

## The certification and decertification process of elections, with special emphasis in the Republic of Kosovo

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### Abstract

The right of all adult citizens to participate in the issues of their country's governance is one of the cornerstones of democracy. Election participation is defined by internal legal acts such as constitution, laws, electoral codes, and through international legal acts. This right has been limited throughout history, by completely banning certain categories of citizens to participate in elections or by placing voters' censorship such as the rich, poor, educated, etc. Apart from the active and passive right to participate in the elections, the constitution and the electoral laws have also determined the right of exclusion from the elections. In the contemporary world, with internal norms and international law, special criteria are set for the certification and decertification of voters in the elections. The purpose of this paper is to assess the colliding norms that exist in Kosovo's legislation regarding the participation of citizens in the elections, especially the colliding norms between the constitution and the electoral laws in the certification-de-certification provisions of the elections. With these shortcomings and ambiguities, international standards for democratic elections have been violated.

**Keywords:** Right to election, electoral process, certification of election, de-certification.

**JEL Classification:** K15 and K16

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Academic Journal of Business, Administration, Law and Social Sciences ISSN 2410-3918 (print)

ISSN 2410-8693 (online)

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