

Executive instructions for accrediting local and international journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians and workers in visual, audio and print media institutions to cover the electoral process for the year 2023 / issued pursuant to Article 72 of the Election Law for the House of Representatives No. 4 of 2022 and Article 27 of the Independent Election Commission Law No. 11 of 2012

Article 1

These instructions are called (the executive instructions regarding the accreditation of journalists, media professionals, and photographers, technicians, workers in local visual, audio and print media institutions and international organizations to cover the electoral process for the year (2023)) and shall be effective from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Article 2

The definitions contained in the electoral law for the House of Representatives in force shall be adopted wherever they are stated in these instructions, unless the context indicates otherwise.

Article 3

- A)** The Board of Commissioners approves media and press institutions licensed by the Media Commission.
- B)** Licensed media and press institutions shall nominate their employees who meet the conditions to cover the elections.

C) The Board of Commissioners may consider requests from media and press institutions, journalists, media figures, photographers, technicians, and workers in foreign media and press institutions that are not licensed by the Media Commission.

Article 4

A) Journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians, and workers in Jordanian media and journalistic institutions licensed by the Media Commission who wish to cover the electoral process must meet the following requirements:

1. He must have completed eighteen years of age.
2. To be at the helm of his work in the field of journalism and media
3. Submitting documents proving his association with a media or journalistic institution.

B) Journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians, and workers in foreign media and press institutions who wish to cover the electoral process must meet the following requirements:

1. He must have completed eighteen years of age.
2. His media or journalistic institution must be accredited to practice media activity within the Kingdom.
3. To hold a media or journalist card for those not accredited by official authorities.

Article 5

The Commission accredits journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians, and workers in media and journalistic institutions who wish to cover the electoral process according to the following:

- A) The application for accreditation shall be submitted on the electronic form prepared for this purpose or any other means approved by the Commission, attaching to it the names of journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians, and workers in the Media or journalist organization, a recent personal photo of each one of them, and all the required data.
- B) The Board of Commissioners may accept or reject the accreditation request, and the concerned party in the media or journalistic institution shall be informed of the content of this decision. If the application is rejected in whole or in part, the media or journalistic institution shall be informed in writing of the justifications for the rejection.
- C) The Commission issues accreditation cards to journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians, and workers in media or press institutions whose applications have been accepted and are delivered to them provided to sign that they have received it.
- D) Accreditation applications are received according to the date determined by the Board of Commissioners, and the reception ends ten days before polling day.

Article 6

Everyone who has been accredited to cover the electoral process, including journalists, media figures, photographers, technicians, and workers in media and journalistic institutions, has the right to the following:

- A)** Obtaining possible data and information related to the electoral process.
- B)**
 - 1-** Entering the polling and counting center areas.
 - 2-** Photographers are allowed to enter the polling and counting rooms in coordination with the head of the polling and counting committee and according to the availability of places.
- C)** Each media or press organization shall designate one representative, according to the Commission's discretion, to cover the activities of the media center.

Article 7

The Commission shall be committed to the following:

- A)** Take the necessary measures to facilitate the accreditation process for journalists, media professionals, and photographer and technicians, workers, and media and journalistic institutions in terms of:
 - 1-** Publish accreditation forms for journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians and workers in local and foreign media and press institutions on the Commission's website and making them available in paper copies if necessary.
 - 2-** Take the necessary measures regarding accreditation requests within a period not exceeding five working days from the date of receipt of the request.

3- Train election committees, polling and counting committees, and all workers in the field of managing the electoral process on how to deal with representatives of accredited media and press institutions.

B) Commitment to the principle of transparency and ensure the right to obtain information and publish it on the Commission's website.

Article 8

- Media and press institutions, journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians and accreted workers shall:

A) Adherence to the laws and executive instructions issued by the Commission, the Code of Conduct approved by the Commission, and the rules and ethics of the profession.

B) Respect the principle of neutrality and refrain from publishing materials that would harm the integrity of the elections or hinder the conduct of the electoral process.

C) Not using the card issued by the Commission for purposes other than those designated for it, and not allowing it to be used by any other person under penalty of liability.

D) Press and media institutions shall be committed to the accuracy of the information sent to the Commission regarding names of journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians and employees accredited to it.

E) Media and press institutions, in cooperation with the Commission, are committed to train their journalist media cadres on the basics and concepts of the electoral process.

Article 9

Accredited journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians, and employees of media and journalistic institutions, while covering the electoral process on polling day, are obligated to the following:

- A)** Carry and show the accreditation badge clearly throughout their presence in the authorized places. Anyone who does not hold the accreditation and personal status cards is prohibited from entering.
- B)** Not wearing or carrying any logo, pictures or symbols of any of the candidates or lists or calling to vote or not to vote for one of the candidates or lists.
- C)** Not causing chaos or confusion inside the polling center.
- D)** Refrain from carrying out any action that would disrupt or obstruct the electoral process or influence voters or obstruct the work of the polling and counting committee.
- E)** Not violating the sanctity of the voter inside the polling and counting room or take photos that would violate the principle of ballot secrecy.
- F)** Not making phone calls inside the polling and counting rooms.
- G)** Respond to what is requested by the head of the polling and counting committee or the center director.
- H)** Commitment to public health and safety requirements in accordance with the instructions issued on behalf of the competent authorities.

Article 10

- A)** The Commission may terminate the accreditation of any journalist, media person, photographer, technician, or worker in media or press institutions who violates the provisions of the applicable legislation and these instructions or the Code of Conduct, and the Commission must notify the media institution with the decision of termination and the institution must be committed to return and deliver the accreditation card immediately to the Commission.
- B)** The Commission may terminate the accreditation of any media or journalistic institution in the event it discovers the presence of names impersonating journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians, or its employees on its lists.
- C)** The media and journalistic institution may terminate the accreditation of any of its journalists, media professionals, photographers, technicians, and workers for the same reasons stated in Paragraph (A) of this Article, and the press and media institution must inform the commission in writing of this decision and return the accreditation card to the commission immediately.

Article 11

The accreditation of local and international journalists, media figures, photographers, technicians, local and international media institutions and their employees who are authorized to cover the electoral process ends with the announcement of the Board of Commissioners of the final results and publishing them in the Official Gazette.

Article 12

The Board of Commissioners shall approve the necessary forms to implement the provisions of these instructions.

Article 13

The executive instructions regarding the accreditation of journalists, media professionals, and workers in local and international visual, audio, and print media institutions to cover the electoral process, No. (5) of 2016, shall be cancelled.

**Board of Commissioners of the Independent Election
Commission**