

# POLITICAL PARTIES ACT

*In force from the 01.04.2005*

*Prom. SG. 28/1 Apr 2005, amend. SG. 102/20 Dec 2005, amend. SG. 17/24 Feb 2006, amend. SG. 73/5 Sep 2006, amend. SG. 59/20 Jul 2007, amend. SG. 78/28 Sep 2007, amend. SG. 6/18 Jan 2008, amend. SG. 54/16 Jul 2010, amend. SG. 99/17 Dec 2010, amend. SG. 9/28 Jan 2011, amend. SG. 99/16 Dec 2011, amend. SG. 30/26 Mar 2013, amend. SG. 68/2 Aug 2013, amend. SG. 71/13 Aug 2013, amend. SG. 19/5 Mar 2014, suppl. SG. 32/5 May 2015, amend. SG. 95/8 Dec 2015*

## **Chapter one. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Art. 1. This act shall stipulate the incorporation, registration, structure, activity and termination of the political parties.

Art. 2. (1) (amend. - SG 06/09) Political parties shall be voluntary associations of citizens who have voting rights under the Bulgarian legislation.

(2) Political parties shall assist the formation and expression of the political will of the citizens by way of elections or in other democratic manners.

(3) Political parties shall use democratic means and methods to achieve their political aims.

Art. 3. Organizations which are not political parties may not participate in elections.

Art. 4. Organisation and activity of the political party shall be performed on the base of the Constitution, laws and in accordance with their Articles of association.

Art. 5. (1) Political parties may not use incorporated in their symbols the coat-of-arms and the flag of the Republic of Bulgaria or other state, as well as religious signs or images.

(2) The symbols of the Political parties may not infringe the universal human values and contradict the good morals.

Art. 6. The Political parties shall conduct their political events, forward appeals and draw up their documents in the Bulgarian language.

## **Chapter two. INCORPORATION, REGISTRATION AND ACTIVITY OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES**

Art. 7. The incorporation and activity of the Political parties shall be public.

Art. 8. (1) (amend. - SG 06/09) A citizen with voting rights under the Bulgarian legislation may participate in the foundation meeting of a political party only if he/she is not a member of another party.

(2) (revoked - SG 06/09)

Art. 9. (1) (amend. - SG 17/06, in force from 01.05.2006; suppl. - SG 78/07; amend. - SG 06/09) Recruitment and staff military servants, the officials in the field of internal security and public order, the investigators (detective inspectors), prosecutors, judges, the officials in the diplomatic service and other persons, to which membership in Political parties is prohibited by special legislation, may not be members of

Political parties.

(2) At the enrolment on service, the persons under Para 1 shall sign affidavit that they are not members of a political party.

Art. 10. (1) (amend. - SG 06/09) A political party shall be incorporated by initiative of at least 50 citizens with voting rights under the Bulgarian legislation who shall incorporate initiative committee.

(2) The initiative committee shall adopt a declaration of incorporation in written form.

(3) In the declaration of incorporation under Para 2 the basic principles and aims of the political party shall be determined.

(4) The initiative committee shall publicize the declaration of incorporation in at least one daily newspaper and shall start subscription for recruiting of members – founders.

Art. 11. (1) (amend. - SG 06/09) Each citizen with voting rights under the Bulgarian legislation may join the subscription by an autographically fulfilled and signed declaration of personal membership in the pattern approved by the initiative committee before the foundation assembly is held.

(2) By the declaration under Para 1 the citizen shall express his/her personal will for membership in the political party and shall declare that he/she does accept the basic principles and aims of the political party as per the declaration of foundation and that he/she is not a member of another political party.

(3) A declaration under Para 1 shall be signed by the members of the initiative committee too.

Art. 12. (1) (Suppl. – SG 73/06) A political party shall be incorporated at a foundation assembly, which assembly shall be held on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria within three months from the date of adopting of the declaration of foundation.

(2) (amend. - SG 06/09) Foundation assembly of political party shall be legal, if at least 500 citizens with voting rights under the Bulgarian legislation, who has signed a declaration under Art. 11, present it.

Art. 13. (1) The Foundation Assembly of a political party shall adopt Articles of Association of the political party with at least 500 founders.

(2) The Foundation Assembly shall elect governing and controlling bodies of the political party as per the adopted Articles of Association.

