

REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
LAW
ON FUNDING OF, AND CONTROL OVER FUNDING OF,
POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

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Vilnius

(As last amended on 26 October 2010 – No XI-1071)

CHAPTER ONE
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Objective of the Law

1. The objective of this Law shall be to ensure democracy of political campaigns, legality, transparency and openness of funding of political parties and political campaigns, to regulate the procedure and control of funding of political parties and political campaigns.

2. This Law shall not regulate the funding of, and control over the funding of, political parties which under Articles 2 and 3 of Regulation (EC) No 2004/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 November 2003 on the regulations governing political parties at European level and the rules regarding their funding (OJ 2004 special edition, Chapter 1, Volume 4, p. 500) are considered to be political parties at European level and whose seats are located not in the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 2. Definitions

1. **“Auditor’s report on findings”** means a document in which the auditor, who has carried out an independent audit of a political party or a political campaign participant in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law, shall give evaluations of the data set in the terms of reference approved by the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as “the Central Electoral Commission”).

2. **“Auditor”** means a natural person holding the title of the certified auditor granted according to the procedure laid down by the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Audit.

3. **“Donations”** means cash, movables or immovables, information, property rights, results of intellectual activities, other material and non-material values transferred to a

beneficiary without return consideration, actions and voluntary works carried out free of charge as well as results of such actions intended for funding activities of political parties or political campaigns of independent political campaign participants.

4. **“Donor”** means a person who, in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law, has the right to make, and has made, a donation for the benefit of a political party or an independent political campaign participant.

5. **“Donation sheet”** means a document with technological security measures, bearing a series and a number given in the course the production and intended to confirm the transfer-acceptance of a donation.

6. **“Candidate”** means a person who, in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law, is registered as a potential candidate for President of the Republic or as a candidate for President of the Republic, a candidate in a single-member constituency at elections to the Seimas as well as a candidate in a multi-member constituency at elections to the Seimas, the European Parliament or municipal councils.

7. **Political campaign** means activities of political campaign participants, voters and other natural and legal persons during the period set by this Law, related to elections to the Seimas, presidential elections, elections to the European Parliament, elections to municipal councils or referendums.

8. **“Political advertising”** means information disseminated by a state politician, political party, its member, political campaign participant, on behalf and/or in the interest thereof, in any form and through any means, for payment or without return consideration, during the political campaign period or between political campaigns, where such information is intended to influence the motivation of voters when voting at elections or referendums, or where it is disseminated with the purpose of campaigning for a state politician, political party, its member or political campaign participant as well as their ideas, objectives or programme.

9. **“Political campaign participant”** means a person who seeks to be elected or a referendum issue to be accepted or rejected and who is registered by the Central Electoral Commission in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law.

10. **“Political campaign funding report”** means a document in which an independent political campaign participant indicates donations or their sums received for his political campaign broken down into groups of donors, other funds used for his political campaign, donors (presenting a list of donors) as well as incurred expenditure and assumed liabilities (broken down into expenditure groups).

11. **“Political campaign expenditure”** means expenses specified in this Law intended to organise and fund a political campaign, irrespective of the date of the transaction which entailed expenses.

12. **“Political campaign treasurer”** means a natural person acting on behalf and in the interest of an independent political campaign participant under a property trust agreement and enjoying the rights and duties defined by this Law.

13. **“Political campaign period”** means a period beginning when an election date is announced in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law, or a citizens’ initiative group for a referendum is registered at the Central Electoral Commission, or a motion is submitted to the Seimas by a group of Seimas members to call a referendum, and ending 100 days after the date of proclamation of the final results of the election (rerun election) or referendum or when the Central Electoral Commission takes a decision in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law to declare the initiative to call a referendum terminated and/or to declare the collecting of signatures terminated.

14. **“Political campaign account”** means an account of an independent political campaign participant with a bank registered in the Republic of Lithuania, which is used to keep and accumulate funds earmarked for political campaign only and to cover expenditure of this campaign.

15. **“Current bank account of a political party”** means an account of a political party with a bank registered in the Republic of Lithuania, which is used to keep and accumulate funds of the political party and to cover its expenses earmarked to carry out activities of the political party, as defined by the law.

16. **“Monitoring of funding of political parties and political campaigns, and of political advertising”** means collection, accumulation, analysis and evaluation for the purposes defined by this Law of the data about the funding of political parties, political campaigns and their participants, the funding and dissemination of election (referendum) campaigning and political advertising during the period of political campaigns and between them.

17. **“Potential candidate”** means a natural person who satisfies statutory requirements for standing as a candidate, who has declared during the period from the beginning of a political campaign to the end of submission of application documents that he will stand as a candidate, and who has concluded an agreement with the political campaign treasurer and has been registered as an independent political campaign participant in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Central Electoral Commission.

18. **“Referendum initiators”** means members of an initiative group of citizens of the Republic of Lithuania who are registered at the Central Electoral Commission in accordance

with the procedure laid down by the law or a group of Seimas members which has submitted a motion to call a referendum.

19. **“Referendum opponents”** means persons who are registered at the Central Electoral Commission in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law, i.e. citizens of the Republic of Lithuania, their groups, and political parties, opposing referendum initiators.

20. **“Election (referendum) campaigning”** means activities for disseminating political advertising during the election (referendum) campaigning stage, for the purpose of influencing motivation of voters when voting at elections or a referendum.

21. **“Person responsible for the accounting of a political party”** means a chief accountant (accountant) of the political party or a company providing accounting services under the contract.

22. **“State budget appropriations”** means the sum total of funds assigned to political parties, as fixed in the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Approval of Financial Indicators of the State Budget and Municipal Budgets for the Corresponding Year.

23. **“Account of state budget appropriations”** means an account of a political party with a bank registered in the Republic of Lithuania, which is used to keep and accumulate state budget appropriations received only in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law and to cover expenses provided for in this Law.

24. **“Declaration of a public information producer or disseminator”** means a document to be submitted to the Central Electoral Commission, by which a public information producer or disseminator declares the disseminated political advertisements, indicates the price, rates, publishing (space) of the disseminated political advertisements and the person in the interest of whom the political advertisements have been disseminated as well as the person who has commissioned the production or dissemination of the political advertisements and the person who has paid for the dissemination of the political advertisements.

