. The only exception was one case in which the number of validated signatures fell below the minimum threshold, with only 62% of signatures validated (IC Fiodor Dobrov – SMC 4 Comrat). Thus, most independent candidates managed to collect a sufficient number of signatures to be registered.

4.2.2. Registration of candidates for member of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia

In the elections to the People's Assembly, 92 independent candidates and 43 candidates nominated by political parties (PSRM – 23; PPG – 9; PPAM – 7; PPT – 2; MAN – 2) were registered in the 35 constituencies. Of all registered candidates, 23 are women (17%) and 112 are men (83%).

The largest number of candidates registered in SMC 26 Chirsova – 7, SMC 2 Comrat – 7 and SMC 30 Copceac – 6. In other single-member constituencies, however, the elections of PAG members are not as competitive. In constituency No. 33 Chioselia Rusă only one candidate was nominated and registered, while in SMC No. 10 Vulcănești, 13 Beșalma, 17 Cioc-Maidan and 19 Joltai two persons each are running for the seat. The full list of registered candidates (as of 14 October 2026) is presented in *Annex 5*.

Chart No. 2



⁸⁷ For example: DEC 1 Comrat Decision [No. 9](#) of 04.10.2026 on the application of Mr Diulgher Grigori for registration as an independent candidate for Member of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia in Beșalma electoral constituency No. 13 and of his electoral symbol.

By comparison, we note that in the previous PAG elections of 2021, 123 candidates were registered, of whom 100 were independents and 23 were nominated by two political formations (the Bloc of Communists and Socialists and PACE). Thus, we find that about 10% more candidates registered in the 2026 elections, with an increasing presence of parties in the regional elections.

The electoral bodies issued decisions on the applications for registration of candidates within 4–7 days, which is within the deadline set by Art. 68 para. (5) of the Electoral Code (7 days from the date of receipt of the documents).

A total of 23 members (65.7% of all 35) of the 7th Legislature of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia are running for a new mandate.

Under point 2.3 of CEC Decision No. 4722 of 11.09.2026,⁸⁸ a person may run for Member of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia in a single electoral constituency and at the same time for the office of Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia.

In the elections of 15 November 2026, the following candidates for Governor of Gagauzia are also running for Member of the PAG:

- IC Cornel Dudnic – SMC 9 Vulcănești;
- IC Oleg Garizan – SMC 30 Copceac;
- Ivan Cîlcic (PPG) – SMC 3 Comrat.

Although the legislation allows a person to run for both offices, we draw attention to the fact that if one and the same person wins both a seat in the PAG and the office of Governor, a new election would have to be held, either in the single-member constituency or in the entire autonomy. This situation arises both from holding the elections on the same day and from the single-member electoral system for electing the representative body.

In local elections, such situations do not occur, owing to the application of the proportional system for electing local councils. At the same time, Art. 52 of the Electoral Code provides for the obligation to reimburse expenses borne by the state budget if circumstances arise that lead to the termination of the mandate of the Governor of Gagauzia or of a mayor before the expiry of 12 months from the date of adoption of the decision validating the mandate. We point out that the application of this provision requires validation of the mandate, whereas the choice between the two offices is usually made before the mandate is validated.

The requirement of domicile/residence in the territory of the constituency in which a candidate for Member of the PAG runs. In one case (IC Ivan Burgudji), the candidate applied for registration in SMC 25 Chiriet-Lunga; during the registration procedure, the electoral body found that he had had his domicile in Chiriet-Lunga village since 20 July 2019, but also temporary residence in Comrat municipality (for 05.05.2026–05.05.2027). In another case (Dmitri Capsamun, nominated by the PPG), the candidate established his domicile in the locality for which he had been nominated – Dezghingea – on 7 October, after submitting his registration documents.

While Law 344/1994 on the Special Legal Status of Gagauzia provides in Art. 8 para. (3) that a citizen who, **at the time of the elections lives** in the territory of the territorial constituency (locality) he or she will represent may be a member, Law 192/2026 provides in Art. II para. (10) that a candidate may be registered only in the electoral constituency corresponding to the locality in which **he or she has his or her domicile or residence**.

These provisions reflect the legislator's clear intention to link the candidate to his or her usual place of living, so as to ensure the representation of the constituency in the PAG. Promo-LEX EOM notes, however, that these rules, on the one hand, set different moments at which domicile/residence is established (either at registration or on election day) and, on the other hand, do not clarify situations in which a candidate has a domicile and a residence in different constituencies. In this regard, we consider it necessary to harmonise the rules and conditions for registering candidates for Member of the PAG, as well as to clarify situations involving simultaneous domicile and residence in different constituencies.

⁸⁸ CEC Decision No. 4722 of 11.09.2026 on certain specific arrangements for organising and conducting the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia and the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian)

In the above cases, the electoral bodies found that the registration conditions were met: IC I. Burgudji cancelled the registration of his temporary residence in Comrat municipality before the sitting of DEC 2 Ceadr-Lunga,⁸⁹ and candidate D. Capsamun established his domicile after the day on which he submitted his registration documents.⁹⁰

4.2.3. Refusal to register candidates for member of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia

The electoral bodies adopted 3 decisions refusing the registration of candidates:

1. DEC 3 Vulcănești refused to register V. Gaidarji as an independent candidate for failure to meet the conditions provided for in Art. 1 of the Electoral Code and point 6.3 of the Regulation on the Nomination and Registration of Candidates in the Elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia,⁹¹ namely because he was identified as a member of the National Political Council of PACE according to the data in the party's record file at the PSA. This was despite the fact that V. Gaidarji had registered his request to leave the political party as early as 04.09.2026.

Promo-LEX EOM considers that a person's right of association includes both the right to join a party and the right to leave a political party, and that the conditions for leaving a political party should not be excessive administrative barriers preventing the person from running in elections. For more details, see the section *Electoral Complaints*.

2. DEC 1 Comrat refused to register F. Dobrov⁹² as an independent candidate in SMC 4 Comrat because the number of valid signatures fell below the legal minimum for the registration of an independent candidate, contrary to Arts. 67, 68 para. (11) and 164 para. (3) of the Electoral Code. The applicant had collected 140 signatures, but after verification of the signature lists only 88 signatures were found valid, while SMC 4 Comrat requires a minimum of 100 valid signatures.
3. DEC 2 Ceadr-Lunga refused to register G. Chiurcciu⁹³ in SMC 25 Chiriet-Lunga for failure to meet the conditions for running as an independent, as he was found to be a member of the PSRM. According to data obtained by the electoral bodies from both the PSA and the PSRM, G. Chiurcciu is a party member and there is no record or request to renounce or suspend his membership.

4.3. Nomination and registration of candidates for the Office of Governor of Gagauzia

Under Art. 161 para. (4) of the Electoral Code, the right to be elected to the office of Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia belongs to citizens of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote who have reached the age of 35, including on election day, have lived or live in the autonomous territorial unit of Gagauzia for at least 10 years, know the Gagauz and Romanian languages and meet the conditions provided for by the Electoral Code.

For the election of the Governor of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026, eight candidates were nominated, three of them by political parties (PSRM, PPG, NOI) and five self-nominated.

Under Art. 164 paras. (1²)–(1⁵) of the Electoral Code, a citizen of the Republic of Moldova may run as an independent candidate for the office of Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia if supported by 1% of the number of voters in ATU Gagauzia, but not fewer than 1,500 persons from at least half of the localities of ATU Gagauzia, i.e. from at least 13 first-level ATUs. Only first-level administrative-territorial units in which at least 40 signatures have been collected are taken into account. By way of derogation, a woman may run as an independent candidate for the office of Governor if supported by 0.5% of the number of voters in the constituency, but not fewer than 750 persons.

⁸⁹ DEC 2 Ceadr-Lunga Decision No. 54 of 12.10.2026

⁹⁰ DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 75 of 12.10.2026

⁹¹ Regulation on the Nomination and Registration of Candidates in the Elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia, approved by CEC Decision No. 4729/2026 (in Romanian).

⁹² DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 60 of 09.10.2026

⁹³ DEC 2 Ceadr-Lunga Decision No. 50 of 12.10.2026

4.3.1. Collection and verification of signature lists

Between 22 and 30 September, six initiative groups were registered to support independent candidates for Governor, but only five completed the signature collection process. In the case of Petru Vlah, six days after the registration of the initiative group, he applied for the cancellation of the group's registration, and the request was granted by the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia.⁹⁴

The initiative groups collected the required signatures within 5–7 days. However, given that the number of initiative group members varied significantly, Promo-LEX EOM notes that the members of O. Garizan's IG collected signatures the fastest, with an average of approx. 24 signatures per IG member per day.

The members of I. Koksai's IG took the most time, averaging approx. 10 signatures per IG member per day. This may also explain the high validation rate of the signatures collected – 94.6% (see the table below).

Table No. 3. Number of signatures collected

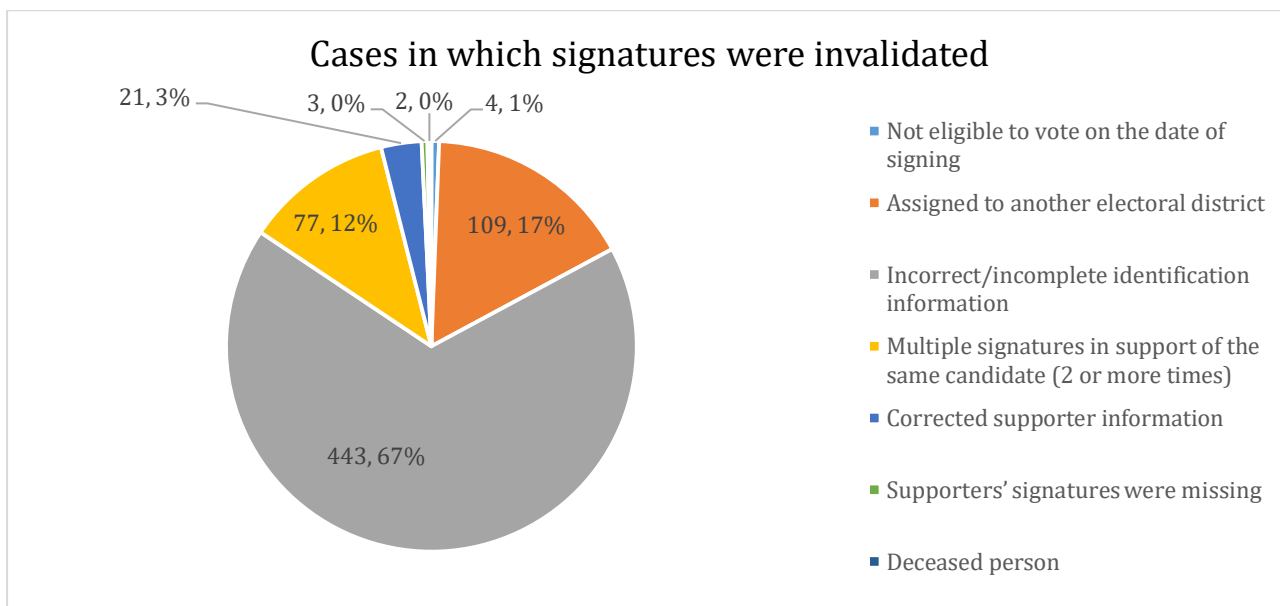
No.	Applicant	CECG decision registering the IG	No. of IG members	Date of submission of signature lists	No. of signatures submitted	No. of localities with min. 40 signatures collected	Signatures validated	
							No.	%
1.	Cornel Dudnic	No. 8 of 22.09.2026	24	28.09.2026	2,143	13	1,646	76,8
2.	Alexandr Stoianoglo	No. 10 of 23.09.2026	39	28.09.2026	2,250	22	2,023	89,9
3.	Petru Vlah	No. 16 of 25.09.2026	39	01.10.2026 – cancellation of the IG	-	-	-	-
4.	Oleg Garizan	No. 22 of 29.09.2026	13	06.10.2026	2,251	20	1,985	88,1
5.	Ivanna Koksai	No. 23 of 30.09.2026	22	05.10.2026	1,126	17	1,066	94,6
6.	Serghei Anastasov	No. 25 of 30.09.2026	20	06.10.2026	1,907	18	1,689	88,5

At the other end, in the case of C. Dudnic the largest number of signature lists was invalidated – 12 lists, mostly because they had been filled in incorrectly.

According to the information notes on the results of the verification of signature lists, the most frequent error for which supporters' signatures were invalidated was the entry of incorrect identity data that did not allow the supporters to be identified (67% of cases).

Chart No. 3

⁹⁴ CECG Decision No. [27](#) of 01.10.2026 on the cancellation of the initiative group supporting Mr Petru Vlah, candidate for Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia

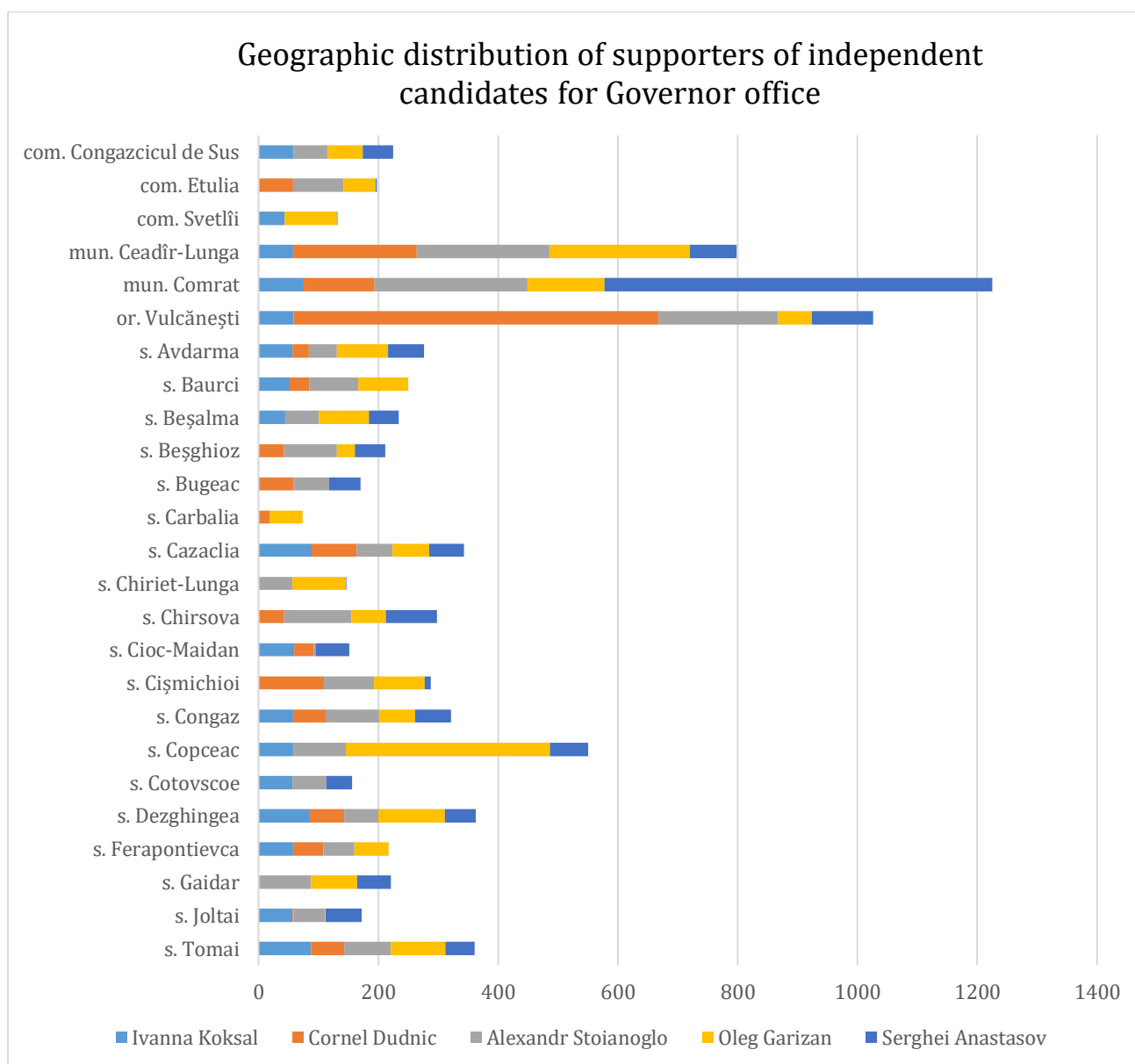


Analysing the territorial distribution of supporters of the applicants for the office of Governor, Promo-LEX EOM notes that most signatures were collected in the three district centres: Comrat, Ceadâr-Lunga and Vulcăneşti. At the same time, in the case of three applicants, signatures were concentrated in certain localities. Thus:

- most signatures in support of S. Anastasov were collected in Comrat municipality (647 of 1,689), where he is also the mayor;
- most signatures in support of C. Dudnic were collected in Vulcăneşti town (609 of 1,646);
- most signatures in support of O. Garizan were collected in Copceac village (341 of 1,985), where he is also the mayor (see Chart 4).