Art. 14. (1) The Articles of Association of the political party shall contain:

1. the name of the political party and its symbols;
2. the seat and registered address;
3. aims and manners of their achievement;
4. the governing and controlling bodies;
5. the rules regarding representation of the political party;
6. the order of convening, election and dismissing of the governing and controlling bodies and their powers;
7. the order of establishment and termination of the membership;
8. the rights and the obligations of the members;
9. the rules of establishment of the party structures and their rights and obligations.
10. the rules of determining the amount of the membership contribution;
11. rules of collection and execution of expenditures and disposal with party property;
12. the conditions and order of termination of the political party.

(2) Duplication of name or abbreviation of another party, as well as such supplementations to them as words, letters, numerals, numbers or other signs, shall not be admitted.

(3) (new - SG 32/15) Repetition of the name or abbreviation of a coalition registered with the

Central Election Commission for participation in the last elections for member of Parliament, or of the name of an existing parliamentary group as well as adding thereto of words, letters, figures, numbers or other characters shall not be allowed. The said prohibition shall not apply where there is an agreement in writing with notarised signatures of the persons representing the coalition or the management of the parliamentary group.

Art. 15. (1) (suppl. – SG 19/14, in force from 05.03.2014) The political party shall be registered in the political parties Public Register in the Sofia-city Court. The publicity of the register shall be provided by the internet site of the court, subject to the requirements of the Personal Data Protection Act.

(2) The political party shall be registered in the court by a written application from this body of the party, which body shall represent it as per the Articles of Association, and shall be submitted within 3 months from the date the Foundation Assembly has been held.

(3) (amend. - SG 06/09) For the registration of political parties at the court shall be submitted:

1. Declaration of Foundation
  2. Minutes of the Foundation Assembly;
  3. Articles of Association of the party;
  4. (amend. - SG 06/09) a list, containing the three names, UCN, permanent address and autographical signature of not less than 500 members- founders of the party, who are citizens with voting rights under the Bulgarian legislation;
  5. declarations of personal membership under Art. 11;
  6. notary certified samples of the signatures of the representatives of the political party;
  7. (amend. - SG 06/09) a list, containing the three names, UCN and permanent address of not less than 2500 members;
  8. notary certified declaration by the governing body of the political party regarding the authenticity of the documents under items 3, 4 and 7;
  9. certificate of name- uniqueness.
- (4) The document under Para 3, item 9 shall be issued by the Sofia-city Court, following an order defined by itself.

Art. 16. Within one-month period from the submission of the application under Art. 15, Para 2, the Sofia-city Court shall at an opened session with summoning of the applicant and participation of a prosecutor consider the application following the order of the Civil Procedures Code, and shall pronounce decision within 14 days period from the date of the session.

Art. 17. (1) The following circumstances shall be inscribed in the register of the Sofia-city Court:

1. the name of the political party;
2. the seat and registered address;
3. the Articles of Association of the political party;
4. the names of the members of the governing and controlling bodies of the political party;
5. the names of the persons who shall represent the political party as per its Articles of Association;
6. the termination of the political party;
7. the names, respectively the name and the address of the liquidators;
8. changes occurred in the circumstances under items 1-7.

(2) The entries shall be executed under the conditions and following the order of the Civil Procedure Code.

Art. 18. (1) (amend. – SG 59/07, in force from 01.03.2008) The decision on the application for court registration shall be a subject of appeal or protest within 7 days after recognition before the Supreme

Cassation Court, regardless the prerequisites for admission of the cassation appeal under Art. 280, par. 1 of the Civil Procedure Code.

(2) Within 14- days from the submission of the appeal or the protest under Para 1, the Supreme Cassation Court shall pronounce decision, which decision is irrevocable.

(3) The Sofia-city Court shall inscribe the political party in the Political Parties Register within 7-days period from the decision of registration becomes effective.

Art. 19. The decision of inscription of the political party in the Register shall be promulgated in the State Gazette within 7-days period from its submission.

Art. 19a. (new - SG 06/09) The political parties shall submit to the Sofia City Court an extract from a protocol certifying the meeting of their supreme body determined in the Articles of Association of the party within one month from holding the meeting regardless of whether the circumstances subject to entry have occurred.

Art. 20. (1) The political parties may establish their own local structures on territorial or subject principle or by residence.