Article 3. Independent and represented political campaign participants

1. Political campaign participants may be independent and represented by the right to receive donations and incur political campaign expenditure.

2. The following may be registered only as an independent political campaign participant:

- 1) a political party;
- 2) a potential candidate;
- 3) a self-nominated candidate;
- 4) referendum initiators;
- 5) referendum opponents.

3. A candidate nominated by a political party in a single-member constituency in elections to the Seimas or a list of candidates nominated by a political party in elections to municipal councils or to the European Parliament (hereinafter referred to as a “candidate” or a “list of candidates”) may be registered as an independent political campaign participant, where there is a proposal (application) of the political party which has nominated them.

4. The following shall be registered as a represented political campaign participant:

- 1) a candidate entered on the list of candidates;
- 2) a candidate or a list of candidates, in the absence of a proposal (application) of the political party which nominated them to register them as an independent political campaign participant.

5. The Central Electoral Committee shall register independent political campaign participants, post on its website a list of registered political campaign participants and persons whose registration as political campaign participants has been refused.

6. The persons specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article may accept donations and assume property obligations relating to political campaign expenditure only from the date of their registration as independent political campaign participants and posting on the website of the Central Electoral Commission.

7. Lists of represented political campaign participants may be made public by a political party on behalf and in the interest of which they act, or by the Central Electoral Commission at the request of such a party.

Article 4. Political campaign period stages

1. A political campaign period shall consist of the following stages: an election (referendum) campaigning stage and a final (statements) stage.

2. An election (referendum) campaigning stage shall be a constituent stage of the political campaign period beginning when an election date is announced in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law and ending when the statutory period of time, during which election campaigning is prohibited, begins. During the run-off voting the said stage shall also comprise a period from the end of the prohibition of election campaigning until the beginning of the prohibition of campaigning for run-off votes. A referendum campaigning stage shall begin when a citizens’ initiative group for a referendum is registered at the Central Electoral Commission or a motion is submitted to the Seimas by a group of Seimas members to call a referendum and shall end when a time limit set by the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Referendums, during which referendum campaigning is prohibited, begins.

3. A final (statements) stage shall be a constituent stage of the political campaign period beginning when the final results of the election (rerun election) or the referendum are proclaimed and ending 100 days after the date of proclamation of the final results of the election (run-off election) or the referendum.

Article 5. Registration of a natural person or a political party as an independent political campaign participant

***1.** The Central Electoral Commission shall begin accepting applications of the natural persons and political parties referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 3 of this Law to register them as independent political campaign participants upon the commencement of the political campaign period and shall finish accepting the said applications on the date (inclusive) when, pursuant to the relevant laws, the submission of application documents begins. In any case the time limit during which these persons shall be entitled to apply to the Central Electoral Commission to be registered as independent political campaign participants may not be shorter than ten working days.

2. Persons wishing to be register as independent political campaign participants must have an agreement with the political campaign treasurer concluded and have an account with a bank registered in the Republic of Lithuania which will be used as a political campaign account.

3. A political party wishing to be registered, and to register a candidate or a list of candidates nominated by it, as an independent political campaign participant:

1) must submit to the Central Electoral Commission an application to be registered, and may submit to it a proposal (application) to register a candidate or a list of candidates nominated by it, as an independent political campaign participant;

2) must, in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law, submit to the Central Electoral Commission a copy of the property trust agreement with the political campaign treasurer signed by the person authorised by the political party and may submit a copy of the contract with the political campaign auditing firm;

***3)** must submit to the Central Electoral Commission the document confirming that the political party has a bank account which will be used as a political campaign account, and the bank statement issued not earlier than three working days before submission that there are no funds in this account;

4) if a proposal (application) to register a candidate or a list of candidates as an independent political campaign participant has been submitted, the Central Electoral Commission must be provided with a copy of the relevant agreement with his political campaign treasurer and the document confirming the existence of a bank account which will be used as a

political campaign account as well as the bank statement that there are no funds in this account; a copy of the contract with the political campaign auditing firm may also be submitted to the Central Electoral Commission;

5) may submit a list of represented political campaign participants;

***4.** A natural person wishing to be registered as an independent political campaign participant must submit to the Central Electoral Commission the following:

- 1) an application to be registered as an independent political campaign participant;
- 2) his identification document (or that of a coordinator of the initiative group for a referendum);
- 3) a copy of the property trust agreement with the political campaign treasurer signed in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law, and may submit a copy of the contract with the political campaign auditing firm;
- 4) an identification document of the treasurer;
- 5) the document confirming that a bank account has been opened in his name which will be used as a political campaign account, and the bank statement issued not earlier than three working days before submission that there are no funds in this account.

***5.** Repealed as of 30 October 2010.

6. A decision on registration as an independent political campaign participant shall be taken by the Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission or the Commission member authorised by him not later than within three working days from the receipt of all the documents referred to in this Article.

7. Refusal to register a person as an independent political campaign participant must be reasoned. If a person does not agree with the adopted decision he shall have the right to complain against the said decision to the Central Electoral Commission. The Central Electoral Commission must examine the complaint within three working days. The decision of the Central Electoral Commission may be appealed against to the Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania not later than within five working days from its adoption.

8. The following information shall be posted on the website of the Central Electoral Commission:

- 1) the name or the forename and surname of an independent political campaign participant, its/his status in the political campaign (potential candidate, candidate, referendum initiator or opponent), contact telephone number, e-mail address;
- 2) the forename, surname, telephone number, e-mail address of the political campaign treasurer;

3) the name, code, telephone number, e-mail address of the political campaign auditing firm, if any;

4) political campaign participants represented by a political party and the spending limits set for them by the political party, if so requested by this political party.

****Note. This Law shall not apply to political campaigns which began prior to the entry into force of this Law.***

Article 6. Loss of the status of an independent political campaign participant

1. A political party shall lose the status of an independent political campaign participant on one of the following grounds:

- 1) at the request of the political party;
- 2) when a sentence is imposed on the political party by a court judgement (during the period of serving the sentence);
- 3) when the registration of all candidates or a list of candidates (lists of candidates) nominated by the political party is revoked;
- 4) when the political party ceases to exist;
- 5) when the Central Electoral Commission revokes the registration of the political party as an independent political campaign participant because of gross violations of this Law.

