# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

ASSOCIATION OF WORLD ELECTION BODIES



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## Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan

### Republican Referendum as the Most Important Method of Managing State Affairs by Citizens



Contributed by Dr. Marat Kogamov Doctor of Law, Professor, Honorary Lawyer of the Republic of Kazakhstan Member of the Expert Council under the CEC of Kazakhstan

On 5 June 2022, a nationwide referendum was held in Kazakhstan regarding the amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The referendum was initiated by the Head of State.

The referendum was held in accordance with the existing Electoral Law, the stipulations of the Constitutional Law "On the Republican Referendum" of 2 November 1995, and a certain practical basis for conducting the referendum. This marked the first application of the Referendum Law in Kazakhstan since the amendment of the 1995 Electoral Law.





During the referendum, a stable-functioning, multi-level institutional framework for holding elections was employed.

In addition, during the referendum process, great importance was attached to the full implementation of the active suffrage of citizens, including observation and media access to coverage of the referendum stages and results.

Reflecting on the referendum, and as recommended by international organizations, there is a need to adopt a new Constitutional Law on Republican Referendums or update the stipulations of the existing Law to improve the performance of future referendums.

The regular holding of referendums is essential as a form of direct participation of the citizens in state affairs. Likewise, conducting referendums on important issues at the local level is also critical.

Additional measures for improving the quality and effectiveness of the Republican Referendum include conducting research on political and legal problems and increasing voter education on this issue.

#### Results of the Early Presidential Election in the Republic of Kazakhstan



Contributed by Dr. Yermek ABDRASULOV Member of the Expert Council under the CEC of Kazakhstan

On 22 November 2022, the Central Election Commission (CEC) of the Republic of Kazakhstan announced the results of the early election of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan held on 20 November 2022.



Inauguration of the President



The CEC reported that 11,953,465 citizens were included in the voter lists for the single nationwide constituency, 8,300,046 people received ballots and the voter turnout reached 69.44%.

The ballot included the names of the six presidential candidates as well as the option to vote "Against all." During the voting, the candidates received the following number of votes:

President-Elect Kassym-Jomart Tokayev received 6,456,392 votes, or 81.31%;

The remaining five candidates received 1,018,651 votes; and

the option "Against all" was marked by 460,484 people (5.8%).

A total of 10,101 polling stations were open for the elections. At the representative offices of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 53 foreign states, 68 polling stations were operated.

On voting day, more than 11,000 proxies of presidential candidates, 641 observers from 10 international organizations and 35 foreign states, 15,500 observers from political parties, and more than 30,000 observers from public associations monitored the election procedures.

According to the preliminary opinions of international observation missions, the Central Election Commission of Kazakhstan effectively organized and carried out preparations for the election on time.

At the polling stations, 1,225 representatives of the Kazakh media and more than 260 journalists representing 41 foreign media outlets from 23 countries covered the course of the election.

According to the new constitutional stipulations, the President is elected for one term of seven years.





Presidential candidates