



المفوضية العليا المستقلة للانتخابات في العراق  
كۆميسونى بالآى سه ربه خوى هه لېژارد نه كان له عيراق

The Independent High Electoral Commission

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## **FACT SHEET: Registration for Absentee Voting for Internally Displaced Persons in the Governorates of the Kurdistan Region**

**Eligible voters who have been internally displaced in Iraq after 9 April 2003 can register for absentee voting.**

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Kurdistan Region are required to provide their Public Distribution System (PDS) ration card from the governorate of origin **or** a special certificate from the governorate office of the Ministry of Trade of the Kurdistan Region.

### **The Voter Registration Update**

Iraqi citizens who have been forcefully displaced after 9 April 2003 and who meet the eligibility criteria to register and vote will be able to register at the voter registration center in the Governorate of their displacement closest to the area where they live and vote for their Governorate of origin on polling day through absentee voting.

### **Purpose of voter registration update process for internally displaced persons in Kurdistan**

Eligible displaced citizens wishing to exercise their constitutional right to participate in Governorate council elections

### **When and Where the Voter Registration Update Will Take Place**

The period for the voter registration update will be thirty days. The IHEC will set up 550 voter registration centers throughout Iraq. Eligible displaced citizens wishing to register for absentee voting should visit the voter registration center nearest to them to register for absentee voting.

### **Entitlement to be Registered for absentee voting in Kurdistan**

Only those displaced after 9<sup>th</sup> April 2003 can apply for absentee voting. In addition such displaced persons must be:

1. An Iraqi citizen;
2. Legally competent;
3. 18 years of age before or in the month of the election;

4. Registered in the registry of voters in accordance to the instructions issued by the IHEC.

**Eligible voters who have been internally displaced in Iraq after 9 April 2003 can register for absentee voting.**

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Kurdistan Region are required to provide food (PDS) ration card from the governorate of origin **or** a special certificate from the governorate office of the Ministry of Trade of the Kurdistan Region. Only displaced persons whose names are on the official internally displaced list at the voter registration center can apply for absentee voting in the Kurdistan Region.

**Identification Documents to be Produced by Internally Displaced People during the Voter Registration Update**

To qualify for absentee voting in the Kurdistan Region, the eligible IDP's must present two official documents (one with a photo) plus PDS card from the governorate of origin or a certificate from the Ministry of Trade to the voter registration center.

**An internally displaced person has the right to register other family members for absentee voting as long as they present a document to prove the relation and valid documents for the person they are registering.**