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Text consolidated by Valsts valodas centrs (State Language Centre) with amending laws of:

17 September 2008;

20 June 2002;

26 February 2004;

15 September 2005;

15 January 2009.

If a whole or part of a section has been amended, the date of the amending law appears in square brackets at the end of the section. If a whole section, paragraph or clause has been deleted, the date of the deletion appears in square brackets beside the deleted section, paragraph or clause.

The *Saeima*¹ has adopted
and the President has proclaimed the following Law:

On Pre-election Campaign Before the *Saeima* Elections and Elections to the European Parliament

[26 February 2004]

Chapter I Campaign on Radio and Television

Section 1.

(1) The Central Electoral Commission shall issue a statement regarding the submission of lists of deputy candidates for the *Saeima* (hereinafter – lists of candidates) to persons whose lists of candidates have been registered by the Commission.

(2) The following shall be indicated in the statement:

- 1) the title of the list of candidates;
- 2) electoral districts where the lists of candidates have been proposed;
- 3) the given name and surname of each candidate nominated; and
- 4) the date of issuance of the statement.

(3) The Central Electoral Commission shall issue a statement regarding the submission of lists of deputy candidates for the European Parliament (hereinafter – lists of candidates) to persons whose lists of candidates have been registered by the Commission.

(4) The following shall be indicated in the statement:

- 1) the title of the list of candidates;
- 2) the given name and surname of each candidate nominated; and
- 3) the date of issuance of the statement.

[26 February 2004]

Section 2.

(1) Candidates who are in a list of candidates of the same title have the right to use the broadcasting time of the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television for pre-election campaign free

¹ The Parliament of the Republic of Latvia

of charge in accordance with the procedures and the amount stipulated in this Law if they have submitted a statement regarding the submission of the list of candidates at least 40 days before the election day.

(2) Within the meaning of this Law, a pre-election campaign shall be the advertising of any political organisation, association of political organisations or any deputy candidate in mass media or otherwise if it contains a direct or indirect invitation to vote for or against any political organisation, association of political organisations or any deputy candidate.

(3) Within the meaning of this Law, a period of pre-election campaign shall be the period of time from 120th day before the elections until the election day.

(4) If the *Saeima* is dissolved, a period of pre-election campaign within the meaning of this Law shall be the period of time from the day of announcing the elections until the election day.

[17 September 1998; 15 January 2009]

Section 3.

(1) Free of charge broadcasting time for pre-election campaign may be used by all candidates who are in the list of candidates of the same title and it may be used together or, upon reaching an agreement, by some of them. The Latvian Radio and Latvian Television shall be notified regarding such agreement in each individual case.

(2) Candidates who are in lists of candidates of different titles may reach an agreement regarding joint use of the broadcasting time within the framework of the broadcasting time provided for them if they have the right to use free of charge broadcasting time for pre-election campaign. Such agreement shall be drawn up in writing and submitted to the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television at least 40 days before the election day. An agreement regarding joint use of the broadcasting time may not be amended or withdrawn.

[17 September 1998; 15 January 2009]

Section 4.

The Central Electoral Commission shall notify the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television without delay regarding the lists of candidates submitted thereto, which do not conform to the requirements of the *Saeima* Election Law and the Elections to the European Parliament Law, and the statements issued thereby, which thus are deemed invalid.

[26 February 2004]

Section 5.

(1) Candidates who are in the list of candidates of the same title have the right to use the following free of charge for pre-election campaign in the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television:

1) 10 minutes during the time period from the 29th day until the 8th day before the election day; and

2) 10 minutes during the time period from the 7th day until the penultimate day before the election day.

(1¹) In the case referred to in Section 2, Paragraph four of this Law candidates who are in the list of candidates of the same title have the right to use free of charge 10 minutes during

the time period from the 7th day until the penultimate day before the election day for pre-election campaign in the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television.

(2) The candidates who are in the respective list of candidates may use the free of charge broadcasting time provided for in Paragraph one of this Section at their discretion.

[17 September 1998; 15 January 2009]

Section 6.

(1) The sequence of use of the broadcasting time referred to in Section 5 of this Law shall be determined by drawing lots. Such draw may not be used for pre-election campaign.

(2) If representatives of any list of candidates do not participate in the draw, the deputies who are in the list of candidates of this title shall relinquish the opportunity provided for in Section 2 of this Law.