(2) The political parties may establish their own youth, female or other organizations.

(3) The political parties may not establish their structures by place of work at trade corporations, co-operations, sole-traders, non-profit legal persons and religious institutions, at the state, district or municipal administrations, as well as they may not interfere in their government and activity.

(4) The political parties may not establish children-youth structures involving persons under the age of 18 years, religious or military structures.

### **Chapter three.**

#### **PROPERTY, FUNDING AND EXPENDING FUNDS**

Art. 21. The activity of the political parties shall be funded by own revenues and by state subsidy.

Art. 22. (1) (suppl. - SG 06/09) The political parties may not perform entrepreneurial activity except in the cases of Art. 23, Para 1, Item 6.

(2) The political parties have not the right to incorporate or participate in trade companies or co-operations.

Art. 23. (1) Own revenues of political parties shall be the revenues from:

1. membership contribution;

2. own real property;

3. donations and testaments by natural persons;

4. (revoked - SG 06/09)

5. (suppl. – SG 73/06) interest on money deposits at banks and incomes from securities, inasmuch as this does not contradict art. 22;

6. publishing activities, copy-rights and using of intellectual property, as well as from sales and distribution of printed, audio- and audiovisual items of party propaganda content.

(2) (amend. - SG 06/09) The donation by a single natural person for one calendar year shall not exceed BGN 10 000.

(3) The political parties may obtain loans from bank in amount up to 2/3 of the reported at the Audit Office revenues for the previous calendar year.

(4) (amend. - SG 06/09) The state subsidy and revenues under Para 1, items 1,2,5 and 6 shall be

included in the revenues under Para 3.

(5) (amend. - SG 06/09; amend. - SG 95/15, in force from 01.01.2016) The non-monetary revenues under Para 1 shall be evaluated per fair market price in accordance with the Art. 26, para. 2 of the Accountancy Act.

Art. 24. (1) (amend. - SG 06/09; prev. text of Art. 24 - SG 09/11) The political parties may not receive:

1. anonymous donations;
2. funds by legal persons and sole entrepreneurs;
3. funds by religious institutions;
4. funds from foreign governments or foreign state enterprises, foreign trade companies or foreign non-profit entities.

(2) (new - SG 09/11) The political parties may not receive movable and immovable properties for gratuitous use, as well as gratuitous services in any form by the subjects referred to in Para 1, Items 2, 3 and 4.

(3) (new - SG 09/11) The political parties may receive from natural persons for gratuitous use only their own movable and immovable properties, as well as gratuitous services rendered only with personal labour.

Art. 25. (amend. – SG 73/06; amend. - SG 06/09) (1) The state subsidy shall be released annually in four equal instalments from the state budget for funding of the political parties or coalitions registered in the Central Election Commission for participation in elections, who have participated in the latest parliamentary elections and who have candidates elected as members of parliament.

(2) The total amount provided in the budget shall be diversified proportionally to the received valid votes from each party or coalition.

(3) (amend. - SG 68/13) The state subsidy granted to each coalition represented in the National Assembly shall be allocated between the constituting parties according to a coalition agreement, and where there isn't such an agreement, it shall be allocated by proportionally to the number of national representatives from the individual parties. The Ministry of Finance shall transfer the share of the subsidy for each party to an account, indicated by the party.

Art. 26. State subsidy shall be also released to the parties, which are not represented in the National Assembly, but have obtained not less than one per cent of all valid votes at the latest parliament elections.

Art. 27. (1) (amend. – SG 73/06; amend. - SG 06/09; amend. - SG 99/10, in force from 01.01.2011; amend. – SG 99/11, in force from 01.01.2012) The total amount provided for subsidizing the political parties and coalitions shall be determined annually by the Act on the State Budget of the Republic of Bulgaria depending on the number of the obtained valid votes at the latest parliament elections and for one vote shall be provided a subsidy in an amount, as determined with the Act on the State Budget for the respective calendar year.

(2) The way of providing the parties and coalitions with subsidy funds shall be determined by the Minister of Finance.

Art. 28. (1) Each political party shall receive its share of the annual state subsidy in four disbursements, payable respectively before the 30th of April, the 30th of June, the 30th of September and the 20th of December of the relevant year.