In this context, in order to prevent the use of administrative resources, we recommend amending Art. 16 para. (3) of the Electoral Code to include an obligation for candidates to suspend their activity during the signature collection period.

Chart No. 4



4.3.2. Registration of candidates for the Office of Governor of Gagauzia

Eight candidates were registered for the election of the Governor: three nominated by the political parties PSRM, PPG and NOI, and five independent candidates.

Table No. 4. Candidates registered for the office of Governor of Gagauzia.

No.	Candidates	Political formation	Status	CECG decision
1.	Cornel Dudnic	IC	Registered	No. 29 of 05.10.2026
2.	Alexandr Stoianoglo	IC	Registered	No. 28 of 05.10.2026
3.	Fiodor Gagauz	PSRM	Registered	No. 26 of 01.10.2026
4.	Ivan Cîlcic	PPG	Registered	No. 30 of 07.10.2026
5.	Oleg Garizan	IC	Registered	No. 40 of 12.10.2026
6.	Ivanna Koksall	IC	Registered	No. 38 of 12.10.2026
7.	Serghei Anastasov	IC	Registered	No. 39 of 12.10.2026
8.	Petru Vlah	PP NOI	Registered	No. 35 of 09.10.2026

Of the eight candidates, only one is a woman, even though lower signature thresholds apply to women independent candidates for Governor, as they do to women candidates for Member of the PAG. The number of candidates for Governor in 2026 is the same as in 2023, with a single woman among the candidates.

Although the requirement of knowledge of the Romanian language was challenged by some electoral competitors, including through a request for constitutional review of the legal provision, no candidate was refused registration, and the members of the electoral body had no divergent opinions on whether the criterion of knowledge of the Romanian and Gagauz languages was met. Under point 2.2 of CEC Decision No. 4722 of 11.09.2026,⁹⁵ compliance with the criterion of knowledge of the Romanian and Gagauz languages was attested by the candidate filling in a handwritten declaration in both languages and by a conversation between the candidate and representatives of the electoral body.

⁹⁵ CEC Decision No. [4722](#) of 11.09.2026 on certain specific arrangements for organising and conducting the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia and the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian)

V. ELECTORAL COMPLAINTS

5.1. Petitions and complaints submitted to electoral bodies

During the monitored period, *at least four petitions/complaints* concerning the organisation of the regional elections to the People's Assembly and for the office of Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 were identified, based on publicly available information and documents/information collected by Promo-LEX EOM observers.

They concerned mainly alleged violations relating to electoral campaigning, the use of administrative resources, eligibility conditions and the registration of candidates. The petitions/complaints were submitted both to the district electoral councils and to the CECG, and the solutions adopted consisted of rejection as unfounded, a finding of inadmissibility or examination as petitions, without confirmation of the alleged violations.

The four petitions/complaints and the solutions adopted are presented in detail below:

1. On 6 October 2026, independent candidate Oleg Makedonski, registered in Svetli single-member electoral constituency No. 34, filed a complaint with the Electoral Council of Comrat electoral district No. 1 alleging improper electoral campaigning by independent candidate Valerii Kurkin. Video recordings were submitted in support of the complaint, with a request for a legal assessment of the candidate's actions. By Decision No. 36 of 7 October 2026, the electoral council rejected the complaint as unfounded. Having examined the video materials, the electoral body found that they contained no calls on voters to vote for Valerii Kurkin or for another electoral competitor and therefore did not meet the elements of electoral campaigning within the meaning of the Electoral Code.

2. On 7 October 2026, Liudmila Karadag, independent candidate for Member of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia, submitted a petition to the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia requesting a legal assessment of statements by the mayor of Ceadîr-Lunga municipality, Anatol Topal, broadcast on 2 October 2026 in a piece published by the "Laf md" channel. In the piece, the mayor spoke positively of Alexandr Stoianoglo, expressing his opinion on his qualities and his ability to unite the inhabitants of the autonomy. The author of the petition requested verification of whether there were elements of electoral campaigning or possible use of administrative resources, as well as of the lawfulness of the broadcast of the piece by the media service provider.

In its reply of 9 October 2026, the CECG classified the submission as a petition rather than an electoral complaint, on the grounds that the author had not indicated a violation of her own electoral right. The electoral authority also stated that, even if the submission were classified as a complaint, the three-day deadline for filing it would have been exceeded.

Examining the substance of the petition, the CECG found that Alexandr Stoianoglo was registered as an electoral competitor on 5 October 2026, while the contested statements were made on 2 October. Consequently, the electoral authority considered that they could be analysed at most as pre-electoral campaigning. The CECG also noted that the petition contained no evidence that the mayor had used working time, staff, financial means, property or information resources of the mayor's office. Finally, the CECG concluded that, within the limits of its competence, no violations of electoral legislation had been found.

Promo-LEX EOM notes that, although the CECG considered that insufficient evidence had been submitted regarding the use of administrative resources and that the contested statements preceded the candidate's registration, the electoral authority did not forward the petition to the police to verify whether the elements of the contraventions provided for in Art. 48¹ para. (7) and, where applicable, Art. 52 of the Contravention Code might be present. The lack of sufficient evidence for the electoral body to establish a violation does not exclude the need for the facts to be verified by the authority competent in contravention matters.

3. On 9 October 2026, Victor Şmidt submitted to the Electoral Council of Ceadîr-Lunga district No. 2 an application essentially challenging the eligibility of independent candidate Grigorii Cadîn, registered in electoral constituency No. 12 Baurci, alleging that his domicile was fictitious.

Previously, by Decision No. 23 of 6 October 2026, Grigorii Cadîn had been registered as an independent candidate after verification of the documents submitted and of the signature lists. In addition, the information obtained by the CEC from the competent institutions did not indicate any inconsistencies regarding the condition of domicile/residence in the territory of the autonomy.

The electoral body found that the applicant had not clearly indicated a specific electoral act that he was challenging, nor a violation of his own right. For these reasons, the part formulated as a complaint was declared inadmissible, and the information submitted was examined separately as a petition.

On the merits, the electoral council held that domicile is established according to the official data of the State Population Register and not by reference to where the person actually is. The materials submitted by the author of the petition, including the minutes of a court hearing from 2023, were not considered sufficient to overturn the official data and the checks carried out by the competent authorities.

4. On 8 October 2026, Valentin Gaidarji filed a complaint with the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia against Decision No. 18 of 7 October 2026 of the Electoral Council of Vulcănești electoral district No. 3, which had refused to register him as an independent candidate for Member of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia in Carbalia single-member electoral constituency No. 23. The complaint was filed within the legal deadline and examined on the merits by the CECG.

The refusal of registration was based on the fact that, according to information provided by the Public Services Agency, as of 2 October 2026, Gaidarji still appeared in the PACE record file as a member of the National Political Council. Under these circumstances, the district electoral body considered that the condition laid down in the notion of *independent candidate* in the Electoral Code was not met, according to which the person must not have been a member of a political party from 70 days before election day.

In his complaint, Gaidarji argued that on 4 September 2026, before 6 September, when the 70-day period began, he had submitted a written request to leave PACE and to resign from the position of party vice-chairperson. This manner of renouncing membership is provided for in Art. 7 para. (4) of Law No. 294/2007 on Political Parties, which allows a member to renounce membership by a written request addressed to the party or to the Public Services Agency. Subsequently, PACE confirmed that the withdrawal and the termination of the vice-chairperson position had been recorded in its internal records.

By Decision No. 43 of 12 October 2026,⁹⁶ the CECG rejected the complaint as unfounded. The electoral authority held that, for persons who are part of the central governing bodies of a political party, the special regime provided for in Art. 7 para. (5) of Law No. 294/2007 applies, under which the loss of the relevant status produces legal effects after the corresponding amendments have been registered by the PSA. In this regard, the authority distinguished between the expression of the will to withdraw and the moment when this withdrawal becomes enforceable against third parties.

Also relevant in this case is the PACE Statute,⁹⁷ according to which membership may end by resignation, and the party's vice-chairpersons are ex officio members of the National Political Council. Thus, in Gaidarji's case, membership of the National Political Council was linked to the position of vice-chairperson and did not derive from a separate status acquired independently of it.

This circumstance is also relevant for assessing the information provided by the PSA, according to which, on 2 October 2026, V. Gaidarji still appeared as a member of the National Political Council. A systematic interpretation of the Statute raises the question of the extent to which a person who has renounced party membership and the position of vice-chairperson can still be considered, in substance, a member of a central governing body in which he participated precisely ex officio, by virtue of that position.

Therefore, the fact that V. Gaidarji still appeared at the PSA as a member of the National Political Council did not automatically demonstrate that he was in fact still a party member. The entry in the PSA records could only indicate that the changes in the composition of the governing body had not yet been registered. However, this finding does not remove the effects of the special regime provided for in Art. 7

⁹⁶ [Decision](#) No. 43 of 12 October 2026 of the Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia on the complaint filed by Valentin Gaidarji against Decision No. 18 of 7 October 2026 of the Electoral Council of Vulcănești electoral district No. 3.

⁹⁷ [Statute](#) of the Political Party "Partidul Acasă Construim Europa" (PACE), published by the Public Services Agency (in Romanian).

para. (5) of Law No. 294/2007, which attaches legal relevance to the registration of changes by the PSA for persons in party leadership.

By way of comparison, the case of Nicolai Sarioglo⁹⁸ is relevant to the different way in which the legal framework treats the termination of political affiliation. In the case of an ordinary party member, withdrawal can be proven by the resignation request and the confirmation of the political formation, without the law making the production of effects conditional to the same extent on an additional registration formality at the PSA. In the Sarioglo case, the electoral body took into account the party's confirmation of his withdrawal and ordered his registration as an independent candidate.

By contrast, for persons who are part of the central governing bodies of a party, as in the case of V. Gaidarji, the law establishes a more rigorous mechanism, in which the legal effects of withdrawal are linked to the registration of changes by the PSA. The difference in regime is justified by the need to ensure legal certainty and enforceability against third parties; in electoral terms, however, it may lead to situations in which two persons who have genuinely and unequivocally expressed their will to dissociate themselves from a party are treated differently depending on the position they held in the formation's structures.

Promo-LEX EOM considers that such a difference requires further assessment in terms of the proportionality of the restriction on the right to be elected. In particular, for persons in party leadership, the withdrawal mechanism should not turn the formalities of updating and registration, which are partly the responsibility of the party and the PSA, into an absolute obstacle to an independent candidacy, where the person has taken all the steps within his or her control to end the political affiliation.

The analysis of the four cases also revealed a common problem concerning the transparency of the activity of the regional electoral bodies. Promo-LEX EOM finds that petitions/complaints and the acts resolving them are not published fully and systematically, most documents being identified only at the observers' request. This makes it difficult to follow electoral practice and to assess the uniform application of the legislation. In this regard, we consider it necessary to publish systematically the petitions, complaints, acts resolving them and the relevant correspondence related to their examination.

⁹⁸ [Decision](#) No. 53 of 9 October 2026 of the Electoral Council of Comrat electoral district No. 1 on the registration of Nicolai Sarioglo as an independent candidate

VI. CONDUCT OF POTENTIAL ELECTORAL COMPETITORS

6.1. Activities with electoral impact observed in the pre-electoral period

Under the Electoral Code, pre-electoral campaigning refers to calls, statements, actions to nominate candidates in elections, preparations for collecting signatures in their support and signature collection, including all such actions undertaken by the nominated candidate himself or herself.

The details of the nomination and registration procedure are described in section IV of this Report. For context, we recall that in regional elections, as in other types of elections, the nomination procedure begins no earlier than 70 days before election day and ends 40 days before election day, except for presidential elections, where the nomination of candidates ends 55 days before election day.

According to CEC decisions,⁹⁹ 38 political parties were entitled to nominate candidates. No electoral blocs were registered for these elections. At the same time, the nomination process for the regional elections of 15 November 2026 reconfirmed the tendency of candidates to opt for running as independents rather than for political representation through parties.

6.1.1. Public announcement of the intention to run and promotion before the legal deadline

According to the calendar programmes, the nomination period for Member of the People's Assembly begins with the establishment of the DECs I (24 September 2026), and for the office of Governor (Bashkan) with the establishment of the CECG (15 September 2026). However, Promo-LEX observers identified situations in which potential competitors publicly announced their intention to run for elective office before these deadlines, including by carrying out promotional activities.

