



## IHEC Regulation No.19

According to the authority which has been given to the Board of commissioners in the article (4), item (8) of the Independent High Electoral Commission's law No. (11), in the year 2007, and the amended Law of the Iraqi Parliament Election of the No. (16), for the year 2005 we decided issuing the following regulation:-

# (Electoral campaign)

No. (19) For the year 2009

## (Preamble)

The independent High (Supreme) Electoral Commission in Iraq has been established according to the law no (11) for the year 2007 to be precisely the only electoral authority in Iraq, The commission is professional, autonomous, independent, and neutral, subjected to the supervision of council of representatives.

## Section 1 (Terminology)

The following terms represented the meaning in the face of each one of them:-

1. **"Commission"**:-means The Independent High Electoral Commission.
2. **"Board"**: The Board of Commissioners.
3. **"The political entity"**: Is an organization, including the political party or the person who intends to stand alone for the



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elections on the condition that they obtain certification of a political entity by the Commission.

4. "**Election campaign**": Is a campaign of information and persuasion administered by the legitimate political entity or coalition or candidate to persuade voters to cast their ballots for it.
5. "**Rules of Conduct**": Rules issued by IHEC and private behavior of the political entities to participate in the electoral process.

## Section 2

### (The Electoral campaign period)

1. The political entities, coalitions and candidates authenticated by the Commission got the right to begin their electoral campaigns starting from the day following the date of publication of the names of candidates approved by ,campaigns will stop before (24) hours from the time the polls centers are opened.
2. The electoral campaign of the political entities, coalitions and candidates approved by should be free and within the limits of existing laws and regulations of the Commission.

## Section 3

### (Terms of electoral campaigns)

1. Baghdad Municipality and the relevant municipalities in the provinces Determine in coordination with the commission; the places in which it is prohibited to practice the electoral propaganda and paste the electoral announcement throughout the campaign period preceding the day of the



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- elections and prohibiting the publication of any propaganda programs or pictures of the candidates at polling stations.
2. Political entities, coalitions and candidates should be sure that their electoral campaign in any location within the conditions prescribed in this regulation and codes of conduct signed by the President of a political entity, as part of the authentication process.
  3. Prohibiting the use of adhesives (gum, asafetida, and other materials) as well as writing on the walls using paint and Spray in the exercise of the electoral campaign.
  4. Prohibiting the use of the official emblem of the State in the meetings, announcements and bulletins in the electoral writings and fees that are used in the electoral campaign.
  5. It is Allowed to use the images and symbols of personal publicity for non-candidates but references to religion.
  6. It is allowed to use the state's departments, including its military and security, mosques and Shiite mosques and holy shrines, shrines and sales, churches and other places of worship to support the electoral process exclusively, may not be used for the purposes of electoral propaganda for the political entities, lists, or candidates.
  7. The staff of government departments and local authorities of different degrees and level are not allowed to exploit their posts, the state resources, or its means including its military and security systems to arrange the electoral campaign for their benefits or for any candidate or political entity, or to influence voters.
  8. Political entities, coalitions and candidates are not allowed to issue false statements or defamation against a candidate or a political entity that involved in the electoral process or against the Commission.



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9. It is prohibited for any political entity or coalition participating in the elections; to include its election campaigns ideas calls for arising national, religious, sectarian, tribal, or regional sectarianism between citizens, whether through the logos, pictures, posters, television, radio broadcasting or other media and various communication means.
10. It is prohibited for any political entity, coalition, or candidate to submit, during the electoral campaign, any gifts, donations, or any other benefits, by the intention of influencing voting.
11. Political entities, coalitions and candidates should refrain from violence, hatred, intimidation, or supporting, practicing, using or arising terrorism during the electoral campaign, through the expression of the views or speeches, writings, posters or visual media or audio or any other mean.
12. It is prohibited to spend on electoral campaigns from the public money, the budget ministries, endowment funds or funds of external support.
13. An obligation not to assault or exposure to any other election propaganda concerning political entities or coalitions, or candidates.
14. The candidates as well as employees in government's departments or members of local authorities are not allowed to distribute work programs on the day of voting by either him /her self or by another.
15. It is not permitted to use the pictures of candidates at polling stations.



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### Section 4

#### (Implications of the violation of the conditions of electoral campaigns)

1. Monitoring committees, which is formed in IHEC offices, will coordinate with directorates and municipal departments to control violations of the electoral campaign.
2. Commission imposed a fine on any political entity, coalition, or candidate violates this regulation or the code of conduct of political entities, signed by them, IHEC will also takes legal action to enforce the penalties stipulated in the amended Electoral law No. 16 of 2005.
3. Political entities which violated the electoral campaigns will be informed to remove the offense during (3) days from the date of notification; or else the fine will be doubled in case that the entity is not complying, then the names of violated entities will be published in media.
4. Political entities should remove all items of the media campaign during the (30) days from the day following the polling day, otherwise it will be loaded cost of removing such violations, which are identified by the directorates and departments of the municipality.
5. Deposits will not be returned to political entities who won one seat but after the payment of amounts of removing irregularities, if deposits were not enough to pay these amounts or political entities did not get a seat in the elections, then they should pay within (10) days and bring what prove that; otherwise legal action would be taking against them.



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6. Complaints related to the electoral campaign will be submitted to the national office or to the governorates' offices of IHEC as it is set in regulation (16) for the year 2009.

### **Section 5** **(Effectiveness of the regulation)**

This regulation shall enter into force since the date of its ratification by the Board of Commissioners in 9/12/2009.

Board of Commissioners