2. Any other independent political campaign participant shall lose the status of an independent political campaign participant on one of the following grounds:

- 1) at the request of the political campaign participant;
- 2) when a potential candidate has not been registered as a candidate upon the expiration of the time limit set in electoral laws for the registration of candidates;
- 3) when the registration of the candidate has been revoked;
- 4) upon the death of the political campaign participant;
- 5) when the Central Electoral Commission revokes the registration of the independent political campaign participant because of gross violations of this Law not later than 15 days before the election or referendum date.

3. From the moment the decision becomes effective concerning the loss of the status of an independent political campaign participant, independent political campaign participants who have lost the status of the political campaign participant shall not be entitled to accept donations referred to in Article 10 of this Law to fund the political campaign and to assume obligations related to the political campaign. Loss of the status of a political campaign participant shall not release from the duty to fulfil the obligations, under this Law and other laws, of the person who has lost the status of a political campaign participant.

4. Decisions of the Central Electoral Commission specified in subparagraph 5 of paragraph 1 and subparagraph 5 of paragraph 2 of this Article may be appealed against to the Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania within five working days from the adoption thereof. The appeal must be investigated not later than within 48 hours of the receipt thereof.

CHAPTER TWO

SOURCES OF FUNDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS. POLITICAL CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE

Article 7. Sources of funding of political parties and political campaigns of political parties

1. Political parties and political campaigns of political parties shall be financed with funds received from the sources specified in this Law.

2. Sources of funding of political parties shall be permanent sources of funding (typical of this political party during the period between political campaigns and during a political campaign period) and sources of political campaign funding.

3. Permanent sources of funding of political campaign:

- 1) membership fees of the political party;
- 2) state budget appropriations;
- 3) state budget appropriations allocated in accordance with separate programmes approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 4) funds received by the political party from its other activities referred to in Article 13 of this Law;

5) donations of natural and legal persons who under this Law have the right to donate;

6) loans for the political party by the banks registered in the Republic of Lithuania;

7) interest on the funds kept in the bank account;

4. Statutes of the political party shall fix the amount of the membership fee, the procedure of payment and use thereof. Membership fees shall be as follows:

- 1) an initial membership fee;
- 2) a periodic membership fee.

5. The statutes of the party may set other membership fees which are not specified in paragraph 4 of this Article.

6. Funds of the political party received from the sources specified in paragraph 3 of this Article, except subparagraph 2 of paragraph 3 of this Article, shall be kept in the current bank account of the political party.

7. Political parties must keep the state budget appropriations received in accordance with the procedure laid down in Articles 15 and 16 of this Law in the account of state budget appropriations, except for the cases when the said funds are used to finance the political campaign of the political party.

8. Sources of funding of political campaign of the political party shall be as follows:

1) funds of the political party received from the sources of funding of the political party and used to finance political campaigns of the party, lists of candidates nominated by the party and candidates nominated by the party;

2) donations for political campaign given by natural and legal persons, who under this Law have the right to donate, to the political party during the political campaign period;

3) loans received by the political party from the banks registered in the Republic of Lithuania during the political campaign period;

4) interest on the funds kept in the political campaign account;

9. Political parties must keep funds designated to finance political campaign in the political campaign account.

10. Obligations discharged by the guarantor for the political party to the banks registered in the Republic of Lithuania shall not be regarded as the source of political campaign funding.

11. It shall be prohibited to finance political parties or political campaigns of political parties with the funds which are not specified in this Article.

Article 8. Sources of funding of political campaigns of other independent political campaign participants (with the exception of political parties)

1. Political campaigns of other independent political campaign participants (with the exception of political parties) shall be funded:

1) with donations of natural and legal persons who under this Law have the right to donate;

2) with own (personal) funds;

3) interest on the funds kept in the political campaign account.

2. Funds designated to finance political campaign must be kept in the political campaign account.

3. It shall be prohibited to finance other independent political campaign participants (with the exception of political parties) with the funds which are not specified in this Article.

Article 9. Source of funding of represented political campaign participants

Political campaigns of represented political campaign participants shall be financed with funds of the political party.

Article 10. Donations

1. Political parties and independent political campaign participants, registered in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law, shall enjoy the right to accept donations specified in this Law.

2. One natural or legal person, referred to in Article 12 of this Law, may, during a calendar year, donate a donation for each political party which does not exceed the amount of 20 average monthly earnings valid in the fourth quarter of the previous calendar year (hereinafter referred to as the “AMEs”). If a political campaign takes place the same year, a natural or legal person may donate to each independent political campaign participant during this political campaign a donation in the amount not exceeding 20 AMEs.

3. Before giving a donation to a political party or a political campaign participant, a natural person must declare his assets and income in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law.

4. Cash donations of natural persons that exceed LTL 1 000 and all cash donations of legal persons must be donated only by bank transfer. A person responsible for the accounting of the political party shall transfer to the current account of the political party the cash donations of natural persons to the political party, received not by bank transfer, not later than the next day after the receipt of the donation. A political campaign treasurer shall transfer to the political campaign account the cash donations of natural persons for the political campaign, received not by bank transfer, not later than the next day after the receipt of the donation.

5. The names of all donating natural and legal persons must be disclosed. In the public list of donors posted on the website of the Central Electoral Commission the political campaign treasurer shall, not later than within ten working days from the date of the receipt of the donation, and a person responsible for the accounting of the political party shall, not later than within ten working days after the end of a quarter, announce the forename, surname of a donor – natural person – and the municipality in which he resides as well as the name, code of a donor – legal person – and the municipality in which its seat is located.

6. A donation sheet must be filled in: when accepting a cash donation – on the day of transfer–acceptance of the donation and when accepting a non-cash donation – within five working days from the day of receipt of the donation. Donation sheets must indicate the value of monetary donations, non-monetary donation and its market value, the forename and surname, personal number of a donor – natural person, the municipality in which he resides; the name,

code of a legal person making a non-monetary donation, the municipality in which its seat is located. Donation sheets shall be drawn up in three copies, the first copy shall be given to the donor, the second – to the Central Electoral Commission and the third copy shall be left with the beneficiary.

