

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

Juan Alberto García Rodríguez*

➤ Introduction

Today it is used interchangeably with the term "political system" to refer to both the regime and the type of processing units to make political demands of society, which has led to the conception of the relationship between institutions, rules and social actors is not unilateral, but reciprocal, cyclical and in some cases generating uncertainty. This has become commonplace to understand that the system receives electoral votes and generates government bodies and / or representation, and also that it is an intermediate structure of the process through which a democratic society chooses its leaders .

In this sense, citizenship is an essential condition for building democracy, participation and a translucent state-society

relationship in which accountability is based on better information and greater involvement of individuals and groups in society public activities, in decision-making in the construction of the representation and protection of their interests, through the choice of rulers.

The reflections presented below are intended to provide some lines that help to refocus the analysis of an institution of democracy in Mexico, whose purpose is to stay within the tradition of procedural analysis of democracy, to then focus the analysis on the binomial-society institutions on the one hand, and legal and political processes they catalyze, on the other.

* Lawyer, Master of Government and Public Affairs and Professor of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences at UNAM

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

The thesis which is also part of democratizing effects, the processes of citizenship of the election authority in themselves mechanisms of democracy, the reasons given are that the opening of new avenues for citizen participation and incorporating new actors, both the negotiations and the political decisions that concern all of society, combined to result in better performance of many tasks Mexico's electoral authority to local and district level, among which the transition from the collegiate bodies of the Federal Electoral Institute to become areas privileged citizens of participation, involvement and collaboration in organizing the federal elections.

Consequently, to warn of more broadly the nature of the federal electoral institution in Mexico, and then further investigation of their operation at

decentralized level, we worked from a theoretical and methodological approach that would encompass in a single analysis of different arrangements (formal and informal) that explain the phenomenon and the effects of participation in the tasks performed by citizens, together with the electoral authorities in organizing the federal elections;

Specifically address our decentralized organs of the Federal Electoral Institute, specifically to the figures of the Local and District Councils Election. Finally, note that this discussion involves the completion of an insight to the aspects of Electoral Reform in 2007-2008 in Mexico. Specifically to that affected the activities and processes of citizenship, autonomy and independence of electoral bodies, in addition to its democratizing effects, established mechanisms of democracy, such as new

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

channels of citizen participation that allowed them to incorporate new actors to the negotiation and policy decisions.

- General considerations on the end of the 2005-2006 federal electoral process and the preamble of Electoral Reform in 2007-2008

Democracy as a form of government is based on the guarantee of a free regime for individuals, as a principle, in which the couple acts as guarantor (seeking the establishment of specific rules that provide certainty and security to individuals in relationships between individuals) of the legality and legitimacy of governments and elected representatives, for what we define as the “set of rules and binding between rulers and ruled, which is accepted and

respected by all”¹.

Moreover, the participation in the formation processes of public decision makes sense in terms of creating conditions for the participation of individuals in political life is not limited to casting votes and the scope of a representative democracy that despite being necessary, are insufficient for an expression of the large plurality. Accordingly endorses that “elections are a key part of the chain that moves in the direction of participatory and representative democracy”², because “in times of openness and democratization, elections allow the civility of the race is an element basic prestige of the institutions and the institutions

¹ Leonardo Curzio Gutierrez. "Hobbes's dilemma: freedom or safety? And Globalization and conflict: the U.S. and the crisis of September. CISAN-IIJ (UNAM), Mexico, 2002, pg. 128.

² Ricardo Uvalle Berry. "The Importance of Political Change in Mexico and their influence on government and public administration", in Convergence, Journal of Social Sciences. CIEA in CP and AP, and AP-UAEM FCP, Year 5, No. 16 from May to August 1998, pg. 13.

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

is a system that combines democracy and governance”³.

So that one of the first hypothesis on post-election reform in 2006, it was based on broader changes in the political system, seeking to respond to demands to ensure compliance (as well as address the deterioration) of the main functions of the electoral system, where “political activity at the polls accommodate conflicts or mismatches core of society and its corresponding technical function to translate the vote in positions of power”⁴, were more worn gears.

Consequently, the last electoral reform that has seen Mexico, first crossed by a constitutional amendment in September

2007 and subsequently by other subsequent legal status the following year (the constitutional affected nine articles of the highest standard, specifically introduced amendments Articles 6, 41, 85, 99, 108, 116 and 122, repealed a paragraph added to Article 97 and Article 134, which subsequently impact three areas of application in electoral matters: administrative, judicial and penal). Forced to change the fact that, in addition to the Constitution, the Federal Code of Electoral Institutions and Procedures (COFIPE), the General Law on the System on Electoral Matters Challenge (LGSMIE) and the Federal Penal Code (Chapter XXIV basically) and other regulations governing the granting and operation of electronic media. This led to the adequacy of rules governing the incorporation, registration of parties, their powers, funding and oversight.

