

Lebanese Republic
Ministry of Interior and Municipalities
Supervisory Commission for Elections
Issue No. 1002

To Maharat Foundation

Subject: Your association's illegal participation in accompanying and supervising the Elections

Reference: Your letter dated 4/19/2019

In response to what was stated in your letter referred to above, the Supervisory Commission for elections informs you of the following:

You must read the text of Article 20 of the Law on Election of Members of the House of Representatives No. 44/2017 with all accuracy and responsibility, the competent civil society bodies have the right to keep pace with the elections and monitor their course under the supervision of the commission, provided that they meet the conditions specified in this article jointly. Civil society organizations wishing to participate must submit their requests in this regard along with the required documents to the commission that studies the authorization requests received, and it is up to it to accept or reject the request in light of the fulfillment of the required conditions, and for the association to abide by the code of honor established by the commission. Based on this, the commission confirms what was stated in its letter to you No. 970 13/4/2022.

As the legislator intended from these texts to regulate the process of civil society organizations' monitoring of elections and to give them legitimacy for that, they did not leave matters uninterrupted, as Maharat Foundation believes. Therefore, the supervisory commission for elections requests on your part to abide by the clear legal provisions referred to, at the risk of considering the activities carried out by the foundation without legal justification and issued by a party that has no legal capacity to carry out monitoring work with the legal consequences thereof.

This principle applies to all other bodies and associations that have complied with the provisions of the law and submitted authorization requests to the commission that approved it after verifying that the required conditions are met.

Beirut in 20/4/2022

President of the Supervisory Commission for Elections

Judge Nadim Abdel Malek