7. It shall be taken that a donation has been accepted when the person responsible for the accounting of the political party or the political campaign treasurer, upon verifying if the received donation satisfies the requirements of this Law, records the donation and, if the monetary donation or non-monetary donation is accepted, hands in (sends) a donation sheet to the donor.

8. The procedure for appraising non-monetary donations and estimating their fair value shall be laid down by the Government or an institution authorised by it.

9. Upon the end of the election (referendum) campaigning stage it shall be prohibited to accept donations for political campaign.

10. A political campaign participant shall not have the right to use for funding the political campaign the received monetary donations which are not entered on the accounting records of the political campaign funding, as well as the donations specified in paragraph 6 of this Article if the political campaign treasurer has not filled the donation sheet out.

11. A political party shall not have the right to use the received monetary donations which are not included in the political party's accounting as well as the donations specified in paragraph 6 of this Article if the person responsible for the accounting of the political party has not filled the donation sheet out.

12. Donations of natural persons, which are less than 0.02 AMEs for a political party or an independent political campaign participant during a calendar year, may be applied a simplified procedure, laid down by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, of acceptance of donations, accounting of them and disclosing of the names of donors. In compliance with the procedure laid down by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11 of Article 10 of this Law may not be applied to the acceptance and accounting of such donations as well as disclosing of the names of donors.

Article 11. Unacceptable donations

1. It shall be prohibited to use for political parties or political campaigns the received donations that do not meet the requirements of this Law. If such donations have been received and the donor is known, the person responsible for the accounting of the political party or the political campaign treasurer must, within five working days from the date of the receipt of such donation, return the donation to the donor, indicating the reason for refusing to accept the

donation. In the event of failure to identify the donor within ten working days, the person responsible for the accounting of the political party or the political campaign treasurer shall transfer the donation to the state budget.

2. It shall be prohibited to fund political parties and political campaign participants through the third persons.

Article 12. Donors

1. The following shall have the right to make donations to political parties and political campaign participants:

1) citizens of the Republic of Lithuania – to participants of all political campaigns and to all political parties;

2) permanent residents of the Republic of Lithuania holding citizenship of another EU Member State – to participants and political parties of campaigns of elections to the European Parliament and municipal councils;

3) permanent residents of the Republic of Lithuania who do not hold citizenship of another EU Member State or stateless persons – to participants of political campaigns of elections to municipal councils;

4) the private legal persons registered in the Republic of Lithuania whose authorised capital does not comprise state or municipal capital and whose share of the authorised capital and (or) voting rights, granting the right to control activities of the legal person, belongs only to the natural persons referred to in subparagraph 1 of paragraph 1 of this Article, the legal persons registered in the Republic of Lithuania or the private legal persons of the NATO or EU member states – to all political campaigns participants and political parties.

2. Political parties shall enjoy the right to make donations for political campaigns of candidates, lists of candidates or referendums.

3. Political party or political campaign funding agreements which confirm property and non-property (political) obligations of the political party or the political campaign participant (donor) and the beneficiary must be drawn up in writing. The said agreements must be signed by the political party (beneficiary) and the donor or the political campaign participant (beneficiary), the political campaign treasurer and the donor. Political party or political campaign funding agreements must be announced publicly and may not be contrary to public policy or morality. It shall be prohibited to conclude secret obligations. A copy of the political party funding agreement together with a set of financial statements of the political party as well as a copy of the political campaign funding agreement together with a political campaign funding statement

must be transferred to the Central Electoral Commission which must post the texts of the agreements on the website of the Central Electoral Commission.

4. Agreements between donors and beneficiaries related to commitments to private (personal and (or) group) interests shall be prohibited.

5. Persons elected to state or municipal institutions shall be prohibited from representing donors' private (personal and (or) group) interests and taking decisions which are exceptional favourable to them.

Article 13. Other activities of political parties

Political parties shall enjoy the right to engage in publishing, distribution of printed matter and party symbols, management, use and disposal of the property belonging by the right of ownership, organisation or political and cultural events (lectures, exhibitions, etc.) and other activities; money received from such activities may be used only for pursuance of the purposes of the political party as specified in the statutes of the political party.

Article 14. State budget appropriations for political parties

1. State budget appropriations for political parties shall be provided for in the draft of a Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the approval of financial indicators of the state budget and municipal budgets for each year and shall be allocated through a separate budget programme implemented by the Central Electoral Commission.

2. A total sum of appropriations for political parties shall be fixed in the state budget.

3. A certificate on the conformity of political parties to statutory requirements concerning the number of political party members shall be submitted to the Central Electoral Commission by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania not later than by 1 April of each year.

4. Funds from the appropriations earmarked for political parties in the state budget may be allocated to finance activities of political parties and to reimburse part of the political campaign expenditure.

5. Up to 25 per cent of the sum of state budget appropriations for political parties shall be allocated for the reimbursement of part of the political campaign expenditure, regardless of the number of political campaigns being held that year.

6. When determining a concrete part of appropriations intended for the reimbursement of part of the political campaign expenditure, a priority shall be given to the reimbursement of part of the political campaign expenditure, taking into account the restriction set out in paragraph 5 of this Article.

7. Where the Central Electoral Commission recognizes that a political party or a political campaign participant has grossly violated this Law, it/he shall not be allotted state budget appropriations for a period of two years counting from the date of entry into force of the decision. The state budget appropriations which are not allocated due to the said reason shall be returned to the state budget.

8. State budget appropriations for political parties may be used for:

- 1) to fund political campaign;
- 2) to pay an election deposit;
- 3) to purchase current and fixed assets;
- 4) to settle with employees;
- 5) to cover expenses related to the provision of services;
- 6) to cover arrears of the political party's political campaign;
- 7) to repay loans taken by the political party, intended for the expenses referred to in subparagraphs 3, 4 and 5 of this paragraph.

9. The political party must specify the use of state budget appropriations in the report on the use of state budget appropriations which is submitted together with a set of financial statements of the political party.

10. The state budget appropriations which have not been used during a year shall remain in the political party's account of state budget appropriations and may be used next year for the funding of the activities specified in paragraph 8 of this Article.

Article 15. Procedure of calculation of the amount of state budget appropriations to fund activities of a political party, distribution and payment of such state budget appropriations

1. Political parties, which are entered on the Register of Legal Entities in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law and which satisfy statutory requirements regarding the number of political party's members and the restructuring or liquidation procedure has not been initiated in respect of them, shall be entitled to state budget appropriations to fund activities of the political party.