In the view of Promo-LEX, the de facto nomination of candidates before the legal deadline, as well as their political promotion with electoral character before the start of the electoral campaign, affect the principle of equal opportunities of electoral competitors and facilitate the circumvention of the legal provisions on the financing of electoral campaigns. For this reason, we reiterate the recommendation to include in the legal framework a provision prohibiting the nominal political promotion (promotion involving financial expenditure) of a potential candidate who is publicly announced before official nomination.¹⁰⁰

In the context of the election of the Governor (Bashkan), Fiodor Gagauz, currently the PSRM-nominated candidate, announced his intention to run as early as 24 July 2026, almost a month before the People's Assembly established the vacancy of the office (17 August 2026). The candidate did not limit himself to the announcement but launched an individual promotion campaign that included at least the following activities:

- on 14 August 2026, Fiodor Gagauz announced the launch of the information campaign "Voice of the Gagauz People" at an event organised at the INFOTAG news agency;
- on 20 August 2026, he met residents of Gaidar village;
- on 28 August 2026, he attended the events held on the occasion of the patron saint's day of Copceac village, where he talked to residents, including on topics related to the regional elections;
- on 29 August 2026, he met residents of Gaidar village and attended the village celebration;
- on 1 September 2026, he attended the festive assembly at the "M. Ciachir" Theoretical Lyceum in Ceadîr-Lunga municipality.

For the elections to the People's Assembly, observers reported three cases of announcements of the intention to run shortly before the start of the nomination period, without any related promotional campaign:

- on 18 September 2026, Natalia Mihalciuc announced her intention to run;
- on 22 September 2026, Alexandr Caraivan announced his candidacy;
- on 23 September 2026, Ivan Cebotari announced that he would run.

⁹⁹ [CEC Decision No. 4697](#) of 28.08.2026 on the list of political parties entitled to participate in the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian). [CEC Decision No. 4706](#) of 04.09.2026 on the list of political parties entitled to participate in the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹⁰⁰ [Final Report](#), Promo-LEX Observation Mission for the Presidential Election and the Constitutional Referendum of 20 October (3 November) 2024, p. 47 (in Romanian).

6.1.2. Promotional activities with electoral character

Under the legal framework, the electoral campaign is to begin for all registered competitors on 16 October 2026, 30 days before election day, and ends either on the Friday before election day or on the date the competitor's registration is cancelled. Electoral campaigning consists of calls, statements and actions disseminating information aimed at persuading voters to vote for one or another electoral competitor. Therefore, the legal definition does not make electoral campaigning conditional on the presence of an express call such as "vote".

At the same time, in the period between the start of the nomination period and the start of the electoral campaign, Promo-LEX observers reported at least 293 activities with electoral character (see Table No. 5) in the context of both elections. Even if this cannot be considered electoral campaigning in the legal sense, these are activities that may ultimately influence voters' choices. Through them, various actors promoted their own candidacy, their personal and professional achievements, their visions for the further development of ATU Gagauzia, etc. Some of the activities took place in the context of signature collection by independent candidates.

Table No. 5. Activities with electoral character observed during the monitored period

	<i>Activities related to signature collection</i>	<i>Participation in public events with potential electoral impact</i>	<i>Online advertising</i>	<i>Total</i>
People's Assembly elections	124	20	116	260
Governor (Bashkan) election	11	8	14	33

Activities related to signature collection include both the actual collection of signatures in support of candidates and the submission of signature lists. The public events attended by candidates included community events held on the occasion of localities' patron saint's days, events dedicated to older persons and other similar activities. As regards online advertising, actions promoting candidates' activities online were monitored.

With regard to the elections to the People's Assembly (see Annex No. 2), observers documented 260 activities related to the nomination and promotion of potential electoral competitors. The most frequent were signature collection activities – 124 cases (47.7%), followed by online advertising – 116 cases (44.6%). Participation in public events with potential electoral impact was recorded in 20 cases (7.7%). The territorial distribution of the activities (Annex No. 2) shows a higher number of cases in electoral constituencies No. 2 and 3 (Comrat) and No. 5 and 7 (Ceadâr-Lunga).

The significant share of signature collection activities reflects the large proportion of independent candidates (92 of the 135 candidates registered as of 13 October 2026, see Chapter IV). At the same time, the number of cases of online promotion indicates the use of the online environment as a tool for promoting and increasing the visibility of potential electoral competitors from the period preceding the campaign. In this context, the online electoral campaign and the transparency of the expenditures related to these activities are relevant issues for further monitoring of the electoral process.

With regard to the election of the Governor (Bashkan), the analysis of candidates' activities identified before the start of the electoral campaign (see Annex No. 3) reveals 33 actions recorded in the three monitored categories. Most concerned the online promotion of candidates – 14 actions, followed by activities related to signature collection – 11 actions, and participation in public events with potential electoral impact – 8 actions. By the total number of activities attributed to each candidate, the most were identified in the case of Ivanna Koksai (9) and Petru Vlah (6), followed by Alexandr Stoianoglo and Serghei Anastasov (5 each).

6.2. Cases that could potentially qualify as use of administrative resources

Under the legal framework, candidates are prohibited from using administrative resources during the electoral period,¹⁰¹ and violations of these provisions are sanctioned.¹⁰² In its election monitoring experience, Promo-LEX has found that administrative resources are used by interested actors not only during electoral campaigns but also outside them, including for political promotion outside the electoral period. For this reason, it has recommended prohibiting and sanctioning the use of administrative resources for political promotion both during and outside the electoral period.¹⁰³ Promo-LEX has also advocated the adoption of the broader and more comprehensive definition of administrative resources formulated by the Venice Commission.¹⁰⁴¹⁰⁵

Through the *Document of the Copenhagen Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE (OSCE)* of 29.06.1990,¹⁰⁶ participating States undertook to ensure a clear separation between the State and political parties; in particular, political parties are not to be merged with the State.

During the monitored period, Promo-LEX EOM identified:

Cases reported in the context of the elections to the People's Assembly.

Redistribution of public financial resources across electoral constituencies during the electoral period

1. On 11 September 2026, the People's Assembly approved the decision on the distribution of financial resources from the reserve fund of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia for 2026.¹⁰⁷ After the start of the electoral period, it was decided to redistribute among the electoral constituencies financial resources amounting to MDL 1,530,000.00, initially allocated to cover debts arising from the activity of the former Central Electoral Commission of Gagauzia.¹⁰⁸

Claiming credit for public infrastructure projects and investments

2. On 18 September 2026, People's Assembly member Alexandr Diulgher, at that time a potential independent candidate for Member of the PAG, visited the Cazaclia Health Centre public medical and sanitary institution. The post about the visit states that "By decision of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia, approximately MDL 3 million 300 thousand were allocated from the Subsidy Fund for Public Health Institutions of the Central Budget of Gagauzia for the development of the Health Centre."
3. On 2 October 2026, People's Assembly member Alexandr Diulgher, at that time a potential independent candidate for Member of the People's Assembly of ATU Gagauzia, visited the lyceum in Cazaclia village, stating that "Before the start of the new school year, another important project was completed at the lyceum in Cazaclia village: a major renovation of the gym. (...) Last year, the People's Assembly of Gagauzia allocated 400 thousand lei from the budget of Gagauzia to replace the flooring and the electrical installations. This year, another 500,000 lei were allocated to continue the works".

Participation of potential and registered candidates in public events organised by local public authorities

¹⁰¹ Art. 70 para. (6) of the Electoral Code provides that "candidates are prohibited from using administrative resources, including by launching or participating in the launch of infrastructure projects or of procurements made from the national public budget, or by using public equipment, means and property during the electoral period."

¹⁰² Art. 48¹ para. (7) of the [Contravention Code](#) of the Republic of Moldova and Art. 181² para. 2 of the [Criminal Code](#) of the Republic of Moldova.

¹⁰³ [Report](#): Financing of Political Parties in the Republic of Moldova. 2021 in Retrospect, pp. 39–40 (in Romanian).

¹⁰⁴ [Report](#) of the Venice Commission on the misuse of administrative resources during electoral processes, Strasbourg, 16 December 2013.

¹⁰⁵ "Administrative resources are human, financial, material, in natura and other immaterial resources enjoyed by both incumbents and civil servants in elections, deriving from their control over public sector staff, finances and allocations, access to public facilities as well as resources enjoyed in the form of prestige or public presence that stem from their position as elected or public officers and which may turn into political endorsements or other forms of support".

¹⁰⁶ [Document](#) of the Copenhagen Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE (OSCE) of 29.06.1990, para. 5.4.

¹⁰⁷ On 11 September 2026, the [47th sitting of the People's Assembly](#) of Gagauzia was held (in Russian).

¹⁰⁸ On 17 August 2026, the [46th regular sitting of the People's Assembly](#) of Gagauzia was held (in Russian). (pt. 6)

4. On 1 October 2026, potential People's Assembly candidate Ivan Cebotari attended an event organised by the mayor's office of Gaidar village dedicated to the International Day of Older Persons. He took the floor at the event.
5. On 11 October 2026, the mayor's office of Beşalma village organised the event "Happy Together" in honour of seven couples celebrating 50 years of life together. Local councillor Diulgher Grigori, a potential candidate for Member of the People's Assembly, congratulated the couples and, together with the mayor and the secretary of the local council, presented them with gifts from the mayor's office.

Cases reported in the context of the election of the Governor (Bashkan)

Claiming credit for public infrastructure projects and investments by potential candidates after announcing their intention to run

1. On 10 October 2026, on his personal TikTok page, potential candidate for Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia and mayor of Comrat municipality Serghei Anastasov posted a video about the completion of repair works at kindergarten No. 9 "Skazka" in Comrat. In the video, the kindergarten director personally thanks the mayor for carrying out the works.
2. On 12 October 2026, on his personal TikTok page, the mayor of Comrat municipality and potential independent candidate for Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia, Serghei Anastasov, presented the work of the mayor's office for the benefit of the town and its residents through the implementation of infrastructure projects.

Involvement of public sector officials/mayors in pre-electoral campaign activities during working hours

3. On 29 September 2026, the mayor of Copceac village, Oleg Garizan, travelled to Comrat during working hours to register the initiative group supporting his candidacy for Governor (Bashkan). He was accompanied by the deputy mayor of Copceac village, Anatoli Talmaci.
4. On 6 October 2026, the mayor of Copceac village, Oleg Garizan, travelled to Comrat during working hours to submit the signature lists for registration as an independent candidate for Governor (Bashkan) of ATU Gagauzia. We were unable to verify on actelocale.gov.md whether the mayor was on leave that day; as of 12.10.2026, however, the latest entry regarding documents issued by the Copceac mayor's office was dated 22.09.2026.

Use of state institutions for electoral promotion

5. On 30 September 2026, the mayor of Ceadâr-Lunga town, Anatolii Topal, posted on his personal page about the visit of Member of Parliament Alexandr Stoianoglo to the Ceadâr-Lunga mayor's office, where he met some of its employees. According to the Promo-LEX observer, the event allegedly took place during working hours. According to the mayor, the meeting discussed projects implemented in the town and the prospects for further cooperation. At the end of the post, the mayor stated: "Alexandr Stoianoglo will run for Governor (Bashkan) of ATU Gagauzia as an independent candidate!".
6. On 6 October 2026, the page of the Copceac mayor's office shared/promoted the submission of signature lists for registration as a candidate for Governor (Bashkan) by the mayor of Copceac village, Oleg Garizan.

Pre-electoral campaigning for or against potential competitors involving persons in leadership positions

7. On 30 September 2026, the head of the Comrat Territorial Office of the State Chancellery, Serghei Cernev, took part in a programme of the local portal LAF.md, in which he spoke negatively about certain candidates for Bashkan of Gagauzia. He also stated that external influence in Gagauzia had not disappeared and that "Chişinău will lose the elections here". The editorial team extracted several statements from the programme, which are being disseminated on social networks. The critical statements concern, in particular, Alexandr Stoianoglo.
8. On 2 October 2026, the mayor of Ceadâr-Lunga municipality, Anatolii Topal, publicly declared his support for Alexandr Stoianoglo in a LAF ZONE programme broadcast and posted online on 1

October. Subsequently, LAF.md published on TikTok a short video with the sequence in which the mayor says he supports Alexandr Stoianoglo.

Participation of potential and registered candidates in public events organised by local public authorities

9. On 30 September 2026, potential independent candidate Ivanna Koksai attended an event for older persons organised by the mayor's office of Cazaclia village at the local House of Culture.

6.3. Cases of black PR

Promo-LEX observers reported the following problematic situations for the monitored period:

- on 12 October 2026, People's Assembly candidate Natalia Mihalciuc announced that unknown persons were creating fake accounts on social networks using her name. According to the author of the post, these are acts of intimidation in an electoral context;
- on 2 October 2026, potential People's Assembly candidate Ivan Bessarab posted a video on TikTok giving his opinion on the candidates for Governor (Bashkan). Towards the end, referring to potential candidate Ivanna Koksai, he used gender stereotypes and gender-based disparagement, arguing that women should not lead the Gagauz autonomy and that their place is only at home, in the kitchen or behind a male politician.
- On 10 October 2026, Ivan Bessarab, who had meanwhile been registered as a candidate (8 October 2026), again used sexist language about women, in particular those involved in politics, invoking the traditions of the Gagauz people.

6.4. Third parties associated with electoral competitors

In the period preceding the electoral campaign (during the nomination and registration of electoral competitors), the promotion of certain candidates was observed, including through sponsored posts on META:

The Facebook page "Omega Jurnal"

- On 20–24 September and 3–8 October 2026, the page ran commercially sponsored advertising – in total at least 24 Russian-language ads promoting Fiodor Gagauz (the PSRM-nominated candidate for Governor of Gagauzia). Other ads promoted by the same page were in Romanian, with messages against the government and PAS, most of them by PPAM leaders. Of the 35 ads promoted on 3–8 October, 7 led to the portal www.noi.md; 2 to the portal www.unimedia.info; 3 to www.tribuna.md; 2 to www.puls-md.info, while the ads promoting Fiodor Gagauz led to the pages www.fierbinte.news¹⁰⁹, www.cleaks.news¹¹⁰, www.gaf-md.info¹¹¹. According to META page transparency data, the persons administering the page are located in Indonesia and Ukraine.

Influencers:

- The Facebook page of TV presenter **Nina Dimoglo**, with 10,000 followers, consistently promoted Fiodor Gagauz and his messages as a candidate for Governor of Gagauzia¹¹² from August to mid-October. The same can be observed on other social networks¹¹³ she manages.

Anonymous pages:

- The Facebook page **pravda.md** promoted Fiodor Gagauz from 29 August 2026 until (at least) 12 October, including by publishing messages in regional groups. Although the page was created in August 2019, it was inactive from the beginning of 2022 until the end of August 2026. According to META page transparency data, it is administered by 5 persons from Moldova.

¹⁰⁹ Website www.fierbinte.news : [Link 1](#); [Link 2](#); [Link 3](#).

¹¹⁰ Website www.cleaks.news: [Link 1](#); [Link 2](#); [Link 3](#); [Link 4](#); [Link 5](#).

