

## DECISION

of Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan  
on consideration of the appeal # 07 submitted to the Central Election Commission  
on August 1, 2024 in the Elections to the Milli Majlis in September 1, 2024

Regarding the Elections to the MilliMajlis appointed to September 1, 2024, Mehdi Elis Veli, self-nominee to deputy on Nizami second Con.EC # 25 applied to the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan (CEC) on August 1, 2024 and contested the decision # 19/61 of the Con.EC , dated 31 July, 2024 on the refusal of registration of his candidacy to deputy, therefore, requested the cancellation of the decision and registration of his candidacy.

The appeal was adopted for the implementation in comply with Articles 112 and 112-1 of the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Election Code) and "Instruction on the rules for filing appeals and complaints to the Central Election Commission and Constituency Election Commissions of the Republic of Azerbaijan and their consideration", relevant opinion was provided on this issue by a member of the Expert Group under CEC and considered at the Commission session.

The applicant was contacted in connection with the investigation, was told to participate in the investigation and the session, and was told that he had other rights, and that his participation in the session was ensured.

The Constituency Election Commission ( Con.EC) based its Decision # 19/61 dated July 31, 2024 on refusing to register A.V. Mehdi, whose candidacy was put forward on his own initiative, as a candidate, 10 signature sheets with 500 voters' signatures and other election documents attached to them were submitted to the constituency election commission and taking into account that some signatures raised doubts during the verification of signature sheets by the working group operating under the commission, and the necessity of conducting a related inspection arose, Nizami second Con.EC # 25 has applied to the Central Election Commission for the allocation of calligrapher experts to verify the signatures on the signature sheets submitted by the candidates. For this purpose, calligrapher experts were selected from among the specialists of the Working Group operating under the Central Election Commission, and from the opinions of those experts, it is obvious from the protocol of the Working Group on checking the correctness of signatures on the signature sheets that out of 500 signatures in 10 signature sheets submitted, 9 signatures violated the requirements of Article 56.2 of the Election Code, since they were collected outside the territory of Nizami second Con.Ec

#.25, 198 signatures out of 230 verified signatures were executed by the same person in 86 groups, so 112 voter signatures were considered incorrect. Thus, 121 voter signatures out of 500 submitted voter signatures were considered incorrect. The fact that the submitted valid (correct) voter signatures are less than the required number was the basis for the refusal of the candidacy. During the research process, the signature sheets submitted by the candidate A.V. Mehdi and the election documents attached to it were taken by request from the Con.EC and submitted to the working group operating under the Central Election Commission for repeated verification. In violation of the requirements of Article 56.2 of the Election Code of the disputed 9 voter signatures, which were the basis for refusal of registration, as a result of collection outside the territory of Nizami Second Con.Ec #25, 198 signatures out of 230 verified signatures were executed by the same person in 86 groups, the invalidity of 112 voter signatures and the invalidity of 121 voter signatures in total was confirmed by the protocol dated August 2, 2024 and expert opinion.

According to Article 59.2 of the Election Code, the opinions of the experts involved in the working group from among the specialists of the relevant bodies shall be accepted as the basis for confirming the correctness of the information contained in the signature sheets.

According to Article 147.1 of the Election Code, for the protection of the candidate, at least 450 signatures of voters must be collected in the territory of the electoral constituency where he is nominated.

According to the requirements of Article 60.2.4 of the Election Code, less than the required number of valid (correct) voter signatures submitted for the protection of the candidate is the basis for refusing the registration of the candidate.

It is determined from the above that since the number of valid (correct) voter signatures was not enough for the registration of A.V. Mehdi's candidacy, the legal conclusion of the constituency election commission on refusing to register his candidacy was in accordance with the requirements of the Election Code. Substantive and procedural legal norms were correctly applied by the Con.EC.

Thus, the application of the candidate A.V. Mehdi shall not be implemented as it is groundless and the Decision #19/61 dated July 31, 2024 of the Constituency Election Commission on refusal to register the candidacy shall be remained unchanged.

Taking the above mentioned as a basis pursuant to 19.4, 28.2, 56, 57, 59, 60, 112 , 112-1, 147 and 148-1 of Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan and item # 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 of the "Instruction on the rules for filing appeals and complaints to the Central Election Commission and Constituency Election Commissions of the Republic of Azerbaijan and their consideration" the Central Election Commission decides:

1. The appeal # 08 submitted August 1, 2024 by Mehdi Elis Veli, self-nominee to deputy on Nizami second Con.EC # 25 in the Elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, appointed to September 1, 2024 shall not be implemented due to groundlessness and the decision # 19/61, dated 31 July, 2024 shall be remained in force without making amendments.

2. The decision shall be enforced upon its publication.

CEC Chairman

Mazahir Panahov

CEC Secretary

Arifa Mukhtarova

CEC Secretary

Mikayil Rahimov