(3) The Latvian Radio and Latvian Television shall organise the draw and ensure the compliance with the limit of the broadcasting time referred to in Section 5 of this Law.

Section 7.

(1) If the Latvian Radio or Latvian Television has granted any political organisation, association of political organisations or any deputy candidate a broadcasting time in addition to the broadcasting time referred to in Section 5 of this Law, it shall also give an opportunity to other political organisations, associations of political organisations or deputy candidates who are in lists of candidates of other titles, upon their wish, to appear for the same duration, during a possibly equivalent time slot and for a payment that conforms to the price stipulated by the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television for broadcasting time of transmission of pre-election campaign, which has been published in accordance with the procedures stipulated in this Section. The Latvian Radio and Latvian Television has such duty only if the broadcasting time requested by a political organisation, association of political organisations or a deputy candidate for pre-election campaign may be granted in conformity with provisions of the Radio and Television Law governing the maximum amount of advertising time. The Latvian Radio and Latvian Television shall, at least 150 days before the elections, send the prices for broadcasting time of pre-election campaign to the National Radio and Television Council which shall, without delay, publish the referred to information on the Internet home page thereof. Such duty shall not apply in the case of extraordinary elections being announced.

(2) If a commercial broadcasting organisation has granted any political organisation, association of political organisations or any deputy candidate broadcasting time for pre-election campaign, it shall also have to provide an opportunity to other political organisations, associations of political organisations or deputy candidates who are in lists of candidates of other titles, upon their wish, to appear for the same duration, during a possibly equivalent time slot and for a payment that conforms to the price stipulated by the respective commercial broadcasting organisation for broadcasting time of transmission of pre-election campaign on the date when an application of the respective political organisation, association of political organisations or deputy candidate for utilisation of broadcasting time for pre-election campaign has been submitted. The commercial broadcasting organisation has such duty only if the broadcasting time requested by a political organisation, association of political organisations or a deputy candidate for pre-election campaign may be granted in conformity with provisions of the Radio and Television Law governing the maximum amount of advertising time.

(2¹) A commercial broadcasting organisation shall, at least 150 days before the election day, send the price lists for broadcasting time of pre-election campaign to the National Radio and Television Council. The National Radio and Television Council shall publish the referred to information on the Internet home page thereof without delay.

(2²) In the case referred to in Section 2, Paragraph four of this Law a broadcasting organisation shall, not later than within three working days from the day of announcement of the elections, send the prices for the broadcasting time of pre-election campaign to the National Radio and Television Council.

(2³) A broadcasting organisation is prohibited to place the materials of pre-election campaign for a price that is higher or lower than indicated in the prices referred to in this Section. Such prices may not be amended after publication thereof.

(3) Before or immediately after each pre-election campaign provided for in this Section it shall be announced which political organisation, association of political organisations or which deputy candidate has paid for the pre-election campaign.

(4) [15 January 2009].

(5) A political organisation, association of political organisations, an individual deputy candidate or an authorised person thereof shall enter into a contract with a broadcasting organisation regarding granting of broadcasting time directly and without mediators.

[15 January 2009]

Section 8.

Candidates who are in lists of candidates of other titles and who want to use the opportunity provided for in Section 7 of this Law shall be granted broadcasting time for pre-election campaign after the receipt of payment for it. Documents confirming the payment shall be kept for the period of time stipulated in the Law On Accounting.

Section 9.

(1) If during pre-election campaign any deputy candidate has expressed an opinion regarding a deputy candidate who is in a list of candidates of other title in a programme broadcasted by any broadcasting organisation, such candidate who is in the list of candidates of other title shall be granted one minute for provision of an answer outside the broadcasting time provided for in Section 5 of this Law on the following day (in the Latvian Television – within a time period of 48 hours) if it has occurred on the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television, or disregarding the provisions of Section 8 of this Law if it is has occurred in another broadcasting organisation.

(2) In turn, time may not be requested for the subsequent answer due to answer provided for Paragraph one of this Section.

[20 July 2002]

Section 10.

Programmes of pre-election campaign shall not be included in news broadcasts of the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television as advertisements.

Section 11.

(1) Broadcasting organisations shall not revise, edit or otherwise alter programmes of pre-election campaign without the consent of the respective political organisation, association of political organisations or such deputy candidates who participate therein.