¹¹¹ Website www.gaf-md.info : [Link 1](#)

¹¹² Posts (24) promoting Fiodor Gagauz on the Facebook page of [Nina Dimoglo](#): post of [07.08.2026](#); [09.08.2026](#); [11.08.2026](#); [13.08.2026](#); [17.08.2026](#); [18.08.2026](#); [19.08.2026](#); [20.08.2026](#); [21.08.2026](#); [24.08.2026](#); [27.08.2026](#); [28.08.2026](#); [30.08.2026](#); [03.09.2026](#); [06.09.2026](#); [15.09.2026](#); [16.09.2026](#); [18.09.2026](#); [24.09.2026](#); [24.09.2026](#); [01.10.2026](#); [03.10.2026](#); [05.10.2026](#); [08.10.2026](#);

¹¹³ Nina Dimoglo's [TikTok](#) account (9,000 followers); Nina Dimoglo's [Telegram](#) account (7,600 subscribers)

Coordinated inauthentic behaviour

In addition to the activity of third parties identifiable through a social media page, a website or campaigns of public associations, Promo-LEX EOM finds that there are also third parties acting through multiple social media pages, including with the involvement of unidentifiable persons or fake profiles. They aim to manipulate public perceptions and influence opinions, decisions or behaviour by artificially amplifying certain messages, including disinformation, and creating the impression of broad consensus.

The coordinated inauthentic behaviour observed in the context of the regional elections consisted of amplifying the following narratives on social networks:

- *"Cancellation of electoral powers and 'liquidation of the autonomy of Gagauzia by Chişinău' through the Constitutional Court"* – this message was intensively promoted, especially immediately after the Constitutional Court Judgment of 9 July, and continued until 8 August, but the topic has been taken up again during the electoral period. This narrative was promoted by at least 70 accounts, gaining 7,444 reactions and 3,154 comments, and was shared 1,428 times;
- *"Amendment of the electoral legislation by the government / the 'camouflaged candidate' mechanism as a tool for censoring and excluding candidates"* – this message was promoted between 23 July and 7 August by at least 6 accounts, gaining 71 reactions, 54 comments and 14 shares;
- *"Suppression of the Russian language and of cultural identity in the autonomy"* – this message was promoted between 10 and 30 July by at least 10 accounts and gained 682 reactions, 587 comments and 109 shares;
- *"Illegitimacy of the new elections for the office of Bashkan and challenge to the declaration of vacancy of the office"* – this message was promoted between 7 August and 9 September by at least 20 accounts, gaining at least 44 reactions, 79 comments and 40 shares;
- *"The Romanian language requirement aims to eliminate inconvenient candidates and liquidate the autonomy of Gagauzia"* – this message was promoted on 10 September and also on 2–7 October – in the period immediately following Constitutional Court Judgment No. 11 of 2 October. The message was promoted by at least 6 accounts, and its impact is yet to be assessed;
- *"The EU and Brussels, through Kaja Kallas, are interfering in the elections in Gagauzia, imposing arbitrary rules and criteria, while the freedom and transparency they invoke are conditional only on a result convenient to them."* – this message was promoted by at least 9 accounts on 8–9 October, after the message delivered by Kaja Kallas in the context of the Moldova–EU Association Council meeting (on 5 October). The impact of this message is yet to be assessed.

The promotion of these narratives aims to discredit the electoral process and the institutions organising and conducting the elections, to create a perception of antagonism between the central and local authorities, and to distort the way the autonomy is perceived.

Coordinated inauthentic behaviour for the benefit or to the detriment of candidates for Governor was also observed:

- in support of *candidate Ivanna Koksai*. One of the coordinated activities was a call to follow her Facebook page, promoted on 08 September,¹¹⁴ and another concerned the promotion of the candidate by foreign citizens, on both Facebook and Instagram (Turkish journalist Tanay Yucel;¹¹⁵ other unknown accounts,¹¹⁶ with between 4,300 and 7,900 followers).
- to the detriment of *candidate Alexandr Stoianoglo*. Several reels presenting the candidate in a negative context were created and published on TikTok on 12 September¹¹⁷ by accounts without declared authors. We recall that A. Stoianoglo announced his intention to run on 7 September.

¹¹⁴ [Link 1](#); [Link 2](#); [Link 3](#); [Link 4](#); [Link 5](#).

¹¹⁵ Facebook account Tanay Yucel (9,800 followers): [post](#) of 09.10.2026; [post](#) of [03.10.2026](#); Facebook account Yucel Tanay (4,900): [post](#) of [03.10.2026](#). Instagram account yuceltanay: [post](#) of [03.10.2026](#).

¹¹⁶ Facebook account Bitig Kokturk (7,900 followers): [post](#) of 03.10.2026; Facebook account Huseyin Alpogan: [post](#) of 03.10.2026; Facebook account Ahmet Acikgoz (4,300 followers): [post](#) of [03.10.2026](#); Facebook account Arslan Kucukyildiz (5,600 followers): [post](#) of [04.10.2026](#); [04.10.2026](#); [02.10.2026](#); account Özhan Erkan (1,847 followers): [post](#) of [04.10.2026](#).

¹¹⁷ [Video 1](#), [video 2](#), [video 3](#), [video 4](#), [video 5](#), [video 6](#), [video 7](#).

VII. FINANCING OF ELECTIONS AND ELECTORAL CAMPAIGNS

7.1. CEC budget for the regional elections

The approved CEC budget for the regional elections of 15 November 2026 is **MDL 13,608,490**.¹¹⁸ Of this amount, MDL 6,355,000 comes from additional allocations from the state budget provided for in Law No. 213 of 17 September 2026 amending the State Budget Law for 2026 No. 322/2025 and granting one-off exceptional payments, while MDL 7,253,490 was reallocated from the CEC's current budget (from the activity "Implementation of electoral policies").

Most financial resources are planned for the remuneration of electoral staff and allowances, accounting for about 87% of the total budget. About 10% is allocated for materials (ballot papers, voter lists, invitations, fuel, office supplies) and about 3% for services (information services, telecommunications, postal services, security, transport).

7.2. Ceiling on financial means that can be transferred to the "For the Initiative Group" / "Electoral Fund" account and interest-free credit

Under the legal framework,¹¹⁹ the CEC sets the ceiling on financial means that can be transferred to the account marked "For the Initiative Group"/"Electoral Fund". The general national ceiling is 0.1% of the revenues provided for in the state budget law, divided by the total number of voters nationwide, which yields a coefficient per voter. For the "Electoral Fund" account, this coefficient is then multiplied by the number of voters in the respective electoral constituency (one for the election of the Governor (Bashkan) and 35 for the People's Assembly elections), and for the "For the Initiative Group" account by the minimum number of signatures that the initiative group must collect to support a candidate for elective office.

Election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia. The ceiling on financial means that can be transferred to the account marked "For the Initiative Group" was set on time at MDL 36,144.09,¹²⁰ calculated on the basis of the minimum of 1,500 signatures that the initiative group must collect to support an independent candidate for Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia.

The ceiling on financial means that can be transferred to the account marked "Electoral Fund" was set on time at MDL 3,122,416.28,¹²¹ calculated on the basis of the number of voters (129,582) assigned to the ATU Gagauzia constituency as of 14 September 2026.

The amount of interest-free credit granted to electoral competitors was set on time at MDL 50,000 for each political party/electoral bloc and MDL 10,000 for each independent candidate.¹²²

Elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia. The ceiling on financial means that can be transferred to the account marked "For the Initiative Group" to support independent candidates in the elections of members of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 was set on time for each of the 35 electoral constituencies of the People's Assembly of Gagauzia (see Table No. 6).

¹¹⁸ CEC [Decision](#) No. 4708 of 4 September 2026 approving the cost estimate for organising and conducting the regional elections of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹¹⁹ Art. 53 of the [Electoral Code](#).

¹²⁰ CEC [Decision](#) No. 4734 of 15 September 2026 setting the ceiling on financial means that may be transferred to the "For the Initiative Group" account to support an independent candidate for Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia in the election of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹²¹ CEC [Decision](#) No. 4735 of 15 September 2026 setting the general ceiling on financial means that may be transferred to the "Electoral Fund" account and used by electoral competitors in the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹²² CEC [Decision](#) No. 4736 of 15 September 2026 setting the amount of interest-free credit granted to electoral competitors in the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

Table No. 6. Ceiling on financial means that may be transferred to the “For the Initiative Group” account per constituency in the elections of members of the People’s Assembly of Gagauzia

Constituency	Ceiling (MDL)
Most constituencies (34 of 35)	2,427,78
Carbalia (under 500 voters)	1,213,89

The difference in the ceiling between the above constituencies is explained by the minimum number of signatures to be collected in the constituency: 100 signatures for candidates, 50 signatures for women candidates, and 50 signatures in constituencies with fewer than 500 voters, as in the case of Carbalia constituency, where the resulting ceiling is consequently halved.¹²³

The ceiling on financial means that may be transferred to the account marked “Electoral Fund” was set on time, based on the number of voters assigned to each of the 35 electoral constituencies of the People’s Assembly of Gagauzia, ranging from MDL 9,759.66 to MDL 166,375.57.¹²⁴

The amount of interest-free credit granted to electoral competitors was set on time, per constituency, at MDL 25,000 for political parties and electoral blocs and MDL 5,000 for independent candidates.¹²⁵

7.3. Legal framework on the financing of initiative groups/electoral campaigns

The financing of initiative groups (IGs)/electoral campaigns is regulated by several legislative and normative acts adopted both by Parliament and by the CEC.¹²⁶ In the regional elections of 15 November 2026, political parties and electoral blocs submit their financial reports to the CEC. Independent candidates and the initiative groups set up to support them submit their financial reports to the CEC/CECG for the election of the Governor (Bashkan), and to the CEC/first-level DEC (Comrat, Ceadîr-Lunga or Vulcănești, depending on the constituency) for the People’s Assembly elections.

Sources of financing and bank accounts. To finance initiative groups and electoral campaigns, electoral competitors may use financial resources from four sources:¹²⁷

- own financial means accumulated in the political party’s accounts at the start of the electoral campaign (membership fees, donations, allocations, other income provided for by law);
- donations;
- interest-free credits from the state;
- volunteering, the value of which may not exceed 6 average monthly salaries in the economy set for the year concerned.

Electoral competitors may collect donations from legal entities and from natural persons who are citizens of the Republic of Moldova. Legal entities may donate by bank transfer, up to 12 average salaries in the economy, but not more than 30% of the donor’s annual income. Legal entities may not donate if, in the last three years, they have concluded public procurement contracts or received state aid, or if they have arrears to budgets and funds. Natural persons may donate in cash, up to one average salary in the

¹²³ CEC [Decision](#) No. 4744 setting the general ceiling on financial means that may be transferred to the “For the Initiative Group” account to support an independent candidate for Member of the People’s Assembly of Gagauzia in the elections of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹²⁴ [Decision](#) No. 4745 setting the general ceiling on financial means that may be transferred to the “Electoral Fund” account and used by electoral competitors in the elections of members of the People’s Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹²⁵ [Decision](#) No. 4746 setting the amount of interest-free credit granted to electoral competitors in the elections to the People’s Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹²⁶ [Electoral Code](#), [Contravention Code](#), [Criminal Code](#), Law No. 294 of 21 December 2007 on Political Parties, [Law](#) No. 62 of 17 March 2022 on Advertising, CEC [Decision](#) No. 1185 of 18 August 2023 approving the Regulation on the Financing of Initiative Groups and Electoral Campaigns, the Calendar Programme for organising and conducting the elections to the People’s Assembly of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026, approved by CEC [Decision](#) No. 4695 of 26 August 2026, and the Calendar Programme for the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026, approved by CEC [Decision](#) No. 4703 of 2 September 2026, CEC [Decision](#) No. 4722 of 11 September 2026 on certain specific arrangements for organising and conducting the elections to the People’s Assembly of Gagauzia and the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (CEC decisions in Romanian).

¹²⁷ Art. 54 of the [Electoral Code](#).

economy, and/or by bank transfer, up to 6 average salaries in the economy, but not more than 30% of their annual income. If the donor had no legal income in the previous year (2025), he or she is not entitled to make any donation in the current year (2026).¹²⁸ For persons holding public office positions or public servants, the limit is 10% of annual income, but not more than 6 average salaries. For persons receiving exclusively scholarships/social benefits, the limit is 1 average salary, but not more than 30% of their annual amount.¹²⁹

In 2026, the average salary in the economy is MDL 17,400.¹³⁰ Therefore, natural persons may donate a maximum of MDL 104,400 and legal entities MDL 208,800, subject also to the percentage limits. These amounts may be donated cumulatively to initiative groups and/or electoral competitors within the same type of election (Governor (Bashkan) or People's Assembly, calculated separately).¹³¹

Financing prohibitions. The financing of initiative groups and electoral campaigns is prohibited from minors, natural persons who are not citizens of the Republic of Moldova, anonymous persons, legal entities that in the last three years have concluded public procurement contracts or received state aid or have arrears to budgets and funds, non-commercial, trade union, charitable or religious organisations, authorities and enterprises with public capital, as well as foreign entities, states and persons, including those subject to international restrictive measures.¹³²

In addition, independent candidates and the initiative groups supporting them may not receive, directly or indirectly, financial, material, organisational, logistical or media support from political parties or electoral blocs, and the law sanctions situations of a “camouflaged independent candidate”. Given the large share of independent candidates in the regional elections (92 of the 135 candidates for the People's Assembly) and the possible informal links between some of them and parties, Promo-LEX EOM will closely follow the application of these prohibitions.

Compliance with the requirements to publish information on the conditions for offering advertising space. Under Art. 54 paras. (9) and (10) of the Electoral Code, within 7 days of the start of the electoral period, media service providers and advertising distributors owning or managing fixed or mobile advertising devices are obliged to publish the conditions under which they offer advertising space and other related services to electoral competitors or initiative groups. The deadline was 3 September 2026 inclusive for the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia and 9 September 2026 inclusive for the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia.

According to information on the CEC website,¹³³¹³⁴ two radio stations and two TV channels¹³⁵ complied with these requirements for the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia, and two radio stations and one TV channel¹³⁶ for the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia. As regards outdoor/mobile advertising distributors, 5 distributors¹³⁷ complied for the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia and 5 distributors¹³⁸ for the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia. Under the legal framework,

¹²⁸ CEC [Decision](#) No. 4722 of 11 September 2026 on certain specific arrangements for organising and conducting the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia and the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹²⁹ Art. 57 of the [Electoral Code](#).

¹³⁰ Government [Decision](#) No. 773 of 17 December 2025 approving the amount of the average monthly salary in the economy forecast for 2026 (in Romanian).

¹³¹ CEC [Decision](#) No. 4722 of 11 September 2026 on certain specific arrangements for organising and conducting the elections to the People's Assembly of Gagauzia and the election of the Governor (Bashkan) of Gagauzia of 15 November 2026 (in Romanian).

¹³² Art. 54 of the [Electoral Code](#).

¹³³ [Information](#) on the conditions for offering advertising space, available on the official CEC website – election of the Governor (Bashkan) (in Romanian).

¹³⁴ [Information](#) on the conditions for offering advertising space, available on the official CEC website – People's Assembly elections (in Romanian).

¹³⁵ Radio Moldova Comrat, Radio Moldova, Moldova 1, Cinema 1.

