



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Independent Election Commission Secretariat**

Code of Conduct for the Media

Considering the freedom of speech, people right to access to information and the importance of transparency in the election process; the Independent Elections Commission (IEC) under the authority of Article 56 of the Electoral Law, has issued this code of conduct to apply to participation of the media through all election processes. Accredited media institutions, may be present at all stages of the election process to prepare reports in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Afghanistan, the Electoral Law, the Media law, regulations and procedures issued by IEC, this code of conduct and other approved IEC documents.

The Independent Election Commission, the Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC) and the Media Commission (MC) can impose sanctions and take other major steps for any violation of this code of conduct that are committed by the media or their representatives,

Accredited media institutions and their representatives shall:

1. Refrain from broadcasting or releasing election related reports that could cause violence or tribal, linguistic, regional, ethnical or religious discrimination.
2. Ensure all election related reports are be prepared with impartiality, accuracy, fairness and equity.
3. Provide to the public detailed information concerning the different election processes.
4. Refrain from printing, broadcasting or publishing incorrect information that could, mislead the participants in an election.
5. Avoid printing, broadcasting or publishing of scandalous advertisements or insulting reports about a candidate's personality or behavior that could affect the election results.
6. Refrain from publishing partial reports and avoid focusing only on activities that support or harm a specific political party or candidate.
7. Use only the official numbers and information for preparing and publishing reports, and refrain from publishing or broadcasting rumors or gossip.
8. Specify the sources of opinions and information.

9. Refrain from accepting any gift or payment from a political party or candidate for broadcasting elections reports.

10. When the IEC requests, correct mistakes existing in their election reports as soon as possible.

11. Respect the decisions of IEC, ECC, and MC, and take the necessary actions for the implementation of their decisions.

I have read, understand, and will abide by the above Code of Conduct

Station ()

Date ()

Name ()

Signature ()