(2) The received subsidy may not be provided as a security for receivables of 3rd persons.

Art. 28a. (new - SG 06/09) The political parties shall declare to the Audit Office all bank accounts opened by them within 14 days from their opening.

Art. 29. (1) (pre. text of Art. 29 - SG 06/09) The political parties shall expend the funds for preparation and participation in elections, for providing the activity of the party structures, for organizational expenditures for holding of events and other inherent to the activity of the party expenditures.

(2) (new - SG 06/09) The political party shall create and keep a public register, where shall be recorded:

1. the persons under Art. 23, Para 1, Item 3 and the type, amount, value and purpose of the donation or testament;

2. (amend. - SG 09/11; amend. – SG 19/14, in force from 05.03.2014) a declaration by the persons under Art. 23, Para 1, Item 3 regarding the origin of the funds, when the donation exceeds one minimum salary;

3. the names of the sociological and advertisement agencies and also of the public relations agencies working with the party;

4. the circumstances under Art. 17;

5. the owned immovable property;

6. (amend. - SG 09/11) the transactions involving disposition of movable and immovable property which value exceeds BGN 1000;

7. (new - SG 09/11) properties provided for gratuitous use and gratuitous services rendered with the personal labour by natural persons, their names, the term of use, the type and description of the properties provided for use, the types of the services and a declaration on the ownership in the properties;

8. (prev. text of Item 07 - SG 09/11) the annual financial reports and the reports for the elections campaigns.

(3) (new - SG 06/09) The circumstances under Para 2 shall be recorded in the register within 14 days from taking place.

(4) (new - SG 06/09) The publicity of the register under Para 2 shall take place through the internet site of the political party.

Art. 30. (1) Each party shall appoint a concrete person or persons, who shall be responsible for the revenues, expenditures and the accountancy reporting of the party.

(2) The political party shall submit at the Accountancy Office the names and positions of the persons under Para 1 within 30-days period from its court registration, and in case of change of the persons – within 7-days of the execution of the change.

(3) (new – SG 73/06; amend. – SG 30/13, in force from 26.03.2013; amend. – SG 71/13, in force from 13.08.2013) The persons under Art. 17, para 1, items 4 and 5 shall declare their property, income and expenses in the country and abroad following the procedure of the Act on Public Disclosure of the Assets of Persons Holding Senior Governmental and Other Positions.

(4) (new – SG 73/06; revoked – SG 30/13, in force from 26.03.2013; new – SG 71/13, in force from 13.08.2013) The procedure under para 3 shall not apply with respect to the political parties, which do not obtain state subsidy.

Art. 31. (1) The state and the municipalities shall provide rented premises to the political parties, which have a parliament group of a sufficient number of members of parliament to incorporate such group, for their activity.

(2) The premises under Para 1 may be provided also to parties, which have obtained more than one per cent of the valid votes at the latest parliament elections.

(3) Providing of premises to political parties shall be performed in accordance with the State

Property Act and the Municipal Property Act.

Art. 32. (1) The rent for the provided premises shall be in amount of the deduction for depreciation with added exploitation expenditures if such occur.

(2) (suppl., SG 102/05; amend. - SG 06/09) The provided to political parties premises may not be re-rented and provided for usage. Such premises may be used jointly according to a contract with 3rd persons only for purposes directly related to the activity of the party.

(3) The rent legal relations shall be terminated due to non-payment of the rental price for longer than three months, due to systematic late payments or due to violation of Art. 2.

#### **Chapter four.**

#### **PUBLICITY AND FINANCIAL CONTROL (TITLE AMEND. - SG 06/09)**

Art. 33 (1) The financial control over the political parties activity and over the management of the provided property shall be performed by the Accountancy Office.

(2) The political parties shall apply double-entry accountancy following the provisions of the Accountancy Act.

Art. 34. (1) (amend. – SG 73/06; amend. - SG 06/09; amend. - SG 95/15, in force from 01.01.2016) The political parties shall draw up financial report for the previous calendar year according to the requirements of Chapter Three, Section III of the Accountancy Act.

(2) (amend. – SG 73/06) The financial reports under Para 1, prior to their provision at the Accountancy Office, shall be subject to independent financial audit and certification by an independent financial auditor, in case a political party has received or spent sums and/or other property amounting over 50 000 BGN, regardless of their origin, during the accountancy period.