¹³⁶ Radio Moldova Comrat, Radio Moldova, TV Moldova 1.

¹³⁷ SRL Standart, CE Independent Media SRL, Trendseter SRL, Cassidas, Aquarelle SRL.

¹³⁸ Independent Media SRL, Trendseter SRL, Cassidas, Aquarelle SRL, SC Public Media Grup SRL

media service providers and advertising distributors that fail to comply with these provisions will not be able to distribute electoral advertising.

Sanctions. For violations of electoral legislation, the CEC or, as the case may be, the district electoral council may apply or request the application of the following main or complementary sanctions:¹³⁹

- a warning;
- deprivation of free and/or paid airtime for a period of 24 to 48 hours, which may be applied only after a warning has been issued;
- deprivation of state budget allocations for the performance obtained in the elections in which the competitor is registered (letter c¹), for 6 months – 4 years, applicable to political parties only in the event of repeated application of any sanction during the electoral period for financing violations;
- deprivation of state budget allocations (letter c), for 2 months – 4 years, applicable to political parties only after the sanction under letter c¹);
- a contravention sanction which, under the Contravention Code, falls within the competence of the CEC;
- cancellation of the registration of electoral competitors;
- request for the ex officio deregistration of political parties.

The cancellation of the registration of electoral competitors may be applied where the following violations are found in the financing of the IG/electoral campaign: use of undeclared financial and material funds exceeding 1% of the ceiling on the means that may be transferred to the “For the Initiative Group”/“Electoral Fund” account; exceeding the legal ceiling; use of financial means from abroad (except donations from citizens of the Republic of Moldova with income earned abroad); failure by a candidate obliged to do so to suspend himself or herself from office; violation of the prohibition on electoral bribery; failure to comply with registration requirements; participation in a camouflaged electoral bloc; or meeting the conditions to be classified as a camouflaged independent candidate or the existence of camouflaged support for the electoral competitor.¹⁴⁰

7.4. Financial reporting by electoral competitors

Financial reporting. Electoral competitors are obliged to submit reports in electronic format, through the “Financial Control” IT subsystem (FC IS), on the funds raised and the expenditures incurred during the signature collection period/electoral campaign, electronically signed by the head of the group/electoral competitor and by the treasurer, within the following deadlines: weekly, according to the schedule approved by the CEC in the calendar programme; the final report for the electoral campaign within 3 days after election day (on Wednesday). The specific deadlines for initiative groups (IGs) are set out below.

Where signature collection and electoral campaign activities involve financial expenditure, electoral competitors are obliged to open a “For the Initiative Group”/“Electoral Fund” bank account and submit for confirmation the person responsible for finances (treasurer) to the CEC, in the case of political parties and electoral blocs; to the CEC/CECG (Governor (Bashkan)) or to the CEC/relevant first-level DEC (People’s Assembly), in the case of independent candidates and the initiative groups supporting them. In the absence of expenditure, the account and the treasurer are not mandatory, and the competitor informs the electoral body accordingly (see below, under IGs and independent candidates). The recipients of the reports, by type of electoral competitor and election, are presented in Table No. 7.

¹³⁹ Art. 102 para. (2) of the [Electoral Code](#).

¹⁴⁰ Art. 102 of the [Electoral Code](#).

Table No. 7. Recipients of activity financing reports, by type of entity and election

Entity / Election	Governor (Bashkan)	People's Assembly
Party / Electoral Bloc	CEC	CEC
Independent candidate	CEC / Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia	CEC / first-level DEC
Initiative group	CEC / Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia	CEC / first-level DEC

7.4.1. Stages of financial reporting: initiative groups and independent candidates

Initiative groups established for the elections for the office of Governor (Bashkan) and for Member of the People's Assembly (PA) have the following obligations:

- ✓ **Treasurer.** The IG appoints a person responsible for finances (treasurer) and submits him or her for confirmation to the district electoral council, together with the registration documents or subsequently.¹⁴¹
- ✓ **IG that has not opened a “For the Initiative Group” account.** The IG reports that it has not opened an account and that it carries out only signature collection activities not involving financial expenditure, within 3 days of registration and then weekly, on Mondays.¹⁴²
- ✓ **IG that has opened an account.** The IG reports within 24 hours of opening the account and submits reports on the financing of its activity, according to the template approved by the CEC:¹⁴³ weekly, on Mondays, and a final report within 3 days of the date of submission of the signature lists.
- ✓ **After the final report.** Within 3 days after the final report, an IG with an open account reports on the balance transferred to the competitor's “Electoral Fund” account or on the closure of the account.

An independent candidate who has not opened an “Electoral Fund” account informs the electoral body that the account has not been opened and that he or she carries out only activities not involving financial expenditure, within 3 days of registration, and subsequently weekly, on every Monday following the expiry of that period. A candidate who has opened the account reports this within 24 hours. Since the first independent candidates for the People's Assembly were registered on 04.10.2026, the first applicable weekly deadline was 12.10.2026.

7.4.2. Statistics on the establishment of IGs and financial reporting

Election of the Governor (Bashkan)

For the election of the Governor (Bashkan), five initiative groups (IGs) were registered between 22 and 30 September. None opened a “For the Initiative Group” account. All five IGs submitted declarations of not opening an account between 25 September and 5 October. The Dudnic IG and the Garizan IG met the 3-day deadline. For the Stoianoglo, Anastasov and Koksai IGs, the 3-day deadline expired on a Saturday (26 September and 3 October respectively). Their declarations were submitted on Monday (28 September and 5 October). Weekly reporting on Mondays could not be identified for all IGs, which indicates uneven application of this requirement. The IG reporting process is shown in Table No. 8.

Table No. 8. Financial reporting of IGs, election of the Governor (Bashkan)

No.	Initiative group (competitor)	IG registration date	Date of appointment of the treasurer	Reporting deadline (3 days from registration)	Declaration of not opening the account (date)	Weekly reporting, Monday	Date of submission of signature lists	Candidate registration date
1	Cornel Dudnic IG	22.09	24.09	25.09	25.09	-	28.09	05.10

¹⁴¹ Art. 55 paras. (1) and (2) of the [Electoral Code](#).

¹⁴² Art. 56 of the [Electoral Code](#).

¹⁴³ Annex No. 5 to CEC [Decision](#) No. 1185 of 18 August 2023 approving the Regulation on the Financing of Initiative Groups and Electoral Campaigns (in Romanian)

2	Alexandr Stoianoglo IG	23.09	-	28.09	28.09	28.09	28.09	05.10
3	Oleg Garizan IG	29.09	-	02.10	29.09	-	06.10	12.10
4	Serghei Anastasov IG	30.09	-	05.10	05.10	05.10	06.10	12.10
5	Ivanna Koksall IG	30.09	30.09	05.10	05.10	05.10	05.10	12.10

Elections to the People's Assembly

In the 35 constituencies, 138 persons expressed their intention to run. According to the decisions published by the district electoral councils, as of 13.10.2026, 92 had been registered as independent candidates. Of these, an IG was set up in only one case (Vladimir Cîssa, Bugeac electoral constituency No. 15), while the other 91 opted to collect signatures on their own.

The detailed reporting situation for each independent applicant is shown in Annex No. 4. We note that the Vladimir Cîssa IG did not open a bank account for the IG. After registration, the candidate submitted declarations of not opening an "Electoral Fund" account on 06.10 and 12.10.2026. The "For the Initiative Group" account and the "Electoral Fund" account are separate accounts. The former serves to collect and spend the IG's funds at the signature stage, while the latter is opened after the candidate's registration.

After registration, an independent candidate must inform the electoral council within 3 days whether or not he or she has opened an "Electoral Fund" account (initial notification). The situation per DEC I is shown in Table No. 9.

As of 13.10.2026, 92 independent candidates were registered. For 55 of them, the deadline was 13.10.2026 or earlier: 46 reported by the deadline; 7 reported after the deadline, 1–5 days late; 2 did not report, or we did not identify their notification (Oleg Garizan and Igor Ianac, DEC Ceadîr-Lunga). The other 37 candidates were registered on 11–12.10.2026, with deadlines of 14–15.10.2026. Of them, 21 have already reported and 16 have not yet.

Most candidates declared that they had not opened an account. Only 14 reported that they had opened one: five at DEC Comrat (Alexandr Caraivan, Olga Mitiglo, Gavriil Tulba, Vasili Iasîbaş and Valeri Curchin) and nine at DEC Ceadîr-Lunga (Victor Topciu, Natalia Mihalciuc, Victor Topal, Ivan Cebotari, Nicolai Andruşoi, Alexandr Diulgher, Valeriu Manastîrlî, Dmitri Chiseev, Oxana Neddealco-Calîn).

Of the 14 candidates with an open account, only for Gavriil Tulba do we have information that he appointed a treasurer. Four (Nicolai Andruşoi, Alexandr Diulgher, Dmitri Chiseev, Valeriu Manastîrlî) submitted requests to submit the report in the absence of a treasurer (Annex No. 9 to the Regulation approved by CEC Decision No. 1185/2023). We have no information on the other nine. Their deadline may not have expired yet, or the information may not have been published yet.

During the visit to DEC Vulcăneşti on 12.10.2026, Promo-LEX observers were not shown the declarations of not opening the account (Annex No. 8 to the Regulation approved by CEC Decision No. 1185/2023). According to the DEC, they had not been submitted. After Promo-LEX raised the issue, the DEC invited the candidates to submit them. The DEC register subsequently shows 11 declarations from all 8 independent candidates, dated 09–13.10.2026. We cannot establish whether those dated before the visit were submitted on those dates or later.

The Vulcăneşti case shows that both some candidates and the electoral council were unaware of the reporting obligation. We recommend that the CEC and the district electoral councils proactively inform independent candidates of their reporting obligations. We also recommend checking all candidates with an open "Electoral Fund" account as regards the appointment of a treasurer or the submission of a request in the absence of one.

Table 9. Initial notification of electoral councils by independent candidates for the People's Assembly (as of 13.10.2026)

DEC	Registered independent candidates	A. Deadline (3 days) on 13.10.2026 or earlier				B. Deadline after 13.10.2026		Reported opening an account
		Total	reported on time	reported late	no notification available	Total	already reported	
DEC Comrat No. 1	49	31	30	1	0	18	13	5
DEC Ceadâr-Lunga No. 2	35	20	12	6	2	15	4	9
DEC Vulcănești No. 3	8	4	4	0	0	4	4	0
Total	92	55	46	7	2	37	21	12

Note: "reported" = submitted the initial notification (declaration of not opening or notification of opening an "Electoral Fund" account).

7.4.3. Reporting by Political Parties

Political parties report to the CEC, at central level, for all nominated candidates. Information on the financial reporting of parties in both elections is shown in Table No. 10.

Table No. 10. Information on the financial reporting of parties to the CEC

No.	Party	Election	Candidates registered / nominated	Candidate registration date	Notification on the "Electoral Fund" account (date)	Electoral Fund opened	Treasurer confirmed
1	PSRM	People's Assembly	23 / 23	04.10(19); 05.10 (1); 06.10(3)	05.10	not opened	12.10
2	PSRM	Governor (Bashkan)	Fiodor Gagauz	01.10	-	-	06.10
3	MAN	People's Assembly	2 / 2	04.10(1); 12.10(1)	06.10	not opened	12.10
4	PPG	People's Assembly	9 / 9	07.10(4); 08.10(1); 09.10 (1); 12.10(3)	-	-	-
5	PPG	Governor (Bashkan)	Ivan Cîlcic	07.10	-	-	-
6	PPAM	People's Assembly	7 / 7	09.10(2); 11.10 (3); 12.10(2)	12.10	not opened	-
7	PPT	People's Assembly	2 / 2	07.10(2)	12.10	opened	-
8	NOI	Governor (Bashkan)	Petru Vlah	09.10	-	-	-

According to the information available as of 13.10.2026, in the People's Assembly elections, the PSRM (05.10), MAN (06.10) and PPAM (12.10) reported on time on the "Electoral Fund" account. The PPT reported on 12.10, two days after the 3-day deadline expired (Saturday, 10.10). No notifications were identified for the PPG. The PSRM and MAN had their treasurers confirmed on 12.10.

In the election of the Governor (Bashkan), none of the three parties with candidates (PSRM, PPG, NOI) reported on the "Electoral Fund" account. The PSRM had its treasurer confirmed on 06.10, five days after the candidate's registration (01.10). No notifications on the treasurer were identified for the PPG and NOI. It cannot be ruled out that some notifications have not yet been published.

Promo-LEX EOM appreciates the field training organised by the CEC for candidates and recommends that it continue, with a focus on notification and financial reporting obligations. We also recommend that the CEC verify parties' compliance with these obligations and publish the information received in a timely manner.

7.5. Estimates of electoral competitors' expenditures

By 13 October 2026, none of the electoral competitors had declared any expenditure in the regional elections in ATU Gagauzia. At the same time, as a result of civic monitoring, Promo-LEX EOM identified activities involving financial and material resources and estimated their value. The estimate covers the period of nomination and registration of candidates and confirmation of the representatives of electoral competitors, i.e. 15 September – 6 October 2026 for the Bashkan election and 24 September – 6 October 2026 for the People's Assembly (PAG) elections, according to the electoral calendars. 6 October 2026 is the deadline for submitting signature lists in both elections, so all competitors are compared at the same stage of the electoral process, regardless of the date on which they were registered by the electoral bodies.

Methodology. Promo-LEX EOM estimated the expenditures by applying minimum market prices, as follows:

- volunteering, at the national minimum wage (MDL 6,300/month; MDL 37.28/hour; MDL 298/day), according to Government Decision No. 771/2025;
- transport, based on the distance travelled, average consumption and fuel price;
- social media advertising, estimated on the basis of paid ads in the Meta Ad Library, converted from EUR at the official exchange rate of the National Bank of Moldova of 13 October 2026 (20.11 MDL/EUR);
- the production and broadcasting of advertising spots and the organisation of events (press conferences, protocol and representation) are estimated at the minimum market value.