2. State budget appropriations designated for funding activities of the political party shall be allocated to those political parties satisfying the criteria set out in paragraph 1 of this Article which received not less than 3 per cent of all the votes cast by the voters for the candidates of the political parties in those elections to the Seimas, municipal councils, the European Parliament according to the results of which these state budget appropriations are allocated.

3. State budget appropriations designated for funding activities of political parties shall be allocated according to the valid results of the elections to the Seimas, municipal councils, the European Parliament (rerun election, by-election and run-off voting) in which the powers of the elected candidates have not been terminated or upon their termination a vacant place was occupied without holding elections:

1) according to the results of the last elections to the Seimas, municipal councils, the European Parliament in multi- member constituencies. In the event where the nominated list of candidates is coalitional, the number of the received votes shall be distributed to the political parties in proportion to the number of the candidates on the coalition list;

2) according to the results of the last election, the last rerun election, last by-election to the Seimas in single-member constituencies. If several political parties nominated a candidate, the votes received by the candidate shall be equally distributed among the political parties which nominated him;

3) according to the results of the last run-off voting in single-member constituencies of the election to the Seimas. If upon the election of a Seimas member at the election, rerun election or by-election the run-off voting has not been held, then the results of the last election, rerun election or by-election in the particular single-member constituency shall be taken instead of the results of the run-off voting. If several political parties nominated a candidate, the votes received by the candidate shall be distributed equally among the political parties which nominated him.

4. The amount of state budget appropriations for funding activities of a political party, which is allocated for that political party, shall be determined in accordance with the following procedure:

1) by summing up only the votes of voters cast for the candidates of those political parties for which state budget appropriations may be allocated under paragraph 2 of this Article for funding activities of the political party, the number of all votes is determined;

2) a six-month financial coefficient of one voter's vote is established by dividing the half of the state budget appropriations designated for funding activities of the political party by the number of votes of all the voters;

3) the six-month appropriations of the state budget allocated for the political party to fund activities of the political party is determined by multiplying a six-month financial coefficient of one voter's vote by the number of votes of the voters who cast their votes for the candidates of this political party.

5. The amount of state budget appropriations allocated for the political party to fund activities of the political party shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Article; the Commission shall, not later than by

15 April and 15 November of each year, transfer the said amount to the political party's account of state budget appropriations.

Article 16. Compensation of part of political campaign expenditure

1. Political parties which satisfy the requirements set out in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be entitled to compensation of part of the political campaign expenditure.

2. After the end of the political campaign, the Central Electoral Commission shall, having inspected the political campaign funding statements, having evaluated the auditor's report on findings (if the report is mandatory), determine, within 15 days from the receipt of these statements and report, the number of the candidates and the lists of the candidates, nominated by the political parties, who (which) each received not less than 3 per cent of votes of the voters participating at the election in the appropriate constituencies, the total amount of the funds spent to finance political campaigns; the Commission shall also determine whether or not the debt obligations related to political campaign remain. Up to 25 per cent of political campaign expenditure shall be compensated for the political parties which meet these conditions.

3. State budget appropriations designated for compensating part of the political campaign expenditure shall be allocated to the political parties, which are entitled to the compensation of the political party expenditure, in proportion to the expenditure of their political campaigns, by compensating the equal part of the expenditure incurred.

4. The amount of state budget appropriations allocated for the political party to fund activities of the political party shall be determined by the Central Electoral Commission in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Article; the Commission shall, not later than within 15 days from the adoption of the decision, transfer the said amount to the political party's account of state budget appropriations.

Article 17. Political campaign expenditure and spending limits

1. When a political campaign begins all expenditure designated to finance the political campaign may be paid only from the funds kept in the political campaign account.

2. In those cases where the constituency covers the entire territory of the Republic of Lithuania, the maximum amount of expenditure to fund the political campaign of one independent political campaign participant shall be calculated in the following manner: The number of voters entered on the electoral roll of the Republic of Lithuania shall be multiplied by LTL 1 and the received product shall be rounded up within the accuracy of the first two significant digits.

3. In those cases where the constituency covers a part of the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, the maximum amount of expenditure to fund the political campaign of one independent political campaign participant shall be calculated in the following manner: the number of voters of one constituency shall be multiplied by LTL 2 and the received product shall be rounded up within the accuracy of the first two significant digits. If the received product is less than LTL 20 000, the fixed maximum amount of the political campaign expenditure shall be LTL 20 000. In elections to municipal councils a political party, which has nominated a list (lists) of candidates, may additionally spend for this political campaign not more than 10 per cent of the maximum amount of the expenditure of the political campaign of the lists of candidates nominated by this party.

4. Expenditure and assumed liabilities of the political campaign participant during the political campaign period shall be recognised as political campaign funding expenditure, where such liabilities and expenditure are designated for:

- 1) production or distribution of political advertising or any other campaigning material through any means of the mass media or in any other public mode;
- 2) remuneration of the political campaign treasurer and performance of his functions;
- 3) a political campaign auditing firm;
- 4) the rent of movables and immovables necessary during the political campaign;
- *5) rent, exploitation of vehicles used for the political campaign;
- 6) communications, meals, provision of accommodation and transport of political campaign volunteers, political party's or candidate's representatives for the election or election (referendum) observers;
- 7) other expenditure defined in this Law.

5. Expenditure designated for the purpose indicated in paragraph 4 of this Article but incurred during the period other than a political campaign period, if the movables and immovables and other assets specified in the said paragraph are intended for political campaign or if services are received during the political campaign period, shall be recognized as political campaign expenditure. In this case political campaign participants must inform the Central Electoral Commission about this, attaching copies of the documents confirming the expenditure. When necessary, the Central Electoral Commission may request additional information.

6. The amount of every political campaign participant's expenditure referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Article may not exceed the maximum amounts of expenditure set in paragraph 2 or 3 of this Article. In the cases where under the election law a run-off voting is carried out, the maximum amount of political campaign expenditure of a candidate who participates in the run-off voting shall be increased by 25 per cent.