(3) The expenditures for the audit and the certification of the financial reports shall be on the account of the respective political party.

(4) (amend. – SG 73/06; amend. - SG 06/09) Annually, prior to the 31st of March, the political parties shall submit at the Accountancy Office the financial report on paper and electronic carrier. Attached to it shall be a declaration according to a model, containing a list of the natural persons, who have made donations.

(5) (new – SG 73/06; amend. - SG 06/09) Any annual financial report failing to meet the requirements of Para 1 and/or Para 4 regarding its form, contents and the way of filing it, and also when it is not accompanied by the declaration under Para 4, shall be deemed not to have been filed.

(6) (prev. text of para 5 – SG 73/06; amend. - SG 06/09) The Accountancy Office shall publicize, in a term before 15th of April of the current year, on its Internet-page the reports and declarations under Para 4, a list with names of the parties which have not submitted reports within the term under Para 4 as well as a list of the parties granted a state subsidy during the preceding year.

(7) (new – SG 73/06) The Accountancy Office shall prepare a model of the declaration under para 4.

Art. 35. (amend. - SG 06/09) (1) Within 6 months from expiration of the time limit for receiving the annual financial reports the Audit Office shall conduct an audit for the compliance with the requirements of this act and of the Accountancy Act of the financial activity, the income, expenditure and management of the property provided to the political parties, which during the preceding year:

1. have been granted state subsidy;
2. have used the premises - state or municipal property, provided to them;
3. have participated in elections, if such were held.

(2) When conducting the audit under Para 1 the Audit Office authorities shall be entitled to:

1. free access to the office premises and to all documents, reports, assets and debts related to the financial activity of the political parties;
2. request within terms specified by them reference reports, certified copies of documents and other information related to the audits, including on an electronic carrier;
3. request oral or written explanation from the officials, including from former officials, regarding facts found during the audits, as well as regarding questions related to their competence;
4. request reference reports, certified copies of documents and other information from natural persons, legal persons and sole entrepreneurs outside the specified political party, related to possible cases of illegal activity;
5. request and receive information from all authorities in the country and access to their databases in connection to the audit.

(3) In case of denial of information under Para2, Item 4 the chairman of the Audit Office shall be entitled to issue an order for an inspection of the legal person or of the sole entrepreneur in connection with the denied information. In case of impediment to the inspection caused by the legal person or the sole entrepreneur the Audit Office shall approach the prosecution authorities.

(4) The written evidence collected during the inspection under Para 3 shall be integral part of the documentation of the audit.

Art. 35a. (new - SG 06/09) (1) Upon expiration of the term under Art. 34, Para 6 the National Revenue Agency authorities shall act according to their competence under the order of Chapter Fifteen of the Tax-Insurance Procedure Code in respect of the political parties receiving state subsidy and which have failed to submit their reports to the Audit Office.

(2) The National Revenue Agency shall act as referred to in Para 1 within the terms under Art. 114, Para 1 and 2 of the Tax-Insurance Procedure Code.

(3) Upon expiration of the terms under Para 2 the executive director of the National Revenue Agency shall send to the Audit Office information about its acts, including any revision acts issued.

(4) The Audit Office shall publish on its internet site the report from the audit under Art. 35, Para 1 and the received information by the National Revenue Agency within one month from receiving the report, respectively from receiving the information under Para 3.

Art. 36. (1) In case of non-submission or late submission of the financial reports at the Accountancy Office, the political parties shall lose their right of state subsidy until next elections for Members of Parliament are held.

(2) (amend. - SG 06/09) In case of found by the Audit Office authorities during the audit violations by political parties at the collection and expending funds, violations in management of the provided property or in the financial reporting, the report, in its relevant part and the collected evidence shall be forwarded to the Sofia-city Prosecution within 7-days period from its adoption.

Art. 37. (amend. - SG 06/09) (1) The Accountancy Office shall issue certificates for the submitted and/or non-submitted within the term under Art. 34, Para 4 annual financial reports of the political parties for the previous three years, and in respect of the newly registered political parties - from the date of their judicial registration.

(2) The certificate under Para 1 shall be submitted by the political party to the respective central election commission at its registration for participation in elections.