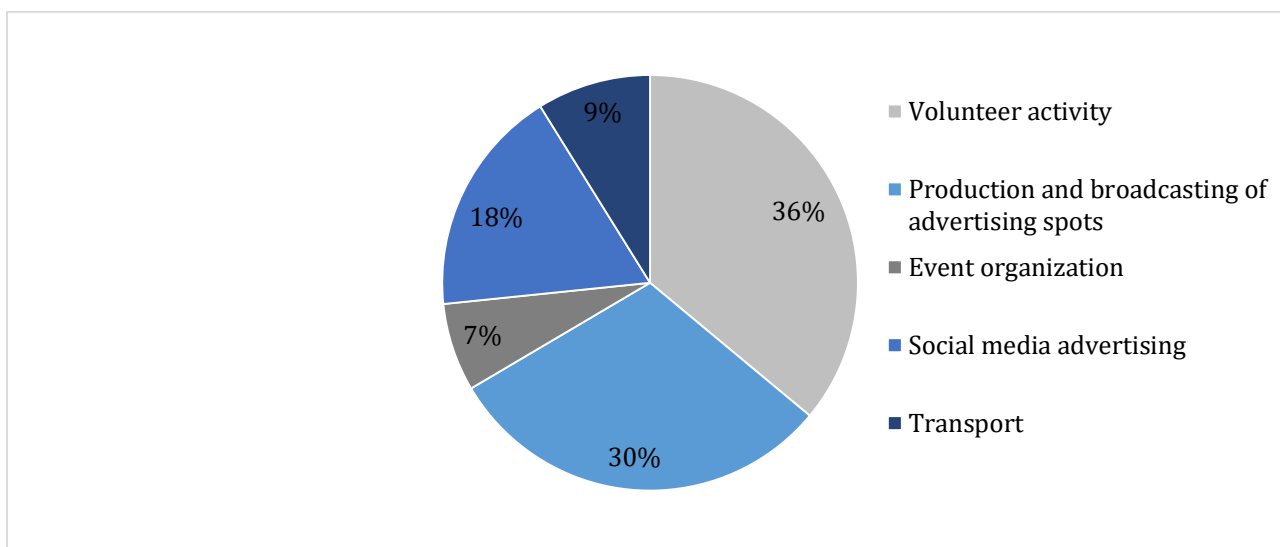
We acknowledge that there may be some differences between the costs applied by Promo-LEX EOM and the actual costs, but using the same rates for all competitors ensures that the estimates are comparable. For the same reason, transport costs for submitting signature lists (independent candidates and initiative groups) and registration documents (parties) and for collecting credentials, which all competitors incur, were not estimated. The estimates cover only events observed and reported by monitors and represent a minimum level.

Election of the Governor (Bashkan). Promo-LEX EOM estimated unreported expenditures of at least MDL 21,568, distributed as follows (Chart No. 5): MDL 10,000 for the production and broadcasting of advertising spots; MDL 5,738 for volunteering (a legal source, but one that must be declared); MDL 2,400 for organising events (a press conference); MDL 1,821 for transport (signature collection, meetings with voters and other events) and MDL 1,609 for social media advertising.

The highest amounts were estimated for the Ivanna Koksai IG (about MDL 6,500, 30% of the total), the Oleg Garizan IG (about MDL 6,300, 29%) and for candidate Petru Vlah, nominated by the Political Party "Noua Opțiune Istorică" (NOI) (about MDL 6,500, 30%). In the latter case, the expenditures fall into two parts: about MDL 4,900 before 02.10.2026, when Petru Vlah intended to run as an independent (press conference, volunteers and transport), and about MDL 1,600 after the announcement of 02.10 of his candidacy on behalf of the Political Party "Noua Opțiune Istorică" (NOI), representing paid social media advertising.

From the information published by 13.10.2026, Promo-LEX EOM did not identify any data on these candidates opening accounts, nor any reports submitted by them through the Financial Control IT subsystem on the CEC website. In this context, Promo-LEX EOM recommends that the CEC and the CECG verify the correlation between the declarations of not opening accounts, the presence or absence of initiative group reports and the activities observed/financially estimated by Promo-LEX, and publish the relevant information in a timely manner.

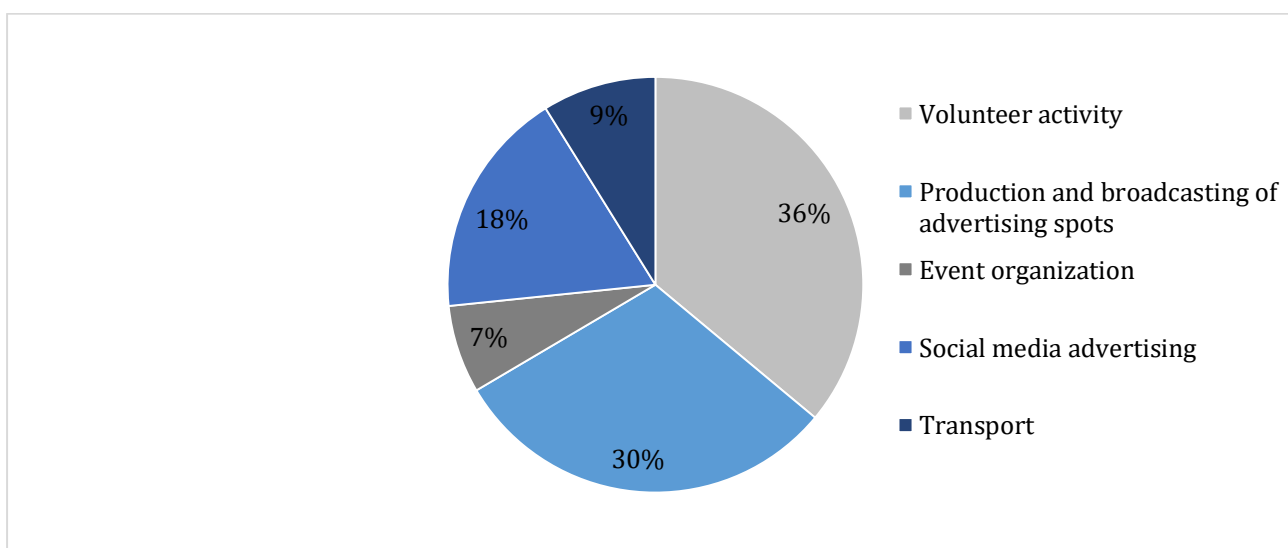
Chart No. 5. Structure of estimated expenditures by type, election of the Governor (Bashkan), period of nomination and registration of candidates (%)



Elections of members of the People's Assembly. Promo-LEX EOM estimated unreported expenditures of at least MDL 13,128, distributed as follows (Chart No. 6): MDL 4,732 for volunteering (a legal source, but one that must be declared); MDL 4,000 for the production and broadcasting of advertising spots; MDL 2,333 for social media advertising; MDL 1,163 for transport and MDL 900 for organising events (protocol and representation). The highest amount was estimated for Olga Mitiglo (about MDL 3,130, 24% of the total), followed by candidate Ecaterina Grec (about MDL 2,075, 16% of the total) and Natalia Mihalciuc (about MDL 2,037, 16% of the total).

Olga Mitiglo and Natalia Mihalciuc reported on 08.10 and 09.10.2026 respectively that they had opened an "Electoral Fund" account, and the estimated amounts can be compared with those in the financial reports, which had not yet been submitted at the time this report was finalised. Ecaterina Grec declared on 09.10.2026 that she had not opened an account, and on 12.10.2026 she sent a notification to DEC Comrat, but we do not know the type of notification (opening or not opening an "Electoral Fund" account).

Chart No. 6. Structure of estimated expenditures by type, People's Assembly elections, period of nomination and registration of candidates (%)

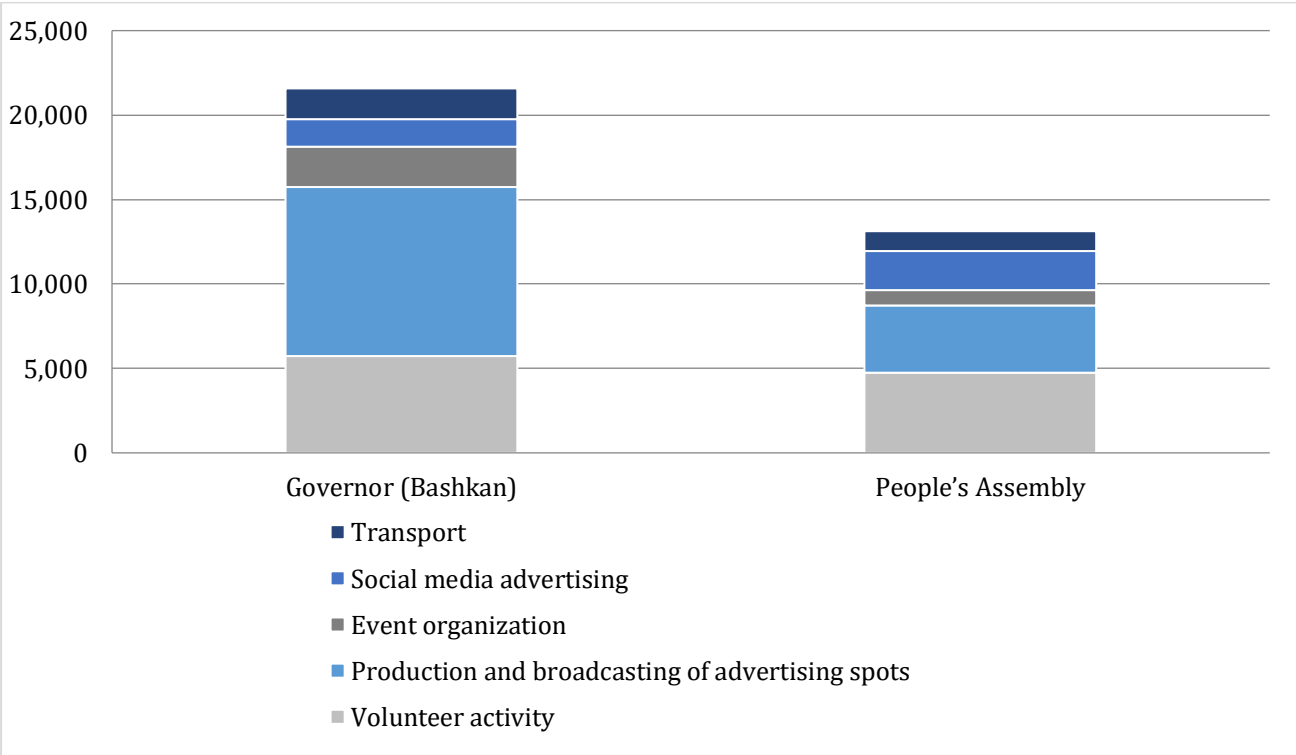


Expenditures prior to the nomination and registration period. By expenditures prior to the nomination and registration period, Promo-LEX EOM refers to the activities observed and financially estimated between 3 July and 14.09.2026 for the Bashkan election and between 3 July and 23.09.2026 for the PAG elections. They are presented below and should not be confused with the expenditures presented above.

Thus, for the Governor (Bashkan), Promo-LEX EOM estimated prior expenditures of at least MDL 18,282, all related to the activity of Fiodor Gagauz: social media advertising, press conferences and transport for meetings with voters. This figure supports the finding and recommendation in 6.1.1 on promotion before nomination. No significant prior expenditures were identified for the PAG.

Conclusions. In total, Promo-LEX EOM estimated expenditures of at least MDL 34,696 during the period of nomination and registration of candidates (MDL 21,568 for the Governor (Bashkan) and MDL 13,128 for the PAG), and together with the prior expenditures, at least MDL 52,978. The expenditures estimated for the Bashkan election are about 1.6 times higher than those for the PAG elections, the difference being generated mainly by the production and broadcasting of advertising spots (Chart No. 7).

Chart No. 7. Estimated expenditures by type: Governor (Bashkan) election vs People’s Assembly elections, period of nomination and registration of candidates (MDL)



RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

1. Bringing Art. 12 para. (3) letter d) of Law No. 344/1994 into line with the Electoral Code by clarifying the scope of the competences of the People's Assembly in relation to the powers of the electoral authorities regarding the organisation and conduct of regional elections.
2. Amending Art. 16 para. (3) of the Electoral Code to include an obligation for candidates to suspend their activity during the signature collection period.
3. Supplementing the legal framework applicable to the election of the Governor of Gagauzia by expressly establishing the moment when the vacancy of the office occurs, clarifying the relationship between the termination of the mandate by operation of law and the formal act by which the People's Assembly establishes the vacancy, and establishing a deadline for adopting this act and a subsidiary mechanism applicable in the event of inaction by the competent authority.
4. Supplementing the legal framework on the accreditation of national observers for regional elections by granting the Central Electoral Commission the competence to accredit national observers for these elections, in order to ensure a clear and coherent mechanism applicable throughout the electoral period.
5. Simplifying the mechanism for acquiring and terminating membership of a political party, so as to guarantee the right to run where the intention to leave the political party was expressed outside the 70-day period before election day provided for by the Electoral Code.
6. Harmonising the rules and conditions for registering candidates for Member of the PAG in Law 344/1994 and in the Electoral Code as regards the candidate's domicile/residence, and clarifying situations involving simultaneous domicile and residence in different constituencies.
7. Revising the regulatory framework on independent candidacy, so that delays in updating party records or in the registration of changes by the PSA do not constitute an absolute obstacle to exercising the right to be elected, where the person shows that, before the legal deadline, he or she took all the steps necessary to dissociate from the party and its governing bodies.

To the Central Electoral Commission and lower-level electoral bodies:

8. Expressly including the date of issue of the signature lists in decisions on applications for the registration of independent candidates.
9. Monitoring both the online and offline space in order to identify third parties, coordinated inauthentic behaviour and their impact on the electoral process.
10. Ensuring the publication, on the webpage of the regional electoral bodies, in a publicly accessible section, of petitions and complaints, the acts resolving them and the correspondence related to their examination.
11. Verifying, together with the CECG and the first-level DECs, the correlation between the declarations of not opening the "Electoral Fund"/"For the Initiative Group" account and the campaign activities observed, and publishing the reports in a timely manner.
12. Proactively informing electoral competitors, including independent candidates, of their financial reporting obligations and continuing the field training, with a focus on notification and reporting obligations.
13. We recommend that the CEC, in cooperation with the CICDE, continue to monitor the availability and recruitment capacity of the electoral officials needed to establish and operate the precinct electoral bureaus in ATU Gagauzia and, where appropriate, identify measures to ensure the human resources needed for the conduct of the electoral process.

To local public authorities:

14. Making public buildings that house electoral bodies accessible.

To political parties

15. We recommend that political parties strengthen their presence and activity in ATU Gagauzia, including by developing territorial structures and engaging consistently in the public and electoral life of the region, in order to ensure the conditions necessary for effective participation in the elections to the People's Assembly under the proportional system, scheduled for 2030.