7. The following shall not be regarded as political campaign expenditure:

- 1) the expenditure incurred by political parties, potential candidates, candidates, referendum initiators, referendum opponents under legal services contracts;
- 2) expenditure designated for payment of the election deposit;
- 3) expenditure designated for potential candidate's, candidate's travelling (transport and accommodation) to a constituency;
- 4) expenditure for payment for facilities of the political party and for activities of the staff, where such expenditure is incidental to this political party during the period other than the political campaign period.

8. If during the political campaign period a political campaign participant (with the exception of the political parties, candidates or lists of candidates nominated by them) gathered more funds than was used to cover the political campaign expenditure, the unused funds may be transferred to the state budget prior to the submission of a political campaign funding statement to the Central Electoral Commission. Funds that have not been used by political parties, candidates or lists of candidates nominated by them may be designated only for funding activities of the political party.

**Note. This Law shall not apply to the political campaigns which began prior to the entry into force of this Law.*

CHAPTER THREE POLITICAL ADVERTISING

Article 18. Marking of political advertising

1. During the political campaign period, political advertising must be marked in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law by indicating the source of funding and visibly separated from other disseminated information.

2. Political advertising which is not marked during the political campaign period pursuant to the requirements set out by legal acts or marked not in compliance with legal acts shall be regarded as surreptitious political advertising and shall be prohibited. Dissemination of the surreptitious political advertising shall impose liability established by the law.

3. Besides the special requirements laid down in this Law, the principles and requirements for advertising set out in the Law on Provision of Information to the Public shall apply to political advertising.

Article 19. Dissemination of political advertising in the media

1. It shall be prohibited to disseminate political advertising:

- 1) during the political campaign period – for free, except discussion programmes;
- 2) during an election (referendum) campaigning stage – on television, except discussion programmes and election campaigning video clips of not less than 90 seconds duration in which the political campaign participant informs about his political programme or speaks on issues topical to the public;
- 3) on the front page of a periodical;
- 4) if the dissemination of such advertising is in violation of the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

2. Expenditure of a political campaign participant for the election campaigning video clips referred to in subparagraph 2 of paragraph 1 of this Article may not exceed 50 per cent of the maximum allowed amount of political campaign expenditure set for the political campaign participant.

3. During the political campaign period, public information producers or disseminators may disseminate political advertising only at the rates and under the conditions equal to all political campaign participants. Public information producers or disseminators shall, by 1 January of each year, submit to the Central Electoral Commission political advertising rates and conditions applicable during a political campaign period; the said rates and conditions may be altered not later than until the beginning of a political campaign period with the consent of the Central Electoral Commission. The Central Electoral Commission shall immediately post the rates on the website of the Central Electoral Commission.

4. Public information producers and disseminators may refuse to disseminate political advertising which contains the material compromising other political parties or political campaign participants, if it is refused to bear potential expenses related to dissemination of a counter opinion.

5. The following shall not be regarded as political advertising:

- 1) information notices of usual character disseminated during the period other than a political campaign period about activities of state politicians, political parties, their management bodies, with the exception of the cases where such notices agitate to vote in the interest of the state politician, political party or its candidate during a future political campaign, or remuneration is provided for such notices, or remuneration is envisaged;

- 2) information notices of usual character disseminated free of charge during the political campaign period about activities of state politicians, political parties, candidates, as well as information which does not incite non-participation in a referendum, voting for or against the adoption of a decision submitted for the referendum.

6. During the political campaign period public information producers or disseminators must submit by means of electronic communications to the Central Electoral Commission a declaration of the public information producer or disseminator twice (thrice): 10 days remaining before an election or referendum day (5 days remaining in the event of run-off voting) and not later than within 25 days after the proclamation of the final results of the election (rerun election) or the referendum.

7. Political campaign participants shall, together with a political campaign funding statement, submit to the Central Electoral Commission a report on political advertisements disseminated during an election (referendum) campaigning stage as well as the sources of its funding.

8. After the Central Electoral Commission announces candidates (lists of candidates), the following shall be financed with state budget funds from the appropriations allocated to the Central Electoral Commission:

1) discussions of candidates over the radio and on television with the aim to present election programmes, in compliance with the principle of equality according to the procedure of the Central Electoral Commission;

2) information disseminated in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Central Electoral Commission, encouraging participation in the election.

CHAPTER FOUR

ACCOUNTING OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

Article 20. Accounting of political parties

1. Management of accounting of a political party shall be regulated by this Law, the Accounting Law of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as “the Accounting Law”) and other legal acts.

2. Upon the end of the year a person responsible for the accounting of the political party shall prepare a set of financial statements of the political party. The following annexes shall be prepared together with a set of financial statements of the political party: A list of donations and donors as well as a report on the use of state budget appropriations.

3. A set of financial statements of the political party shall consist of the following financial statements:

- 1) balance sheet;
- 2) performance report;
- 3) explanatory note.

4. A set of financial statements of the political party and the annexes thereto specified in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be approved by the political party's management body set out in the political party's statutes.

5. Each year but not later than by 15 March, political parties shall submit to the State Tax Inspectorate the approved lists of donations and donors of the political party for the previous calendar year and to the Central Electoral Commission – an approved set of financial statements of the political party for the previous calendar year and the annexes thereto specified in paragraph 2 of this Article as well as the auditor's report on findings (if such a report is mandatory). When necessary the Central Electoral Commission shall have the right to get access in accordance with the procedure laid down by legal acts to the documents substantiating the data provided in a set of financial statements of the political party.

Article 21. Accounting of political campaigns

1. Independent political campaign participants shall handle the political campaign accounting in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law and other legal acts.

2. The political campaign accounting shall be managed by the political campaign treasurer with whom a person wishing to be registered as an independent political campaign participant must conclude a property trust agreement in accordance with the requirements of Chapter L of Book Six of the Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as "the Civil Code").

3. Only a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania or a permanent resident of the Republic of Lithuania may be a political campaign treasurer.

- 1) a potential candidate or a candidate;
- 2) a referendum initiator and a referendum opponent;
- 3) an electoral or referendum commission member;
- 4) an auditor who carries out the inspection of a political party or political campaign in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law;
- 5) a natural person who has been declared by the court legally incapable or with limited capacity, or who has not completed serving a court-imposed sentence.