Art. 37a. (new - SG 06/09; revoked - SG 09/11)



**Chapter five.**  
**TERMINATION OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES**

Art. 38. Political Party shall be terminated in case of:

1. decision for merger or consolidation with another party;
2. decision for splitting in two or more parties;
3. decision for dissolving itself as per its Articles of Association;
4. decision of the Constitutional Court, entered in force, by which decision the political party is announced anti-Constitutional.
5. dissolving by a decision of the Sofia-city Court.

Art. 39. The decisions under Art. 38, items 1 and 2 shall be taken by the supreme body of the party. This right may not be delegated to the head governing body of the party.

Art. 40. (1) The Sofia-city Court shall dispose dissolving of a political party only in the cases, if:

1. the party violates the requirements of this act systematically;
2. its activity contradicts the Constitutional provisions;
3. for a period longer than 5 years from its latest court registration it has not participated in elections of Members of Parliament, of President and Vice-President or of municipal counsellors and mayors.
4. (new - SG 06/09) it has failed to submit its annual financial reports to the Audit Office for two consecutive years;
5. (new - SG 06/09) it has failed to hold the meetings of its supreme authority stipulated in its Articles of Association for more than two consecutive times, but not less than once for 5 years. and has failed to submit to the court the members of the new management for registration.

(2) The court decision under Para 1 shall be pronounced on a claim of the prosecutor.

Art. 41. (1) (amend. – SG 59/07, in force from 01.03.2008) The decision of Sofia city Court under Art. 40 shall be a subject of appeal within 14 days from learning before the Supreme Cassation Court, regardless the prerequisites for admission of the cassation appeal under Art. 280, par. 1 of the Civil Procedures Code.

(2) (amend. – SG 59/07, in force from 01.03.2008) The Supreme Cassation Court shall pronounce decision within 14-days term, which decision is final and shall not be a subject of annulment under Art. 303 of the Civil Procedure Code.

(3) The decision for termination of a political party shall be inscribed in the register of the Sofia-city court and shall be promulgated in the State Gazette within 7-days term from the inscription.

Art. 42. (1) At termination of a political party under Art, 38, items 1- 3, the respective body shall define the way of disposal with its property.

(2) At termination of a political party under Art, 38, items 4 and 5, its property shall pass in favour of the state. The state shall be responsible for the obligations of the terminated party limited to the value of the received property.

**Chapter six.**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE PENAL PROVISIONS**

Art. 43. (amend. – SG 19/14, in force from 05.03.2014) (1) A payment penalty shall be imposed on a political party which does not present within the time limit the financial report under Art. 34, para. 1 and a declaration under Art. 34, para. 4 to the amount within the range of BGN 5000 to BGN 10 000.

(2) A payment penalty shall be imposed on a political party which does not create a public register or which does not enter into the public register the circumstances under Art. 29, para. 2 to the amount within the range of BGN 1000 to BGN 5 000.

Art. 43a. (new – SG 19/14, in force from 05.03.2014) (1) Upon violation of the requirements of Art. 22, Art. 23, para. 2, Art. 24 and Art. 29, para. 1, the person under Art. 30, para. 1, and if such a person is not determined, the person representing the political party, shall be liable to a fine within the range of BGN 1000 to BGN 5000.

(2) Upon breach of the obligations under Art. 28a, the person under Art. 30, para. 1, and if such a person is not determined, the person representing the political party, shall be liable to a fine within the range of BGN 100 to BGN 500.

(3) Upon breach of the obligations under Art. 30, para. 1 and 2, the person representing the political party, shall be liable to a fine within the range of BGN 200 to BGN 500.

(4) In case of repeated violation under para. 1 and 2 the fine shall be doubled.

Art. 44. (1) (amend. – SG 19/14, in force from 05.03.2014) The written statements ascertaining the violation referred to in Articles 43 to 43a shall be drawn up by officials empowered by the President of the Bulgarian National Audit Office.

(2) The punitive decrees shall be issued by the Chairman of the Accounting Office.

(3) Drawing up of acts, issue and appeal of the punitive decrees shall be performed following the order of the Administrative Violations and Penalties Act.

Art. 45. (1) A mayor or a district governor, who does not fulfil an obligation arising from a court decision for cancellation of refusal for providing premises to a political party, shall be sanctioned with a fee in amount of from 500 to 1500 BGN by the respective court.