ABBREVIATIONS

AC – Audiovisual Council
Art. – Article
ATUG – Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia
CC – Political Party “Partidul Acțiunii Comune – Congresul Civic” (Party of Common Action – Civic Congress)
CEC – Central Electoral Commission
CECG – Central Electoral Council of Gagauzia
CICDE – Centre for Continuous Electoral Training
DEC I – first-level district electoral council
DEC II – second-level district electoral council
EOM – Election Observation Mission
EU – European Union
FC IS – “Financial Control” IT subsystem
IC – independent candidate
IG – initiative group
LTO – long-term observer
MAN – Political Party “Mișcarea Alternativă Națională” (National Alternative Movement)
mun. – municipality
NOI – Political Party “Noua Opțiune Istorică” (New Historical Option)
OSCE – Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PACE – Political Party “Partidul Acasă Construim Europa” (Building Europe at Home Party)
PAG – People’s Assembly of Gagauzia
para. – paragraph
PAS – Political Party “Partidul Acțiune și Solidaritate” (Party of Action and Solidarity)
PCRM – Party of Communists of the Republic of Moldova
PDCM – Political Party “Partidul Dezvoltării și Consolidării Moldovei” (Party of Development and Consolidation of Moldova)
PEB – precinct electoral bureau
PN – Political Party “Partidul Nostru” (Our Party)
PPAM – Political Party Alliance “Moldovenii” (“Moldovans”)
PPDA – Political Party “Democrația Acasă” (Democracy at Home)
PPG – Gagauz People’s Party (Partidul Popular Găgăuz)
PPT – Political Party “Pentru Țară” (For the Country)
PSA – Public Services Agency
PSRM – Party of Socialists of the Republic of Moldova
PVM – Political Party “Partidul pentru Viitorul Moldovei” (Party for the Future of Moldova)
pt. – point
SMC – single-member constituency
SRV – State Register of Voters
STO – short-term observer

ANNEXES

Annex No. 1. Number of voters per single-member electoral constituency established for the elections to the People's Assembly¹⁴⁴

No.	Electoral constituency	No. of voters
1	Comrat Electoral Constituency No. 1	5 388
2	Comrat Electoral Constituency No. 2	5 451
3	Comrat Electoral Constituency No. 3	5 555
4	Comrat Electoral Constituency No. 4	4 954
5	Ceadâr-Lunga Electoral Constituency No. 5	5 299
6	Ceadâr-Lunga Electoral Constituency No. 6	5 688
7	Ceadâr-Lunga Electoral Constituency No. 7	6 506
8	Vulcănești Electoral Constituency No. 8	4 291
9	Vulcănești Electoral Constituency No. 9	4 719
10	Vulcănești Electoral Constituency No. 10	4 619
11	Avdarma Electoral Constituency No. 11	2 729
12	Baurci Electoral Constituency No. 12	6 847
13	Beșalma Electoral Constituency No. 13	3 728
14	Beșghioz Electoral Constituency No. 14	2 541
15	Bugeac Electoral Constituency No. 15	1 348
16	Cișmichioi Electoral Constituency No. 16	3 768
17	Cioc-Maidan Electoral Constituency No. 17	2 784
18	Dezghinea Electoral Constituency No. 18	4 129
19	Joltai Electoral Constituency No. 19	1 714
20	Etulia Electoral Constituency No. 20	2 677
21	Ferapontievca Electoral Constituency No. 21	851
22	Gaidar Electoral Constituency No. 22	3 364
23	Carbalia Electoral Constituency No. 23	402
24	Cazaclia Electoral Constituency No. 24	5 580
25	Chiriet-Lunga Electoral Constituency No. 25	1 852
26	Chirsova Electoral Constituency No. 26	5 716
27	Congaz Electoral Constituency No. 27	5 687
28	Congaz Electoral Constituency No. 28	4 692
29	Congazcicul de Sus Electoral Constituency No. 29	1 759
30	Copceac Electoral Constituency No. 30	4 334
31	Copceac Electoral Constituency No. 31	3 255
32	Cotovscoe Electoral Constituency No. 32	744
33	Chioselia Rusă Electoral Constituency No. 33	588
34	Svetlii Electoral Constituency No. 34	1 655
35	Tomai Electoral Constituency No. 35	4 044
Total		129 258

¹⁴⁴ [CEC press release](#). The CEC presents updated data on the number of voters in ATU Gagauzia (as of 2 October 2026) (in Romanian)

Annex No. 2. Activities of potential candidates for the People's Assembly in the period up to the start of the electoral campaign

	<i>Activities related to signature collection</i>	<i>Participation in public events with potential electoral impact</i>	<i>Online advertising</i>	<i>Total</i>
Electoral Constituency No. 1				14
Chiulafli Serghei	1	0	10	11
Mitioglo Olga	1	0	0	1
MAN (Bolgar Maxim)	0	1	0	1
PPG (Dudoglo Nicolai)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 2				25
PPG (Levandovschi Alexandr)	0	0	1	1
Caraivan Alexandr	2	0	7	9
Chirilovscaia Anastasia	1	0	4	5
Cara Alexei	1	0	0	1
Gagauz Serghei	1	0	0	1
Panea Ivan	2	0	6	8
Electoral Constituency No. 3				17
Tarnavschi Alexandr	2	0	1	3
Ceban Vadim	1	0	1	2
Mitioglo Olga	1	0	6	7
Novac Vasili	1	0	3	4
PPG (Cilcic Ivan)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 4				4
Sibov Oleg	1	0	0	1
Cara Iurii	2	0	0	2
PPG (Mitioglu Gheorghe)	0	0	1	1
Electoral Constituency No. 5				20
Chiseev Dmitri	3	0	11	14
Mihalciuc Natalia	1	1	0	2
Ivanciuc Nicolai	1	0	0	1
Topciu Victor	1	0	0	1
PSRM (Constantinova Oxana)	0	2	0	2
Electoral Constituency No. 6				7
Mihalciuc Natalia	0	0	4	4
Leiciu Gheorghe	1	0	0	1
Mihailov Andrei	1	0	0	1
PSRM (Culev Anatoli)	0	0	1	1
Electoral Constituency No. 7				18
Topal Victor	3	0	4	7
PSRM (Iurcenco Elena)	0	0	4	4
Karadag Liudmila	5	0	2	7
Electoral Constituency No. 8				4
PSRM (Toporas Alexandr)	0	0	1	1
PPAM (Grecu Stefan)	0	0	1	1
Mocan Olesea	1	0	0	1
Delistoian Serghei	1	0	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 9				2
Savastin Mihail	1	0	0	1
PSRM (Ponomarenco Sergiu)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 10				1
PPAM (Tiutin Roman)	0	0	1	1
Electoral Constituency No. 11				4
Grec Ecaterina	2	0	1	3
Dinjos Alexandr	1	0	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 12				4
Chioseas Gheorghe	2	0	0	2
Cadın Grigorii	2	0	0	2

Electoral Constituency No. 13				3
Diulgher Grigori	2	1	0	3
Electoral Constituency No. 14				4
PSRM (Bratan Vitalie)	0	1	1	2
Molla Mihail	2	0	0	2
Electoral Constituency No. 15				5
Panov Alexandr	2	0	0	2
Berber Valentin	1	0	0	1
Vladimir Cîssa	2	0	0	2
Electoral Constituency No. 16				9
Berber Valentin	1	0	0	1
Boev Gheorghe	2	0	0	2
Ianul Dmitri	4	1	0	5
PSRM (Stoianov Andrei)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 17				1
Plucci Anatoli	1	0	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 18				1
PSRM (Chireacov Nicolai)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 19				2
Andrușoi Nicolai	2	0	0	2
Electoral Constituency No. 20				8
Serbinova Kateryna	0	0	5	5
Cuidjuclu Seghei	2	0	0	2
PPAM (Anna Mînzat)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 21				3
Petcoglo Elvira	1	0	0	1
Cebanu Vitali	1	0	0	1
PSRM (Miziuc Mariana)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 22				11
Cebotari Ivan	2	1	5	8
Bejenar Gheorghe	2	0	0	2
Topal Ivan	1	0	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 23				5
Gaidarji Valentin	2	0	0	2
Dermenji Vasilisa	1	0	0	1
PPG (Gaidarji Oleg)	0	1	0	1
PSRM (Untu Nicolai)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 24				7
Diulgher Alexandr	1	0	2	3
Momat Elena	2	0	0	2
Uzun Anatoli	2	0	0	2
Electoral Constituency No. 25				11
Burgudji Ivan	1	0	0	1
Cuiudjuclu Gheorghe	2	0	7	9
Jelezoglo Vladimir	1	0	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 26				4
Edgar Dimov	1	0	0	1
Stoinov Vasili	1	0	0	1
Sarioglo Stepan	1	0	0	1
PSRM (Tomailă Vladimir)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 27				6
Vasilii Iasîbaș	1	0	2	3
Bessarab Ivan	0	1	1	2
Caraseni Mihail	1	0	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 28				9
Tulba Gavriil	1	0	5	6
Manolov Stepan	1	0	0	1
Statova Anna	2	0	0	2
Electoral Constituency No. 29				1

Ostaş Lidia	1	0	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 30				12
Colioglo Valerii	2	0	0	2
Garizan Oleg	1	0	0	1
Iusumbeli Serghei	2	0	0	2
Manastîrlî Valeriu	2	0	3	5
Evghenii Murzacoi	1	0	0	1
PSRM (Franjeva Ecaterina)	0	1	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 31				12
Arnaut Vitalii	2	0	0	2
Galaţan Alexandr	2	0	0	2
Garizan Sergei	2	0	0	2
Dmitrii Manastîrlî	3	0	1	4
Sacali Veaceslav	2	0	0	2
Electoral Constituency No. 32				
Electoral Constituency No. 33				1
Delibatov Nicolai	1	0	0	1
Electoral Constituency No. 34				13
Valeri Curchin	2	0	7	9
Makedonski Oleg	2	0	0	2
Unilovschi Ruslan	2	0	0	2
Electoral Constituency No. 35				12
Balaban Dmitri	1	0	0	1
Ianac Igor	1	0	3	4
Nedealco-Calîn Oxana	3	0	4	7
Total	124	20	116	260

Annex No. 3. Activities of potential candidates for Governor (Bashkan) in the period up to the start of the electoral campaign

	<i>Activities related to signature collection</i>	<i>Participation in public events with potential electoral impact</i>	<i>Online advertising</i>	<i>Total</i>
Dudnic Cornel	1	0	1	2
Stoianoglo Alexandr	2	1	2	5
Gagauz Fiodor (PSRM)	0	0	2	2
Cîlcic Ivan (PPG)	0	1	0	1
Garizan Oleg	2	1	0	3
Koksal Ivanna	3	3	3	9
Anastasov Serghei	2	2	1	5
Vlah Petru (NOI)	1	0	5	6
Total	11	8	14	33

Annex No. 4. Financial reporting of registered independent candidates, People's Assembly elections (as of 13.10.2026)

No.	SMC No.	Constituency	Candidate	IG registration	Candidate registration	Reporting deadline	Declaration on the "Electoral Fund" account (date - note)	Monday notification, 12.10.2026
1	1	Comrat	Sergei Chiulaffi	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
2	2	Comrat	Alexandr Caraivan	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - opened	-
3	2	Comrat	Anastasia Chirilovskaia	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
4	2	Comrat	Artiom Sarf	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
5	2	Comrat	Ivan Panea	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
6	2	Comrat	Alexei Cara	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026*	-
7	2	Comrat	Serghei Gagauz	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026*	-
8	3	Comrat	Olga Mitiglo	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	08.10.2026 - opened	-
9	3	Comrat	Vasili Novac	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
10	3	Comrat	Alexandr Tarnavski	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
11	3	Comrat	Vadim Ceban	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026*	-
12	4	Comrat	Iuri Cara	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
13	4	Comrat	Oleg Sibov	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026*	-
14	5	Ceadr-Lunga	Nicolai Ivanciuc	-	04.10.2026	07.10.2026	07.10.2026 - not opened	-
15	5	Ceadr-Lunga	Victor Topciu	-	04.10.2026	07.10.2026	07.10.2026 - opened	-
16	5	Ceadr-Lunga	Dmitri Chiseev	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026 - opened	-
17	5	Ceadr-Lunga	Andrei Mihailov	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
18	6	Ceadr-Lunga	Gheorghe Leiciu	-	04.10.2026	07.10.2026	07.10.2026 - not opened	-
19	6	Ceadr-Lunga	Natalia Mihalciuc	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - opened	-
20	7	Ceadr-Lunga	Victor Topal	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - opened	-
21	7	Ceadr-Lunga	Liudmila Karadag	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
22	8	Vulcanesti	Olesea Mocan	-	11.10.2026	14.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
23	8	Vulcanesti	Serghei Delistoian	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
24	9	Vulcanesti	Mihail Savastin	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	10.10.2026 - not opened; 13.10.2026 - not opened	-
25	9	Vulcanesti	Cornel Dudnic	-	11.10.2026	14.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
26	11	Avdarma	Ecaterina Grec	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
27	11	Avdarma	Vitali Guna	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026*	-
28	11	Avdarma	Alexandr Dinjos	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
29	12	Baurci	Grigori Cadin	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
30	12	Baurci	Gheorghe Chiosea	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	10.10.2026 - not opened	-
31	13	Beşalma	Grigori Diulgher	-	04.10.2026	07.10.2026	07.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
32	14	Beşghioz	Maria Seiz	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
33	14	Beşghioz	Mihail Molla	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
34	15	Bugeac	Vladimir Cissa	28.09.2026	04.10.2026	07.10.2026	06.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
35	15	Bugeac	Alexandr Panov	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
36	15	Bugeac	Valentin Berber	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	12.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
37	16	Cismichioi	Gheorghe Boev	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	11.10.2026 - not opened	-
38	16	Cismichioi	Dmitri Ianul	-	11.10.2026	14.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
39	17	Cioc-Maidan	Piotr Ianioglo	-	05.10.2026	08.10.2026	07.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
40	17	Cioc-Maidan	Anatoli Plucci	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
41	18	Dezghingea	Nicolai Raia	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	10.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026 *	12.10.2026
42	18	Dezghingea	Andrei Sarf	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026 *	-
43	19	Joltai	Nicolai Andruşoi	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026 - opened	12.10.2026
44	20	Etulia	Serghei Cuidjuclu	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
45	21	Ferapontievca	Vitali Cebanu	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	12.10.2026 - not opened; 13.10.2026*	12.10.2026
46	21	Ferapontievca	Elvira Petcoglo	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	12.10.2026 - not opened; 13.10.2026*	-
47	22	Gaidar	Gheorghe Bejenar	-	05.10.2026	08.10.2026	12.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
48	22	Gaidar	Ivan Cebotari	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - opened	-
49	22	Gaidar	Ivan Topal	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
50	23	Carbalia	Vasilisa Dermenji	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 13.10.2026 - not opened	-
51	24	Cazaclia	Alexandr Diulgher	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026 - opened	12.10.2026
52	24	Cazaclia	Elena Momat	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
53	24	Cazaclia	Anatoli Uzun	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
54	25	Chiriet-Lunga	Vladimir Jelezoglo	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
55	25	Chiriet-Lunga	Gheorghe Cuiudjuclu	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	13.10.2026 - not opened	-
56	25	Chiriet-Lunga	Ivan Burgudji	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
57	26	Chirsova	Stepan Sarioglo	-	05.10.2026	08.10.2026	08.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
58	26	Chirsova	Stepan Piron	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	08.10.2026 - not opened; 13.10.2026 *	12.10.2026
59	26	Chirsova	Edgar Dimov	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	12.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
60	26	Chirsova	Vasile Stoinov	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	10.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
61	26	Chirsova	Victor Zlatovcen	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 13.10.2026*	-
62	26	Chirsova	Stepan Coroleac	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026*	-
63	27	Congaz	Mihail Caraseni	-	05.10.2026	08.10.2026	07.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
64	27	Congaz	Vasili Iasibaş	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	10.10.2026 - not opened; 13.10.2026 - opened	12.10.2026
65	27	Congaz	Ivan Bessarab	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	12.10.2026 - not opened	12.10.2026
66	28	Congaz	Stepan Manolov	-	05.10.2026	08.10.2026	09.10.2026 - not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
67	28	Congaz	Gavril Tulba	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 - opened	-
68	28	Congaz	Anna Statova	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026*	-
69	28	Congaz	Vitali Chiurcciu	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	12.10.2026 - not opened; 13.10.2026*	-

