

**Explanatory manual on how to use the Database of Electoral Crimes**  
**including useful information with regard to content data**

Mapping electoral alleged crimes is introduced for the first time in election monitoring. The main tool of the mapping system is a database system that collects and displays all alleged crimes. The main debatable represent the occurrence of irregularities that implies all 21 prosecution offices in Albania.

This debatable has 12 columns at the moment (the number may be further increased later). Below, an explanation has been provided for understanding content data for each and every column in particular as well for connecting the displayed data in a comprehensive mode to evaluate the phenomenon of electoral crimes in general.

**On the first column**, all cases that have been submitted in prosecution offices has been given an index/serial number. The last raw number represents also the overall number of cases that have been observed by INFOCIP's monitors at the time being for this parliamentary election.

**On the second column** is displayed the date when criminal charges pressed have been submitted to the Prosecution. In case of cases raised by the Police, the date corresponds with that of the official notice distributed to the media. In case when the case is obtained by INFOCIP's observers directly, the date corresponds with the reporting published in the main hub: [www.krimizgjor.com](http://www.krimizgjor.com)

**On the third column "Subject"** is displayed the subject that has pressed criminal charges. This column provides a clear understanding on WHO has been most active subject/institution on pressing criminal charges against persons/subjects involved in perceived/suspected vote buying or vote coercion.

**On the 4<sup>th</sup> column "type"** has been displayed the type of legal complain. Under the Albanian law, citizens, voters, electoral subject or even institutions may submit denunciation to the police, press/submit charges directly to the prosecution office, or just raise a concern/ signal to the responsible law enforcing authorities.

**On the 5<sup>th</sup> column "Submitted by"** is presented the name of the person/subject that has raised the criminal charges or the institution that has forwarded the complain of citizens to the law enforcing authorities

**On the 6<sup>th</sup> column "Number of the accused"**, is presented a due diligence evaluation of the total number of persons/per case who have been submitted under criminal charges raised against them.

**On the 7<sup>th</sup> column “Referred to” (highlighted in yellow)** the user of this database is provided with the name of the prosecution office where denunciation or criminal charges raised have been submitted. For the first time in 2021 Elections, SPAK (Special Anti-Corruption Structure) has jurisdiction over 2 out of 15 figures of criminal offenses described by the Chapter X of the Criminal Code. The 7<sup>th</sup> column serves in this perspective to make a distinction between cases presented for investigation to the normal district prosecutions as opposed to those presented to the cases submitted to SPAK.

**On the 8<sup>th</sup> column “Initial Evidence”**, INFOCIP has provided the factual evidence of the charges raised on presumed criminal offenses that may have hampered free and fair elections. Each cell of this column has a linked green button that once pressed displays (presents/open) the first page of the complaint file. In Albania, the accuser party has to fill a complaint and then submit it in written form to the prosecution office and/or SPAK. In addition to that, when infringement cases has been spotted by the Police, the later has also the legal obligation to refer the case for further investigation to the prosecution office.

**On the 9<sup>th</sup> column “resolving outcome”**, the database has provided the space for reflecting the outcome of the criminal investigation for each of the cases presented. The acronym: NPV (Albanian) means, literally translated in English: Under Process of Verification. This column is expected to be completed from 18 days to 6 months, as provided by the procedural timeframe of investigation regulated the Code of Criminal Proceedings in Albania.

**On the 10<sup>th</sup> column, “articles [of CC]”** the viewer is provided with the articles of the criminal code based on which the criminal charges are based.

**On the 11<sup>th</sup> column “Municipality”** the database provide the place where the electoral incident or infringements or pretended crimes have been consumed or spotted in the first place. This provides a understanding of the geography of alleged crimes. Albania has 61 municipalities in total.

**On the 12<sup>th</sup> column “Qark”** indicates the electoral region for which the presumed electoral crimes are counted for. Albania has 12 Electoral “Qark”/ Regions. The electoral system in Albanian is regional proportional.

*In addition to the main Table, which is reached in graphic content and allows linking of the evidences, INFOCIP has also provided the viewers with another Open Data Table, identical in content with the main table, except the links. This second table offers an advantage to use extra tools for downloading the table in Excel, Word or other format for better elaboration of data, ranking, filtering etc.*