(2) In case of repeated breach the fee shall be from 5000 to 10 000 BGN.

### **Additional provisions**

§ 1. In the meaning of this act:

1. "anonymous donations" shall be donations, at which the identity or the firm of the donator are kept confidential to third persons;

2. (amend. - SG 06/09) "funds" shall be all monetary and non-monetary funds, provided to the political party on the base of a gratuitous transaction.

3. (revoked - SG 06/09)

4. "financial report" shall be an annual financial report in the meaning of the Accountancy Act;

5. "independent financial auditor" shall be a registered auditor in the meaning of the Independent Financial Audit Act"

6. (revoked - SG 06/09; amend. – SG 19/14, in force from 05.03.2014) "Repeated violation" shall be the violation, conducted within a period of one year following the enforcement of a penalty decree by which a penalty has been imposed for the same violation.

### **Transitional and concluding provisions**

§ 2. Regarding matters, not stipulated in this act, the Non-Profit Legal Entities Act shall be applied.

§ 2a. (new - SG 54/10, in force from 16.07.2010) (1) The annual state subsidy for the year 2010, calculated as per Art. 27, para 1, shall be granted to political parties and coalitions amounting to 85 percent of

the total amount according to the Act on the State Budget of the Republic of Bulgaria for the year 2010.

(2) The annual subsidy reduction shall be at the expense of the remaining installments for the year 2010.

§ 3. The Political Parties Act (Prom. SG 30/2001, amend., SG 103/2003 is revoked.

§ 4. (1) (amend., SG 102/05) The political parties, registered before the date of this act becomes effective, shall bring their Articles of Association in accordance with the requirements of this act within the period to the 30th of June 2006.

(2) The already initiated procedures of registration of political parties before this act enters in force, shall be terminated.

(3) The political parties which have been registered by way of duplication of name or the abbreviation of another party registered before them as well as by ay of supplementing to them words, letters, numerals, numbers or other signs, shall be registered again under another name and following the order and conditions of this act and within the term of Para 1.

(4) In the cases of Para 3, of documents for the registration are not submitted within the term, the party shall be terminated by claim of a prosecutor, and in case of entered in force refusal of registration – shall be deleted officially by the court.

(5) The district governors and the mayors shall terminate the contracts for rent of premises – state or municipal property if such are concluded with political parties terminated under Para 4 within one-month period from the termination of the party.

§ 5. (revoked - SG 06/09)

§ 6. In the Act on Elections of National Representatives (Prom. SG 37/2001, amend. SG 44/2001- Decision No. 8 of the Constitutional Court of 2001, amend. SG 45/2002) in the Art. 50, Para 3 shall be created new item 3:

"3. certificate by the Accountancy Office of dully submitted financial reports in the last three years"

§ 7. In the Act on the Presidential Elections (Prom. SG 82/1991, amend. SG 98/1991, amend. SG 44/ 1996, amend. SG 59/ 1998, amend. SG 24/2001, amend. SG 80/ 2001, amend. SG 90/2001, amend. SG 45/2002) in the Art. 6, Para 1 shall be created new item 5:

"5. certificate by the Accountancy Office of dully submitted financial reports in the last three years"

§ 8. In the Local Elections Act (Prom. SG 66/1995, corr. SG 68/1995, amend. SG 85/ 1995, amend. SG 33/ 1996, amend. SG 22/ 1997, amend. SG 11/1998, amend. SG 59/1998, amend. SG 69/ 1999, amend. SG 85/ 1999, amend. SG 29/ 2000, amend. SG 24/2001, amend. SG 45/2002, amend. SG 69/ 2003, amend. SG 93/ 2003) Art. 40, Para 2 shall be amended as follows:

"(2) The parties shall submit a copy of the court decision by which they are registered, as well as a certificate by the Accountancy Office of dully submitted financial reports in the last three years. In case parties participate in coalition, each party shall submit a copy of the court decision by which it is registered, as well as a certificate by the Accountancy Office of dully submitted financial reports in the last three years. The party coalition shall submit the decision for its incorporation, signed by the governing bodies of the relevant parties, sample of the signatures of the representing persons and a sample of the seal of the coalition if such exists".

§ 9. This act shall enter in force on the day of promulgation in State Gazette.

