

PROTECTION OF RIGHTS WITHOUT BORDERS NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

Summary of the observation results of the election of candidate for the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee

On January 20, 2025, the interview stage of the competition announced by the Government for the selection of candidates for the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee took place.

The "Protection of Rights Without Borders" NGO participated in the competition as an observer.

Only one person applied for the competition announced by the Government for the selection of candidates for the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee: Rafael Yeritsyan, who at the time of application held the position of Head of the General Department for Economic Security and Counteraction to Corruption of the National Security Service.

The interview included questions in three main directions; the personal characteristics of the candidate, questions related to the integrity of the candidate and professional check through field questions. As a result of observing and summarizing the questions and answers, it can be noted that the candidate was unable to properly explain the origin of his and his family members' property and funds.

By the final results of the competition, it was concluded that the candidate did not receive enough points to be presented to the Government, and therefore the post is still vacant.

The monitoring of the competition showed also that the competition board members showed disrespect towards each other, questioned each other's professional knowledge, the chairman regularly limited the member's right to ask questions, removed repetitive questions, and even turned off the member's loudspeaker several times. The chairman was angry that one of the members had raised questions about which he had not previously informed the other board members. In addition, the chairman of the board raised the final part integrity assessment provided by the Corruption prevention commission, which, according to the other member, was impermissible by law. All this caused laughter among independent listeners and the candidate, thus questioning the professionalism and ethics of the competition board.