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State Duma elections of the Russian Federation 2016: results and lessons

On September 18, 2016 in the territory of all Rossiiv took place the uniform voting day elections of deputies of the State Duma of Federal Assembly of Russia of the VII convocation.

Elections passed on the mixed electoral system: from 450 deputies 225 were elected according to party lists on the uniform federal district (proportional system), and 225 more — on one-mandatory districts (majority system). For hit in the Duma on proportional system parties needed to overcome a 5% barrier, and to candidates in districts - was to receive a relative majority of votes enough . Before the mixed system in Russia was applied on elections 1993, 1995, 1999 and 2003 .

From 77 political parties registered in Russia 14 had the right to go on elections without collecting signatures in support to summer of 2016: United Russia, CPRF, Just Russia, LDPR, Apple, Patriots of Russia, Party of Growth, PARNASSUS, Civil platform, Communists of Russia, Russian party of pensioners for justice, Homeland, Civil force and Green. Other parties had to collect in support of the put-forward list not less than 200 000 signatures (no more than 7 000 signatures in one subject of federation).

June 17, 2016. The Russian President V. V. Putin signed the Decree No. 291 according to which elections of deputies of the State Duma of Federal Assembly of Russia of new convocation are appointed to September 18, 2016.

On September 18, 2016 the total voter turnout on the Duma elections made 47,88%. In absolute figures it means that the civic duty was fulfilled by 52 million 700 thousand 922 voters. (The voter turnout at State Duma elections in 2011 made 60,21%).

"United Russia" received in the State Duma of the seventh convocation 343 mandates (76,22%) — 140 on a party list and 203 on one-mandatory districts. It gives it the sure constitutional majority (is guaranteed by 300 mandates) allowing to adopt the constitutional laws without cooperation with other fractions. (In the State Duma of the sixth convocation United Russia party members had 238 mandates). The success of "United Russia" was promoted by the patriotic agenda, positioning of as parties of the president.

The CPRF, on the third — LDPR with 39 mandates, then — "Just Russia" with 23 was at the second place with 42 mandates. All these parties significantly lost in comparison with the representation in the operating State Duma where communists had 92 mandates, at members of A Just Russia — 64, and at liberal democrats — 56. It means that, for example, the CPRF won't be able independently to send inquiries to the Constitutional court as for this purpose it is necessary to collect not less than 90 deputy "autographs" now.

At the same time it should be noted that, despite obvious numerical losses of the Duma opposition, only parliamentary "four" managed to receive representation in the State Duma again. On one-mandatory districts there passed on seven deputies at the CPRF and "Just Russia", five at LDPR, two more candidates of so-called small parties — the leader of "Homeland" Alexey Zhuravlev (in the State Duma of the sixth convocation — the member of fraction of "United Russia") and the head of federal political committee "Civil platform" Rifat Shaykhutdinov. However lists of these parties even close didn't manage to approach a treasured five-percent barrier which overcoming is necessary for passing to the State Duma.

Besides, on the one-mandatory district (Republic of Adygea) the independent candidate Vladislav Reznik, in the leaving convocation also being the member of fraction of United Russia party members was elected in new Duma structure. It the only independent candidate who successfully acted on elections from nearly two tens standing in majority districts.

The parliament of the seventh convocation should resolve difficult issues: for example, about increase of taxes, including progressive taxation of the income of natural persons, about increase in a retirement age and final cancellation accumulative components, about further reduction of volumes of social guarantees, about replacement of free education and medicine commercial, about cancellation of a maternity capital, about liberalization of labor market, that is dismissal procedure simplification, about introduction of new and new collecting on a sample of "Platon" or overhaul.

Thus, State Duma elections of the Russian Federation reflect 2016 real mood of society, people support the president's course on strengthening of independence of the country, providing its national and economic security. Having received the constitutional majority in the State Duma, "United Russia" assumed enormous responsibility for destiny of the state and society.