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The Act was adopted by the XXXIX National Assembly on the 18th of December 2004 and was

affixed with the official seal of the National Assembly on the 23rd of March 2005.

**Transitional and concluding provisions  
TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ACT**

(PROM. – SG 17/06)

§ 24. The Act shall enter in force from 1st of May 2006.

**Transitional and concluding provisions  
TO THE CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE**

(PROM. – SG 59/07, IN FORCE FROM 01.03.2008)

§ 61. This code shall enter into force from 1 March 2008, except for:

1. Part Seven "Special rules related to proceedings on civil cases subject to application of European Union legislation";

2. paragraph 2, par. 4;

3. paragraph 3 related to revoking of Chapter Thirty Two "a" "Special rules for recognition and admission of fulfillment of decisions of foreign courts and of other foreign bodies" with Art. 307a – 307e and Part Seven "Proceedings for returning a child or exercising the right of personal relations" with Art. 502 – 507;

4. paragraph 4, par. 2;

5. paragraph 24;

6. paragraph 60,

which shall enter into force three days after the promulgation of the Code in the State Gazette.

**Transitional and concluding provisions  
TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE POLITICAL PARTIES ACT**

(PROM. - SG 06/09)

§ 28. By 31 March 2009 the Prosecution Authority shall perform a check and shall submit to the court a proposal for dismissing the political parties failing to meet the requirements of Art. 40, Para 1, Item 1 - 4.

§ 29. (1) Within one month from entry into force of this act the registered political parties shall declare their bank accounts under Art. 28a.

(2) The Audit Office shall approve the forms under Art. 37a, Para 2 of the reports for the funds accrued and spent during the pre-election campaigns within three months from entry into force of this act.

§ 30. (1) By 31 March 2009, together with the certified financial report, the political parties shall submit to the Audit Office a declaration according to a form, annexing a list of the legal persons which have made donations to the party, their type, amount, value and purpose and also a list of the non-profit legal persons, in which founders and/or members of the management and control bodies are members of the governing or control bodies of the political party, their children or spouses.

(2) A declaration under Para 1 shall be submitted also by the non-profit legal persons which have made a donation to the political party.

(3) By 15 April 2009 the Audit Office shall publish on its internet site the declarations under Para 1 and the names of the political parties which have submitted them.

(4) Any person determined by the governing bodies of the political party or of a non-profit legal person failing to submit a declaration under Para 1 shall be fined from BGN 1000 to 2000.

**Concluding provisions**  
**TO THE ACT AMENDING THE POLITICAL PARTIES ACT**

(PROM. - SG 54/10, IN FORCE FROM 16.07.2010)

§ 2. The Act shall enter into force from the date of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

**Transitional and concluding provisions**  
**TO THE ACT ON THE STATE BUDGET OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA FOR 2012**

(PROM. – SG 99/11, IN FORCE FROM 01.01.2012)

§ 100. This act shall enter into force from 1 January 2012, except for § 76, which shall enter into force from 15 December 2011.

**Concluding provisions**  
**TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ACT ON PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF  
THE ASSETS OF SENIOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

(PROM. - SG 30/13, IN FORCE FROM 26.03.2013)

§ 9. The Act shall enter into force from the date of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

**Transitional and concluding provisions**  
**TO THE ACT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ACT ON PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF  
THE ASSETS OF PERSONS, OCCUPYING SENIOR GOVERNMENTAL, PUBLIC AS WELL  
AS OTHER POSITIONS IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR**

(PROM. - SG 71/13, IN FORCE FROM 13.08.2013)

§ 9. The Act shall enter into force from the date of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

**Transitional and concluding provisions**  
**TO THE ELECTION CODE**

(PROM. - SG 19/14, in force from 05.03.2014)

§ 30. The Code shall enter into force from the date of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

**Transitional provisions**  
**TO THE ACT SUPPLEMENTING THE POLITICAL PARTIES ACT**

(PROM. - SG 32/15)

§ 2. The provision of Art. 14, para 3 shall also apply to procedures for registration of political parties initiated before the entry into force of this Act.

**Transitional and concluding provisions  
TO THE ACCOUNTANCY ACT**

(PROM. SG 95/15, IN FORCE FROM 01.01.2016)

§ 29. This Act shall enter into force from 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016, with the exception of Art. 48 – 52, which shall enter into force from 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2017.