No.	SMC No.	Constituency	Candidate	IG registration	Candidate registration	Reporting deadline	Declaration on the "Electoral Fund" account (date – note)	Monday notification, 12.10.2026
70	29	Congazcicul de Sus	Serghei Zaharia	-	05.10.2026	08.10.2026	07.10.2026 – not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
71	29	Congazcicul de Sus	Lidia Ostaş	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026*	-
72	30	Copceac	Oleg Garizan	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	no notification identified	-
73	30	Copceac	Valeriu Manastirli	-	09.10.2026	12.10.2026	13.10.2026 – opened	-
74	30	Copceac	Evgheni Murzaco	-	09.10.2026	12.10.2026	13.10.2026 – not opened	-
75	30	Copceac	Serghei Iusiumbeli	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
76	30	Copceac	Valeri Colioglo	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	13.10.2026 – not opened	-
77	31	Copceac	Dmitri Manastirli	-	06.10.2026	09.10.2026	09.10.2026 – not opened	-
78	31	Copceac	Vitali Arnaut	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
79	31	Copceac	Alexandr Galaţan	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
80	31	Copceac	Serghei Garizan	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
81	31	Copceac	Veaceslav Sacali	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-
82	32	Cotovscoe	Nicolai Ormanji	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	09.10.2026 – not opened	12.10.2026
83	32	Cotovscoe	Svetlana Reguş	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	12.10.2026 – not opened	12.10.2026
84	32	Cotovscoe	Fiodor Tatar	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	10.10.2026 – not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
85	32	Cotovscoe	Nicolai Sarioglo	-	09.10.2026	12.10.2026	12.10.2026 – not opened	12.10.2026
86	33	Chioselia Rusă	Nicolai Delibatov	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	09.10.2026 – not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
87	34	Svetlii	Ruslan Unilovschi	-	05.10.2026	08.10.2026	08.10.2026 – not opened; 12.10.2026*	12.10.2026
88	34	Svetlii	Oleg Makedonski	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	09.10.2026 – not opened	12.10.2026
89	34	Svetlii	Valeri Curchin	-	08.10.2026	12.10.2026	10.10.2026 – not opened; 12.10.2026, 13.10.2026 – opened	12.10.2026
90	35	Tomai	Oxana Nedeaico-Calin	-	04.10.2026	07.10.2026	07.10.2026 – not opened; 12.10.2026 – opened	12.10.2026
91	35	Tomai	Igor Ianac	-	07.10.2026	12.10.2026	no notification identified	-
92	35	Tomai	Dmitri Balaban	-	12.10.2026	15.10.2026	deadline not expired	-

Notes: * We do not know whether the "Electoral Fund" account has been opened or not

Annex 5. Registered candidates for Member of the PAG

SMC No.	Single-member constituency	Candidate	Gender	Political formation	Signatures collected	Signatures validated	New candidate/ incumbent member	Electoral body decision
1	Comrat	Nicolai Dudoglo	M	PPG	x	x	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 33 of 07.10.2026
		Maxim Bolgar	M	MAN	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 6 of 04.10.2026
		Serghei Chiulafli	M	IC	150	137	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 55 of 12.10.2026
2	Comrat	Alexandr Caraivan	M	IC	150	133	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 24 of 06.10.2026
		Anastasia Chirilovskaia	F	IC	68	53	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 66 of 12.10.2026
		Ivan Panea	M	IC	150	142	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 71 of 12.10.2026
		Alexei Cara	M	IC	150	138	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 64 of 12.10.2026
		Artiom Sarî	M	IC	150	132	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 58 of 12.10.2026
		Serghei Gagauz	M	IC	150	144	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 69 of 12.10.2026
		Alexandr Levandovski	M	PPG	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 72 of 12.10.2026
		Vasilii Novac	M	IC	138	127	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 30 of 07.10.2026
3	Comrat	Ivan Cilic	M	PPG	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 52 of 09.10.2026
		Olga Mitiglo	F	IC	75	69	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 23 of 06.10.2026
		Alexandr Tarnavski	M	IC	150	131	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 57 of 12.10.2026
		Vadim Ceban	M	IC	150	138	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 56 of 12.10.2026
		Iuri Cara	M	IC	150	140	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 29 of 07.10.2026
4	Comrat	Ivan Dimitrioglo	M	PSRM	x	x	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 8 of 04.10.2026
		Gheorghi Mitiglo	M	PPG	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 44 of 08.10.2026
		Oleg Sibov	M	IC	125	110	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 60 of 12.10.2026
		Nicolai Ivanciuc	M	IC	148	130	incumbent	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 7 of 04.10.2026
		Victor Topciu	M	IC	150	118	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 6 of 04.10.2026
		Oxana Constantinova	F	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 5 of 04.10.2026
		Dmitri Chiseev	M	IC	148	134	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 37 of 12.10.2026
5	Ceadîr-Lunga	Andrei Mihailov	M	IC	150	139	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 47 of 12.10.2026
		Gheorghi Leiciu	M	IC	150	134	incumbent	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 8 of 04.10.2026
		Anatoli Culev	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 9 of 04.10.2026
		Ivan Meşe	M	PPG	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 28 of 07.10.2026
		Natalia Mihalciuc	F	IC	75	62	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 19 of 06.10.2026
6	Ceadîr-Lunga	Elena Iurcenco	F	PSRM	x	x	incumbent	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 10 of 04.10.2026
		Victor Topal	M	IC	148	141	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 18 of 06.10.2026
		Liudmila Karadag	F	IC	75	74	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 7 of 12.10.2026
7	Ceadîr-Lunga	Oleg Toporaş	M	PPT	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 16 of 07.10.2026
		Ştefan Grecu	M	PPAM	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 20 of 09.10.2026
		Alexandr Toporaş	M	PSRM	x	x	incumbent	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 9 of 04.10.2026
		Olesea Mocan	F	IC	75	67	new	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 27 of 11.10.2026
		Serghei Delistoian	M	IC	150	129	new	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 28.10.2026
8	Vulcăneşti	Mihail Savastin	M	IC	150	128	incumbent	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 14 of 07.10.2026
		Oleg Milcov	M	PPAM	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 25 of 11.10.2026
		Sergiu Ponomarenco	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 7 of 04.10.2026
		Cornel Dudnic	M	IC	150	131	new	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 22 of 11.10.2026
9	Vulcăneşti	Piotr Fazli	M	PSRM	x	x	incumbent	DEC 3 Vulcăneşti Decision No. 6 of 04.10.2026

11	Avdarma	Roman Tiutin	M	PPAM	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 24 of 11.10.2026
		Dimitrii Caramit	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 16 of 04.10.2026
		Ecaterina Grec	F	IC	75	67	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 28 of 07.10.2026
		Alexandr Dinjos	M	IC	150	139	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 64 of 12.10.2026
		Vitalii Guna	M	IC	116	109	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 61 of 12.10.2026
12	Baurci	Serghei Dimitrioglo	M	PPAM	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 39 of 12.10.2026
		Gheorghe Chiosea	M	IC	150	140	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 27 of 07.10.2026
		Grigorii Cadîn	M	IC	120	102	incumbent	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 23 of 06.10.2026
13	Beșalma	Gheorghe Chiosea	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 26 of 06.10.2026
		Grigori Diulgher	M	IC	150	142	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 9 of 04.10.2026
14	Beșghioz	Vitalie Bratan	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 15 of 05.10.2026
		Mihail Molla	M	IC	150	144	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 40 of 12.10.2026
		Maria Seiz	F	IC	75	69	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 48 of 12.10.2026
15	Bugeac	Valentin Berber	M	IC	144	139	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 46 of 08.10.2026
		Vladimir Cîssa	M	IC	150	133	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 10 of 04.10.2026
		Alexandr Panov	M	IC	144	137	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 27 of 07.10.2026
16	Cișmichioi	Dmitri Ianul	M	IC	132	121	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 26 of 11.10.2026
		Andrei Stoianov	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 12 of 06.10.2026
		Gheorghe Boev	M	IC	150	139	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 19 of 08.10.2026
17	Cioc-Maidan	Piotr Ianioglo	M	IC	150	145	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 18 of 05.10.2026
		Anatoli Plucci	M	IC	148	146	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 62 of 12.10.2026
18	Dezghingea	Nicolai Chireacov	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 14 of 04.10.2026
		Nicolai Raia	M	IC	150	140	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 41 of 08.10.2026
		Andrei Sarî	M	IC	150	145	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 49 of 12.10.2026
		Dmitri Capsamun	M	PPG	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 75 of 12.10.2026
19	Joltai	Iurii Cambur	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 14 of 04.10.2026
		Nicolai Andrușoi	M	IC	150	148	incumbent	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 26 of 06.10.2026
20	Etulia	Kateryna Serbinova	F	PPT	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 17 of 07.10.2026
		Seghei Cuidjuclu	M	IC	150	145	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 13 of 06.10.2026
		Mihail Popov	M	PSRM	x	x	incumbent	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 8 of 04.10.2026
		Anna Minzat	F	PPAM	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 23 of 11.10.2026
21	Ferapontievca	Vitali Cebanu	M	IC	135	126	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 40 of 08.10.2026
		Mariana Miziuc	F	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 12 of 4 October 2026
		Elvira Petcoglo	F	IC	90 (75 verified)	72	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 67 of 12.10.2026
		Alexandr Odnostalco	M	PPAM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 73 of 12.10.2026
22	Gaidar	Maria Solonenco	F	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 13 of 04.10.2026
		Ivan Cebotari	M	IC	140	130	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 17 of 06.10.2026
		Ivan Topal	M	IC	150	138	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 24 of 06.10.2026
		Gheorghe Bejenar	M	IC	150	143	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 16 of 05.10.2026
		Maria Dermenji	F	PPAM	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 21 of 09.10.2026
23	Carbalia	Nicolae Untu	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 10 of 04.10.2026
		Vasilisa Dermenji	F	IC	75	74	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 11 of 06.10.2026
		Oleg Gaidarji	M	PPG	x	x	new	DEC 3 Vulcănești Decision No. 15 of 07.10.2026
		Alexandr Diulgher	M	IC	150	141	incumbent	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 20 of 06.10.2026
24	Cazaclia	Elena Momat	F	IC	60	56	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 49 of 12.10.2026
		Anatoli Uzun	M	IC	148	141	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 41 of 12.10.2026
		Gheorghe Cuiudjuclu	M	IC	150	144	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 29 of 07.10.2026
25	Chiriet-Lunga	Vladimir Jelezoglo	M	IC	145	131	new	DEC 2 Ceadâr-Lunga Decision No. 30 of 07.10.2026

26	Chirsova	Nicolai Taşoglo	M	PPG	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 42 of 12.10.2026
		Ivan Burgudji	M	IC	150	133	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 54 of 12.10.2026
		Edgar Dimov	M	IC	150	143	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 45 of 08.10.2026
		Vasili Stoinov	M	IC	150	145	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 49 of 08.10.2026
		Victor Zlatovcen	M	IC	150	141	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 48 of 08.10.2026
		Stepan Sarioglo	M	IC	150	143	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 17 of 05.10.2026
		Vladimir Tomailî	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 7 of 4 October 2026
		Stepan Piron	M	IC	150	137	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 35 of 07.10.2026
27	Congaz	Stepan Coroleac	M	IC	134	114	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 70 of 12.10.2026
		Vasilii Iasîbaş	M	IC	150	142	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 34 of 7 October 2026
		Mihail Caraseni	M	IC	150	137	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 19 of 05.10.2026
		Iordan Iasîbaş	M	PPG	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 32 of 7 October 2026
		Stepan Arnaut	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 13 of 04.10.2026
28	Congaz	Ivan Bessarab	M	IC	150	136	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 47 of 08.10.2026
		Stepan Manolov	M	IC	150	133	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 21 of 05.10.2026
		Gavriil Tulba	M	IC	150	139	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 25 of 06.10.2026
		Anna Statova	F	IC	90	75	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 68 of 12.10.2026
		Vitalii Chiurcci	M	IC	150	147	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 54 of 12.10.2026
29	Congazcicul de Sus	Serghei Zaharia	M	IC	150	144	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 22 of 05.10.2026
		Dmitrii Chiciuc	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 15 of 04.10.2026
		Lidia Ostaş	M	IC	70	64	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 65 of 12.10.2026
30	Copceac	Valeriu Manastîrlî	M	IC	124	118	incumbent	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 33 of 09.10.2026
		Evghenii Murzacoi	M	IC	150	140	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 32 of 09.10.2026
		Oleg Garizan	M	IC	150	143	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 21 of 06.10.2026
		Ecaterina Franjeva	F	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 25 of 06.10.2026
		Valerii Colioglo	M	IC	150	143	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 51 of 12.10.2026
		Serghei Iusiumbeli	M	IC	124	120	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 52 of 12.10.2026
31	Copceac	Dmitrii Manastîrlî	M	IC	150	138	incumbent	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 22 of 06.10.2026
		Vitalii Arnaut	M	IC	111	102	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 53 of 12.10.2026
		Alexandr Galaţan	M	IC	148	123	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 43 of 12.10.2026
		Serghei Garizan	M	IC	150	140	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 44 of 12.10.2026
		Veaceslav Sacali	M	IC	150	136	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 45 of 12.10.2026
32	Cotovscoe	Nicolai Sarioglo	M	IC	115	112	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 53 of 09.10.2026
		Fiodor Tatar	M	IC	150	146	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 39 of 08.10.2026
		Nicolai Ormanji	M	IC	136	117	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 37 of 07.10.2026
		Svetlana Reguş	F	IC	58	52	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 43 of 08.10.2026
		Dmitri Guci	M	MAN	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 74 of 12.10.2026
33	Chioselia Rusă	Nicolai Delibatov	M	IC	150	139	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 38 of 07.10.2026
34	Svetlii	Ruslan Unilovschi	M	IC	135	118	incumbent	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 20 of 05.10.2026
		Oleg Makedonski	M	IC	150	143	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 31 of 07.10.2026
		Dmitri Ceachir	M	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 11 of 04.10.2026
		Valeri Curchin	M	IC	149	141	new	DEC 1 Comrat Decision No. 42 of 08.10.2026
35	Tomai	Igor Ianac	M	IC	128	124	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 31 of 07.10.2026
		Oxana Nedeaico-Calîn	F	IC	75	72	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 12 of 04.10.2026
		Maria Stamat	F	PSRM	x	x	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 11 of 04.10.2026
		Dmitri Balaban	M	IC	121	115	new	DEC 2 Ceadîr-Lunga Decision No. 46 of 12.10.2026