4. The political campaign treasurer shall:

- 1) fill in and sign donation sheets, accounting records of the political campaign funding, a political campaign funding statement;
- 2) manage and store accounting-related documents of the political campaign in accordance with the procedure laid down by this Law and the Accounting Law;

3) within 10 working days post on the website of the Central Electoral Commission the data on donations received and political campaign funding agreements concluded during the political campaign period;

4) control political campaign expenditure and supervise that the said expenditure would not exceed the expenditure amounts fixed in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 17 of this Law;

5) if an obligation, set out in paragraph 2 of Article 24 of this Law, does not arise for an independent political campaign participant, shall submit a political campaign funding report to the Central Electoral Commission not later than within 25 calendar days from the proclamation of the final results of the election (rerun election) or referendum;

6) if an obligation, set out in paragraph 2 of Article 24 of this Law, arises for an independent political campaign participant, shall submit a political campaign funding statement and the auditor's report on findings to the Central Electoral Commission not later than within 85 calendar days from the proclamation of the final results of the election (rerun election) or referendum;

7) shall, together with a political campaign funding statement, submit to the Central Electoral Commission the documents substantiating political campaign proceeds and expenditure;

8) shall perform other functions prescribed by this Law.

5. An independent political campaign participant or a person authorised by him shall:

1) sing accounting records of the political campaign funding and a political campaign funding statement;

2) immediately hand the concluded agreements and other financial documents over to the treasurer;

3) create for the treasurer conditions to exercise the rights set out for him in legal acts.

6. All political campaign proceeds received by the political party from the sources specified in paragraph 8 of Article 7 of this Law and all political campaign proceeds received by other independent political campaign participants from the sources specified in Article 8 of this Law as well as political campaign expenditure or assumed financial liabilities shall be entered in the accounting records of the political campaign funding.

7. All political campaign proceeds and expenditure as well as assumed liabilities (according to expenditure groups) shall be specified in a political campaign funding statement in compliance with the description of the procedure for filling in and submitting the political campaign funding statement approved by the Central Electoral Commission. The list of donations and donors or sums of donations according to the groups of donors shall be submitted separately.

8. When the political campaign treasurer terminates the agreement, is unable to carry out his duties because of the circumstances laid down in paragraph 3 of this Article or dies, an independent political campaign participant must conclude an agreement, referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article, with another person and notify the Central Electoral Commission about this.

Article 22. Arrears of political campaign participants and clearance thereof

1. Each independent participant of the political campaign, who seeks to receive compensation for part of the expenditure on political campaign, must fulfil the debt obligations which have arisen during the political campaign period or are related to political campaign not later than by the end of the political campaign period.

2. Each year before 1 February, until the reimbursement of debts, a former independent political campaign participant must inform the Central Electoral Commission about the fulfilment of debt obligations and the sources of fulfilment. A political party shall have the right to reimburse debt obligations only from the assets belonging to the party by the right of ownership, the received donations and the state budget appropriations allocated to the political party, and political campaign participants-natural persons – only with private (personal) funds.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONTROL OF FUNDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS. INDEPENDENT INSPECTION OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL CAMPAIGN PARTICIPANTS

Article 23. Control of funding of political parties and political campaigns

1. Funding of political parties and political campaigns shall be controlled by the Central Electoral Commission and other institutions within their scope of competence in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law.

2. The Central Electoral Commission shall:

- 1) approve the model form of a donation sheet;
- 2) approve model forms of the report on the use of state budget appropriations, the accounting records of the political campaign funding, the declaration of the public information producer or disseminator, the report of the political party or the political campaign participant concerning the disseminated political advertisements and the funding sources thereof, as well as the description of the procedure for filling out and submission of the abovementioned documents;

3) after consultation with the Lithuanian Chamber of Auditors, approve the model form of the political campaign funding statement;

4) approve the description of the procedure for filling out and submission of the political campaign funding statement;

5) approve the description of the procedure for marking political advertising;

6) after consultation with the Lithuanian Chamber of Auditors, approve the terms of reference for audit firms carrying out inspection of a political party or a political campaign participant, determining the scope of work carried out by the auditor;

7) control the compliance by political parties and political campaign participants with the requirements of this Law and propose to hold liable for violations of this Law or to appeal to other institutions whose competence granted by the law allow to inspect the compliance with the requirements laid down by the law;

8) create conditions and be responsible that a set of financial statements of the political parties and the annexes thereto specified in paragraph 2 of Article 20 of this Law, a declaration of the public information producer or disseminator, political campaign funding statements would be posted on its website immediately after the receipt of the data, would be updated and that the said data would conform to the obtained information;

9) fix the maximum amounts of political campaign expenditure in particular constituencies and announce them not later than by 1 January of each year;

10) register donation sheets, issue them and control their usage;

11) provide software to transfer data of accounting records of the political campaign funding, a declaration of the public information producer or disseminator, for declaration of rates and conditions applicable by a public information producer or disseminator during the political campaign period, for printing political campaign funding statements, declarations of the public information producer or disseminator according to the transferred data;

12) announce rates applicable by a public information producer or disseminator during the political campaign period.

3. The Central Electoral Commission shall control how funds designated for political campaign are being used.

4. The Central Electoral Commission shall be responsible for continuous timely provision of information about violations of funding of political parties and political campaigns to the Special Investigation Service, the Prosecutor General's Office.

5. The State Tax Inspectorate shall inspect whether or not donors possessed enough income to make donations and whether or not the income has been taxed in accordance with the

procedure laid down by the law. The State Tax Inspectorate shall inform the Central Electoral Commission about the performed inspection and the violations of legal acts established during it.

6. The National Audit Office of Lithuania shall, in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws and other legal acts, carry out the audit of the use of state budget appropriations allocated to political parties.

Article 24. Independent inspection of political parties and political campaign participants

1. A political party which during a calendar year has received the sum of revenue exceeding the amount of 200 AMEs must conclude with an audit firm a contract to inspect the political party. The auditor's report on findings shall be submitted to the Central Electoral Commission together with a set of financial statements of the political party.

2. An independent political campaign participant who during the political campaign has received the sum of revenue exceeding the amount of 70 AMEs must conclude with an audit firm a contract to inspect the independent political campaign participant. The political campaign treasurer shall submit a copy of the said agreement to the Central Electoral Commission not later than within 25 calendar days from the date of proclamation of the final results of the election (rerun election) or the referendum.