(2) Broadcasting organisations shall not be responsible for the materials of pre-election campaign prepared.

(3) The Radio and Television Law shall determine the use of language in pre-election campaign in broadcasting organisations.

[20 July 2002]

Section 12.

Employees of the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television and persons who run programmes of the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television are prohibited from campaigning for or against deputy candidates or lists of candidates beginning with the 60th day prior to the election day.

[15 October 1998]

Section 13.

(1) Employees of the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television, as well as persons who have been nominated as deputy candidates or who before the elections have made a public announcement regarding their participation in activities of any political organisation or association of political organisations do not have the right to run programmes of the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television, prepare comments, interviews and reports beginning with the 60th day prior to the election day.

(2) During pre-election time such employees shall be transferred to another job, which is not related to direct participation in programmes of the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television. If it is not possible, they may be granted a vacation.

[15 October 1998]

Section 14.

It is prohibited to include the results of public opinion polls regarding popularity of political organisations, associations of political organisations or individual deputy candidates in programmes of broadcasting organisations on the election day until 10 o'clock in the evening .

[15 January 2009]

Section 15.

The National Radio and Television Council, as well as other organisations who are entitled to enter into contracts regarding retranslation of foreign programmes in Latvia shall provide for a provision in the contract text that during the period of pre-election campaign programmes to be retranslated in Latvia may not contain materials of pre-election campaign regarding political organisations, associations of political organisations or individual deputy candidates.

[20 June 2002; 15 January 2009]

Section 16.

The provisions of this Law shall not apply to a recount of facts in news broadcasts and direct reporting.

Section 17.

Officials of broadcasting organisations who have not observed the requirements of this Law shall be held liable in accordance with law.

[20 July 2002]

Chapter II Campaign Restrictions in State and Local Government Institutions and Undertakings (Companies)

Section 18.

(1) It is prohibited to place and distribute materials of pre-election campaign in publicly available places in State and local government institutions, capital companies in which more than 50 per cent of capital shares (stocks) belong to the State or a local government.

(2) This restriction shall not apply to materials of informative nature of the Central Electoral Commission regarding the *Saeima* elections and the elections to the European Parliament, as well as to the cases referred to in Section 19 of this Law.

[20 June 2002; 26 February 2004]

Section 19.

Local governments, State and local government institutions, capital companies in which more than 50 per cent of capital shares (stocks) belong to the State or a local government, shall assign premises to political organisations, associations of political organisations or individual deputy candidates for organisation of meetings with voters free of charge or for a fee not exceeding actual expenditure for the maintenance of these premises.

[20 July 2002]

Section 20.

(1) If any institution or capital company referred to in Section 19 of this Law leases or rents property thereof or a property transferred into possession thereof to any political organisation, association of political organisations or individual deputy candidates, it has a duty to provide an opportunity to lease or rent the same property with the same provisions to other political organisations, associations of political organisations or deputy candidates who are in lists of candidates of other title upon their wish.

(2) To deputy candidates who are in lists of candidates of other titles and wish to use the opportunity provided for in Paragraph one of this Section a property shall be leased or rented only after lease or rent payment has been received for it. Such payment shall not exceed the payment stipulated for the political organisation, association of political organisations or individual deputy candidates who or which were the first to use the property for pre-election campaign. Documents confirming the payment shall be kept for the period of time stipulated in the Law On Accounting.

[20 July 2002]

Section 21.

Provisions of this Section shall not apply to broadcasting organisations.

[20 July 2002]

Chapter III Placement of Campaign Materials in Public Places

Section 22.

(1) State and local governments are prohibited to provide advantages or restrictions to any political organisation, association of political organisations or any deputy candidate in relation to the placement of materials of pre-election campaign in public places.

(2) Submitters of election lists and authorised persons thereof have the right to place campaign materials in public places, informing the respective local government thereof at least three days in advance. State and local governments may specify public places where it is not allowed to place campaign materials.

(3) The Cabinet shall determine the procedures, by which local governments calculate and collect payment for placement of campaign materials.

(4) Submitters of election lists and authorised persons thereof shall be responsible for clearing the campaign materials in accordance with the procedures stipulated by the respective local government.

[15 September 2005]

Section 23.

