

(UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION)

**Presidential Decree
of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on Code of Conduct of Security Forces in
Election Process (2014)**

Article 1:

- (1) For the purpose of maintaining the security of Independent Election Commission's staff, the voters' registration centers, polling stations, tallying center and ensuring the public participation in the process, the ministries of Defense and Interior and the National Directorate of Security shall undertake any required measure so that the Presidential and Provincial Councils' Election is held in the best manner.
- (2) The ministries of Defense, Interior and the National Directorate of Security are required to offer any cooperation and support to the Election Commission and upon the request of that entity deploy forces in order to maintain the security of central and provincial offices of IEC, polling stations and supply convoys.
- (3) For the purpose of ensuring wide participation of women in the process, the ministries of Defense, Interior and the National Directorate of security are required to assign female staff in the female polling stations and centers.

Article 2:

The National Security Forces are required to carry out the assigned tasks related to maintaining the security of the election in compliance with laws and by considering the principle of impartiality and they shall not take side for any candidate, political party or political coalition.

Article 3:

The National security Forces while carrying out their duties shall maintain and respect the human dignity and legitimate rights of IEC's employees, voters, candidates and their agents, observers and the mass media so that all the above mentioned entities are privileged of their rights.

Article 4:

The National Security Forces while on duty are required to abstain any prejudice and discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, language, religion or territory.

Article 5:

The National Security Forces shall be required to abstain unauthorized entrance into voters' registration centers, polling stations and tallying center. In case required, they shall be permitted to enter after the agreement of the IEC staff in central or provincial level is attained.

Article 6:

The National security Forces shall be required to prevent the armed guard of public and government officials, and any other irresponsible armed individual from entering the voters' registration center, polling stations and tallying center.

Article 7:

- (1) The National Security Forces shall be required to maintain the secrecy of information that the IEC would provide them for official purposes. They shall be required to use them only for realizing the agreed objectives and cannot publicize or share them with the candidates, political parties or coalitions.
- (2) The National Security Forces shall be required to share any information related to the election process with the Independent Election Commission as soon as they receive the information.

Article 8:

The National Security Forces while on duty shall be required to prevent any violent public movement that would trigger chaos, undermine public order or interrupt the election process, and they shall take any needed precautionary measures.

Article 9:

The National Security Forces in situations below shall be permitted to prevent the convening of gatherings and riots by candidates, political parties and coalitions.

1. If the objective is illegal.
2. If according to the law, the issue is not shared written with local security authorities at least 24 hours in advance.
3. If the written information about the time and location of the gathering is the same as the information submitted by another candidate prior.
4. If convening of the gathering and riot undermines security and public order.
5. If the gathering or riot is managed by a political party which whether is not official registered or is withdrawn and disqualified due to legal violation or if the gathering and riot is managed in the name of independent candidates, political parties and coalitions by individuals who are not agents of those entities and haven't received credentials for that capacity.

Article 10:

The National Security Forces shall be required in all phases of the election process to abstain misbehavior or using bitter language with the IEC staff, voters, candidates and their agents, observers, mass media and all other entities and individuals involved in the process.

Article 11:

The National Security Forces shall be required to restore public order when disorder is faced without the use of gun and weapon.

Article 12:

If the National Security Forces are proved with existing evidence and documents that have violated the provisions of this Presidential Decree, shall be introduced to respective authorities for further investigation.

Article 13:

This decree shall enter into force by the time it is endorsed by the President.