3. The inspection of the political parties which during a calendar year have received the sum of revenue lower than the amount of 200 AMEs and the independent political campaign participants who during the political campaign have received the sum of revenue lower than 70 AMEs shall be organised by the Central Electoral Commission. In order to carry out inspection of independent political campaign participants referred to in this paragraph the Central Electoral Commission shall have the right to purchase services of the audit firm in accordance with the procedure laid down by legal acts.

4. The auditor:

1) must carry out inspection of the political campaign of a political party or an independent political campaign participant in compliance with legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania according to the terms of reference of the Central Electoral Commission which sets the scope of the work performed by the auditor;

2) shall have the right to obtain from the political campaign treasurer and political campaign participant or the Central Electoral Commission all the documents necessary to carry out inspection of the political campaign participant;

3) shall have the right to obtain from the political party all the documents necessary to carry out inspection of the political party.

5. Political parties and political campaign participants must cooperate with the auditor carrying out inspection and present data, documents and other information necessary to carry out inspection.

Note. Provisions of Article 24 concerning inspection of political parties shall be applied when carrying out inspection of a set of financial statements of the political party for reporting periods beginning on 1 January 2011 and later, annexes thereto and other documents defined in the terms of reference approved by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 25. Openness of funding

1. The Central Electoral Commission shall post financial statements on political campaigns together with the auditor's report on findings (if such report is mandatory) on its website not later than within 100 days after the proclamation of the final results of the election (rerun election) or the referendum.

2. A set of financial statements of the political party with the annexes thereto specified in paragraph 2 of Article 20 of this Law and the auditor's report on findings, declarations of public information procedures or disseminators, political campaign funding statements and the auditor's report on findings, reports of the political party or political campaign participant concerning the dissemination of political advertisements and the funding sources thereof, contracts of political campaign participants with service providers, advertising producers, public information producers or disseminators shall be public.

3. Every person who under this Law may fund political parties or political campaigns, or a representative of the public information producer or disseminator, having presented the document confirming this, shall enjoy the right to get access at the Central Electoral Commission to a set of financial statements of any political party as well as the annexes thereto or to a political campaign funding statement of any political campaign participant and to announce their data in the media.

Article 26. Monitoring of funding of political parties and political campaigns, and of political advertising

1. For the purposes of this Law monitoring of funding of political parties shall be carried out continuously, and monitoring of funding of political campaigns and monitoring of political advertising – during an election (referendum) campaigning stage.

2. Monitoring of funding of political parties and political campaigns, and of political advertising shall be carried out by the Central Electoral Commission.

3. The methods and procedure of monitoring of the funding of political parties and political campaigns, and of political advertising shall be laid down by the Central Electoral Commission.

4. When carrying out the monitoring of funding of political parties and political campaigns, and of political advertising, the Central Electoral Commission shall have the right to procure monitoring services in accordance with the procedure laid down by legal acts.

5. The Central Electoral Commission shall constantly announce on its website the summarised data on monitoring of the funding of political parties and political campaigns, and of political advertising. Controlling authorities must be furnished according to their scope of competence with detailed monitoring data; a political campaign participant – only with the data on his political campaign; a political party – only with the data on its activities.

CHAPTER SIX

LIABILITY

Article 27. Investigation of activities of a political party

1. Investigation of activities of a political party shall be performed in compliance with the provisions of Chapter X of Book Two of the Civil Code which shall apply in so far as investigation of activities of a political party is not regulated otherwise by this Law.

2. The prosecutor shall have the right to request the court to appoint experts so that they investigate whether a political party, its governing bodies or their members, political campaign participants have acted adequately.

3. The following actions of a political party shall be considered inadequate when:

1) the political party takes decisions to use for activities of the political party the donations received from the persons who have not the right to finance political parties, or other funds received from the impermissible sources of financing of the political party;

2) a political party, its governing bodies or their members conclude transaction of political campaign funding by violating the requirements of this Law.

4. If it is established that activities of a political party is inappropriate, the court may apply one of the following measures:

1) to temporarily terminate the powers of members of the governing bodies of the political party;

2) to obligate the political party, its governing bodies or their members to carry out specific actions or not to carry out them;

3) to liquidate the political party;

Article 28. Gross violations of this Law

1. The following shall be considered to be gross violations of this Law:

1) financing of a political party or a political campaign participant not with the funds defined by this Law or the donations of the persons who under this Law do not have the right to make donations;

2) if a political campaign participants makes decisions to use for political campaign the donations received from the persons who have no right to fund political campaigns, or from the unallowable sources of funding of the political campaign;

3) if a political campaign participant concludes political campaign funding agreements by violating the requirements of this Law;

4) presentment of knowingly false data in a set of financial statements of the political party, a political campaign funding statement;

5) use of state budget appropriations not in accordance with the designation set out in this Law;

6) exceeding of the fixed maximum amount of political campaign expenditure by 10 or more per cent;

7) if political campaign participant's expenditure on undeclared political advertising makes up 10 or more per cent of the fixed maximum amount of political campaign expenditure;

8) if political campaign participant's expenditure on undeclared political advertising makes up 10 or more per cent of the fixed maximum amount of political campaign expenditure;

9) loss of the documents subject to safekeeping, other activities because of which it is impossible to determine whether a set of financial statements of the political party or a political campaign report of the political campaign participant is accurate;

10) dissemination of surreptitious political advertising, if the expenditure on surreptitious political advertising makes up 10 or more per cent of the fixed maximum amount of political campaign expenditure;

11) dissemination of political campaign through foreign broadcasters by violating the requirements of this law for political advertising;

12) exceeding of the expenditure fixed in paragraph 2 of Article 19 of this Law for election campaigning video clips during the political campaign period.

2. The Central Electoral Commission shall take a decision whether a political party or a political campaign participant has grossly violated this Law.

3. The political party or the political campaign participant shall have the right to appeal to the Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania against the adopted decision, referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article, within five working days after the adoption of such decision.

Article 29. Liability

Persons who have violated this Law shall be held liable under this Law and other laws.

Article 30. Disputes about Violations of this Law

Disputes with regard to violations of this Law shall be resolved in accordance with the procedure laid down by the law.