If any local government, State or local government institution, capital company in which more than 50 per cent of capital shares (stocks) belong to the State or a local government grant any political organisation, association of political organisations or individual deputy candidates the right to place campaign materials in places where it is not prohibited to place them pursuant to this Law or other laws, it shall also provide other political organisations, associations of political organisations or individual deputy candidates with an opportunity to obtain the same right with the same provisions upon their wish.

[20 July 2002]

Section 23¹.

It shall be indicated within the framework of materials of pre-election campaign placed in public places which political organisation or association of political organisations or which deputy candidate has paid for such pre-election campaign.

[15 January 2009]

Section 24.

Persons who have violated the procedures for placement of campaign materials stipulated in this Law shall be held liable according to laws and the binding rules of local governments.

Chapter IV
Campaigns in Publications
[20 July 2002]

Section 25.

(1) A political organisation, association of political organisations, an individual deputy candidate or an authorised person thereof shall enter into a contract with a publication regarding placement of the material of pre-election campaign only directly and without mediators.

(2) A publication shall send the price list for placement of a material of pre-election campaign, which is submitted by a political organisation, association of political organisations or an individual deputy candidate, to the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau at least 150 days before the elections. In the case referred to in Section 2, Paragraph four of this Law a publication shall send the price list for placement of a material of pre-election campaign to the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau not less than three working days from the day of announcing the elections. The Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau shall publish without delay the referred to information on the Internet home page thereof.

(3) A publication is prohibited to place the materials of pre-election campaign for a price that is higher or lower than indicated in the price lists referred to in Paragraph two of this Section. Such price lists may not be amended after publication thereof.

(4) It shall be indicated within the framework of materials of pre-election campaign published in each publication which political organisation or association of political organisations, or which deputy candidate has paid for such pre-election campaign.

[15 January 2009]

Chapter V
Record-keeping of Pre-election Campaign
[20 July 2002]

Section 26.

(1) Broadcasting organisations shall perform record-keeping of broadcasting time of a pre-election campaign.

(2) Within a time period of two weeks from the election day, broadcasting organisations shall submit a report on pre-election campaign to the National Radio and Television Council, in which the amount of broadcasting time of pre-election campaign of each list of candidates, resources obtained for broadcasting the respective pre-election campaign, as well as the political organisation, association of political organisations, deputy candidate or other persons who paid for such pre-election campaign are indicated.

(3) A broadcasting organisation, which has reached an agreement with a political organisation, association of political organisations, deputy candidate or the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law regarding placement of a material of pre-election campaign, shall, not later than on the day following the entering into a contract or making

changes to the contract entered into, send the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau a notification regarding the intended placement of materials of pre-election campaign.

(4) The following shall be indicated in the notification referred to in Paragraph three of this Section:

- 1) the date and number of the contract;
- 2) information regarding contracting parties:
 - a) the name, registration number and legal address of the entity placing the material of pre-election campaign – the broadcasting organisation,
 - b) the name, registration number and legal address of the commissioning party – legal person, including political organisation, association of political organisations,
 - c) the given name, surname, personal identity number and the address of the declared place of residence of the commissioning party – natural person,
 - d) the name, registration number and legal address of the commissioning party – registered association of legal or natural persons, or
 - e) the given name, surname, personal identity number and the address of the declared place of residence or the name, registration number and legal address of the person who enters into contract on behalf of the commissioning party (authorised person);
- 3) the date, time and duration of placement of each material of pre-election campaign;
- 4) the contract sum (with the value added tax);
- 5) the deductions applied and justification thereof, as well as the contract sum (with the value added tax), which would have been effected in case if deductions were not applied;
- 6) the procedures and terms for payment of contract sum; and
- 7) other information, which the entity placing the material of pre-election campaign deems essential.

[15 January 2009]

Section 27.

(1) Publications shall perform the record-keeping of the pre-election campaign published in the respective publication, indicating the amount of pre-election campaign of each list of candidates, the resources, which were obtained for the respective pre-election campaign, as well as the political organisation, association of political organisations, deputy candidate or other persons who have paid for such pre-election campaign.

(2) A publication, which has reached an agreement with a political organisation, association of political organisations, deputy candidate or the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law regarding placement of a material of pre-election campaign, shall send the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau a notification regarding the intended placement of materials of pre-election campaign not later than on the day following the entering into a contract or making changes to the contract entered into.

