

## CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

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### **CRIMINAL LIABILITY FOR VIOLATION OF ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM RIGHTS OF CITIZENS**

Criminal liability is envisaged for the most serious offences in the sphere of electoral and referendum law. Severe penalties are designed to prevent and stop the active actions of the perpetrators, in fact, directed at undermining the constitutional order.

The domestic legislator provided a list of ways to commit obstruction of a citizen in the electoral and referendum law. They are violence, threat of violence, coercion, bribery, deception, destruction or damage to property, threat of destruction or damage to property. Part 1 of article 160 of the criminal code contains a definition of “impeding the other way”, which indicates that an inexhaustible list of ways to prevent citizens from exercising referenda rights.

However, it is not enough to stipulate liability for violation of the electoral and referendum legislation and to appoint a court that will exercise control over its observance. We should reform the legal consciousness of citizens and to orient it to the new principles of the organization of the political life of the state. Only under such conditions of high legal culture will form the basis of the constitutional reform of state-building.