(3) The following shall be indicated in the notification referred to in Paragraph two of this Section:

- 1) the date and number of the contract;
- 2) information regarding contracting parties:
 - a) the name, registration number and legal address of the entity placing the material of pre-election campaign – the publication,
 - b) the name, registration number and legal address of the commissioning party – legal person, including political organisation, association of political organisations,
 - c) the given name, surname, personal identity number and the address of the declared place of residence of the commissioning party – natural person,

- d) the name, registration number and legal address of the commissioning party – registered association of legal or natural persons, or
 - e) the given name, surname, personal identity number and the address of the declared place of residence or the name, registration number and legal address of the person who enters into contract on behalf of the commissioning party (authorised person);
- 3) the date and space of placement of each material of pre-election campaign;
 - 4) the contract sum (with the value added tax);
 - 5) the deductions applied and justification thereof, as well as the contract sum (with the value added tax), which would have been effected in case if deductions were not applied;
 - 6) the procedures and terms for payment of contract sum; and
 - 7) other information, which the entity placing the material of pre-election campaign deems essential.

[15 January 2009]

Chapter VI **Campaigns of Person Not Related to Political Organisations and** **Associations Thereof**

[15 January 2009]

Section 28.

(1) A person not related to political organisations and associations thereof has the right to conduct pre-election campaign in accordance with the procedures stipulated in this Law.

(2) Within the meaning of this Law, a person not related to political organisations and associations thereof is a natural person, a legal person or a registered association of such persons who conduct pre-election campaign on their behalf.

(3) Pre-election campaign conducted by a political organisation or an association of political organisations, which has submitted lists of deputy candidates, a deputy candidate of such political organisation or association of political organisations, as well as a political organisation forming an association of political organisations, which has submitted lists of deputy candidates, shall not be deemed the campaign referred to in Paragraph one of this Section.

(4) A capital company in which more than one per cent of capital shares (stocks) belongs to the State, local government or another public person is prohibited to conduct pre-election campaign.

Section 29.

Before or after each pre-election campaign on the radio or television, as well as within the framework of a material of pre-election campaign placed in a publication or public place the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law who has paid for the respective pre-election campaign shall be indicated.

Section 30.

(1) A broadcasting organisation shall, at least 150 days before the elections, send the price lists of broadcasting time of such pre-election campaign, which is conducted by the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law, to the National Radio and Television Council. In the case referred to in Section 2, Paragraph four of this Law the broadcasting

organisation shall, not later than within three working days from the day of announcement of the elections, send the price lists for broadcasting time of pre-election campaign to the National Radio and Television Council. The National Radio and Television Council shall without delay publish the referred to information on the Internet home page thereof.

(2) A publication shall, at least 150 days before the elections, send the price list for placement of a material of pre-election campaign, which is submitted by the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law, to the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau. In the case referred to in Section 2, Paragraph four of this Law, a publication shall, not less than three working days from the day of announcement of the elections, send the price list for placement of a material of pre-election campaign to the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau. The Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau shall without delay publish the referred to information on the Internet home page thereof.

(3) The price lists referred to in Paragraphs one and two of this Section may not be amended after the publication thereof.

(4) A broadcasting organisation and a publication is prohibited to place the materials of pre-election campaign for a price that is higher or lower than indicated in the price lists referred to in Paragraphs one and two of this Section.

(5) The persons referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law shall enter into a contract regarding placement of the materials of pre-election campaign with the respective broadcasting organisation and publication directly, without mediators and without authorised persons.

(6) If the State, local governments, institutions of derived persons governed by public law (including local governments) and such capital companies in which more than 50 per cent of capital shares (stocks) belong to a public person assign premises to any person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law, in which pre-election campaign may be conducted or materials of pre-election campaign may be placed, the respective institution and capital company shall also ensure other persons referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law with an opportunity to conduct pre-election campaign on the same conditions.

(7) The person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law has the right to place materials of pre-election campaign in public places, informing the respective local government about it at least three days in advance and making a payment pursuant to Section 22, Paragraph three of this Law. Local governments may specify public places where it is not allowed to place materials of pre-election campaign.

Section 31.

(1) Financial resources or a property, which is used in order to conduct the campaign referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law, shall not be deemed a gift (donation) to a political organisation or association of political organisations within the meaning of the Law On Financing of Political Organisations (Parties).

(2) The person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law may use resources not exceeding 15 minimum monthly wages for pre-election campaign. Within the meaning of this Law, the minimum monthly wage is the amount of the minimum monthly wage stipulated on 1 January of the respective calendar year.

(3) The amount of the resources referred to in Paragraph two of this Section, which the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law may use for pre-election campaign, shall consist of the expenditure of the respective person during pre-election campaign regardless of the date when a document confirming the transaction (bill, contract or another documents) was written out, payment for the following was received or made:

- 1) placement of an advertisement:
 - a) on public television,
 - b) on public radio,
 - c) on commercial television,
 - d) on commercial radio,
 - e) in newspapers, magazines, bulletins and other periodicals registered in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law, produced by print technology and widely circulated throughout the whole territory of the State,
 - f) in newspapers, magazines, bulletins and other periodicals registered in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law, produced by print technology and mostly circulated within the territory of one republic city or county,
 - g) on the Internet, or
 - h) in premises and public places (in squares, streets, on bridges and in other similar places) regardless of the ownership;
- 2) utilisation of post (also electronic mail) in order to send materials of pre-election campaign with the help of it; and
- 3) financing, sponsoring charity events, disbursing benefits and making gifts (donations) if they are of the nature of a pre-election campaign.

(4) All financial resources which are used in order to conduct the campaign referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law and exceed one minimum monthly wage shall be transferred into the bank account of the recipient directly and without mediators. If the amount of financial resources used for pre-election campaign has reached one minimum monthly wage, subsequent financial resources shall be transferred into the bank account of the recipient directly and without mediators.

Section 32.

If the expenditure related to placement of materials of the campaign referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law in the respective broadcasting organisation or publication exceed the amount of expenditure referred to in Section 31, Paragraph two of this Law, the respective broadcasting organisation or publication shall refuse to enter into a contract.

Chapter VII **Procedures for Control of Pre-election Campaign** *[15 January 2009]*

Section 33.

(1) A political organisation, association of political organisations, a deputy candidate, as well as the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law who of which has violated the restrictions of pre-election campaign stipulated by law shall be held liable according to the law.

(2) If during pre-election campaign the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau determines that a political organisation or association of political organisations has exceeded

the admissible amount of pre-election expenditure stipulated in the Law On Financing of Political Organisations (Parties) or the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law has exceeded the amount of expenditure referred to in Section 31, Paragraph two of this Law, however, the former pre-election campaign has not been conducted for a sum exceeding the admissible amount of pre-election expenditure stipulated in the Law On Financing of Political Organisations (Parties) or the amount of expenditure referred to in Section 31, Paragraph two of this Law, the head of the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau shall inform the respective political organisation, association of political organisations or the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law about this violation. Elimination of violation shall not release from the responsibility stipulated by law.

(3) If during pre-election campaign the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau determines that a political organisation or association of political organisations has conducted pre-election campaign for a sum exceeding the admissible amount of pre-election expenditure stipulated in the Law On Financing of Political Organisations (Parties) or the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law has conducted campaign for a sum exceeding the amount of expenditure referred to in Section 31, Paragraph two of this Law, the head of the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau shall take a decision regarding prohibition to conduct further pre-election campaign for a fee.

(4) The Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau shall without delay publish the information regarding taking, withdrawal of or amendments to the decision referred to in Paragraph three of this Section on the Internet home page thereof.

(5) The decision referred to in Paragraph three of this Section may be appealed to the Administrative District Court. Submission of an application to the court shall not suspend the operation of the decision.

(6) The court shall, within three working days from the date of receipt of the application, examine the cases referred to in Paragraph five of this Section in accordance with the procedures stipulated in the Administrative Procedure Law. The burden of proof shall lie with the participants of administrative proceedings. If the law determines a time period for execution of any procedural step, however, the conditions referred to in this Paragraph would not be complied with in executing the respective procedural time period, the judge (court) shall determine a respective time period for execution of the procedural step.

(7) A judgment of the Administrative District Court, which has been taken regarding the issues referred to in Paragraph three of this Section, shall be executed without delay. If the court passes the abbreviated judgment, it shall announce the judgment in the court sitting.

(8) The Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau shall publish the information regarding court judgment in accordance with the procedures stipulated in Paragraph four of this Section.

(9) If after the end of the period of pre-election campaign the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau determines a violation of the provisions of Section 31, Paragraph two of this Law, the head of the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau has a duty to charge a person not related to the political organisations and associations thereof to transfer the same amount of financial resources, which corresponds to the exceeded amount of expenditure of pre-election campaign, to the State budget within a time period of 30 days. Upon the request of the respective person, the head of the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau may divide the transfer of financial resources in time periods not exceeding 90 days in total.

Section 34.

(1) If upon existence of the circumstances referred to in Section 33, Paragraph three of this Law the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau determines that subsequent pre-election campaign conducted by the respective political organisation, association of political organisations, deputy candidate or the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law is intended in programmes of specific broadcasting organisations or in publications, the head of the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau shall take a decision pursuant to the requirements of Paragraph two of this Law, by which the respective broadcasting organisations or publications are prohibited to place the campaign material.

(2) In order to take the decision referred to in Paragraph one of this Section, the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau, in accordance with the procedures stipulated in regulatory enactments, shall hear an opinion of the respective broadcasting organisation or publication in the particular case, evaluate the usefulness of the respective decision, the feasibility of execution, as well as the proportionality of the decision.

(3) The decision referred to in Paragraph one of this Section may be appealed to the Administrative District Court. Submission of an application to the court shall not suspend the operation of the decision. The decision shall be examined pursuant to the requirements of Section 33, Paragraph six of this Law.

(4) If the decision referred to in Section 33, Paragraph three of this Law is repealed, the decision referred to in Paragraph one of this Section shall cease to be in effect. The Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau shall without delay inform the respective broadcasting organisation or publication thereof.

(5) Taking of the decision referred to in Paragraph one of this Section shall not result in a duty of a broadcasting organisation or publication to compensate the political organisation, association of political organisations, deputy candidate or the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law the expenditure related to non-placement of the campaign material.

Chapter VIII **Other Restrictions Related to Pre-election Campaign** *[15 January 2009]*

Section 35.

Placement of materials of pre-election campaign on radio and television, in public places, publications and the institutions referred to in Section 18 of this Law is prohibited on the election day, as well as one day prior to the elections.

Transitional Provisions *[26 February 2004]*

1. The term “capital company” in this Law shall also mean an undertaking and a company.
2. In relation to the elections to the European Parliament of 12 June 2004, the Latvian Radio and Latvian Television shall, not later than 90 days before the election date to the European Parliament, publish the prices of broadcasting time of pre-election campaign for the time period from the 90th day before the election date to the European Parliament until the election

date to the European Parliament provided for in Section 7 in the newspaper “*Latvijas Vēstnesis*” [the official Gazette of the Government of Latvia].
[26 February 2004]

3. Until the date of the elections to the European Parliament planned in 2009 within the meaning of Section 31, Paragraph three, Clause 1, Sub-clause f), the terms “republic city” and “county” shall mean the territories formed in the result of the administrative-territorial reform.
[15 January 2009]

4. Such broadcasting organisation and such publication, which has reached an agreement with a political organisation, association of political organisations, individual deputy candidate or the person referred to in Section 28, Paragraph one of this Law regarding placement of materials of pre-election campaign before the date of coming into force of Section 26, Paragraphs three and four and Section 27, Paragraphs two and three of this Law, shall send a notification to the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau regarding placement of the anticipated pre-election materials within 10 days from the date of coming into effect of Section 26, Paragraphs three and four and Section 27, Paragraphs two and three of this Law.
[15 January 2009]

5. In relation to the elections to the European Parliament planned in 2009, the broadcasting organisations and the publications shall send the price lists referred to in Section 7, Paragraphs one and 2.¹, Section 25, Paragraph two, as well as Section 30, Paragraphs one and two of this Law for publication to the National Radio and Television Council or the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau at least 120 days before the day of the referred to elections.
[15 January 2009]

6. The Cabinet shall, by 1 September 2009, develop and submit to the *Saeima* draft laws providing for the right of political organisations, associations of political organisations and persons not related thereto to conduct campaigns in cases of referenda.
[15 January 2009]

This Law shall come into force on the day following the proclamation thereof.

This Law has been adopted by the *Saeima* on 9 August 1995.

Acting for the President, the Chairperson of the *Saeima*
Riga, 11 August 1995

A. Gorbunovs