³ Xavier Arbos and Salvador Giner. Citizenship and democracy in the global crossroads. Siglo XXI Editores, Madrid, 1996, pg. 13

⁴ IFES (Research Team). *Implementation of the 2007/2008 Electoral Reform in Mexico from an international comparative perspective*. First Report, International Foundation for Electoral Systems, 2009, pg. 9.

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

Thus, the amendments made by the legislature in 2007-2008 sought to close the gap to heal the damaged environment of political forces and to satisfy new demands, “thereby unclogging the full agenda of legislative reforms that the country needed”⁵; under procediment⁶ of democracy that is important to obtain results, even more than the intentions or plans, adhering to the democratic values of freedom, equity, justice and institutions, are formulated to carry out, whereas, conjunction with the system operating rules are the basis underlying their importance for the exercise of public functions.

After then, the key to evaluating the effectiveness of electoral systems is its ability to meet the expectations of key

political actors in the production of three or four values that are often emphasized in the functioning of democratic regimes:

- First, the political system must be free of all suspicion. Since elections are held, the possibility of fraud and, Accordingly, the distrust surrounding the electoral act, are a fact relevant needs to be addressed.
- The electoral system must be equitable. Equity that occurs when in elementary terms, each and every one of the actors (as are competitors) have access to the resources needed to develop propaganda campaigns.
- A third element that must account for any electoral system must do with what has been given for calling governance. Defined as government institutional conditions for political actors can access and to exercise the functions of government legitimacy or representation they are entitled.
- Finally, electoral systems are required to allow citizens to participate with confidence and certainty. Obviously a complex electoral system can be very reliable, but also can block the

⁵ Ibid. pg. 10

⁶ The grounds of procedural democracy, consisting of forms and ways how the institutions, is expressed in a better and more efficient operation and implementation of public management.

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

possibility of participation of citizens who may not is used to make use of the resources the system offer.

➤ Local and District Councils IFE

However, from an operational perspective, it is possible to note that the above resulted in a Regulatory looked not all institutional capacities for monitoring, exercise and enforce sanctions, finding in the interpretation of the Constitution and the laws and regulations, serious implementation problems for many parts of the reform⁷. In this vein, a first consideration is that is lacks an optimal formula to decide the shape and functions of the areas and bodies responsible for administering elections, but whatever the decision, will inevitably involve the reconciliation a variety of factors.

In procedural democracy is very important to obtain results, rather than on the intentions or plans to carry out, and this applies on a spot basis to the operation of the institutions: the case of governments and public administrations is essential not only mastery of the routines and standardized processes, but also the creativity heuristics, to overcome constraints, avoid obstacles, articulate consensus and achieve results efficiently⁸. In a framework of democratic nature, governments is inexplicable without reference to the relationship dynamic, tense and cooperative, which is the result of the interaction-publicly-situated between the

⁷ Reform so far and new electoral body requires an interpretation of the standards measured on the one hand, but also requires the support of the actors in the reform, who Solay many of the proposals contained in the technical documents developed by the IFE during process of negotiation and consensus (IFES Investigative Team).

⁸ Ricardo Uvalle Berry. Institutional and professional civil service in Mexico. Challenges and Prospects. Plaza y Valdés Editores, Mexico, 2000, pg. 44

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

authorities and citizens⁹, under the above shows that the quality of democracy depends on “strategies, joint efforts, incentives and opportunities that are deployed, as well as compensation mechanisms are established to alleviate the enormous differences in relevant decision-making processes and outcomes”¹⁰.

Since entering the field, local councils are temporary bodies of the Federal Electoral Institute to be installed and operated in the capitals of the states, only for the Federal Electoral Process, in which the nature of its members, places in the virtue of representatives of the general and civic interest of guaranteeing that their localities, the organization of the election at all times

adhere to the principles of certainty, legality, independence, impartiality and objectivity, in a framework of transparency and equality guaranteed by the federal electoral authority.

In summary we present the following table which lists some of the functions developed by the local councils in the federal elections:

TABLE I ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THE BOARD IN ORDER TO LOCAL BOARDS LOCAL EXECUTIVE	
A c t i v i t y	
Designation only after the vacancies in the District Councils of the Directors occupancy; on the basis of proposals made to effect the council president and directors own Local Election.	
Determination, submission, verification and approval of catalog sections for special attention to the training and integration of the polling stations, by the Local and District Councils on a proposal from the Boards.	
Registration and accreditation of representatives of political parties before the Board and care substitutions that occur (also activity by the District Councils, as its scope compete).	
Approval of election observers (activity also made by the District Councils, as responsible for their area).	
Follow-up to election day (also activity by the District Councils, as responsible for their area).	
Participate in the meeting at which computations of multi-member constituency for the election of deputies by proportional representation.	
Derived from the 2007-2008 electoral reform, local councils meet the challenges arising from decisions in	

⁹ The government nationalized the hyper version of power would not be effective if not taken into account citizens and political participation that are formed and grow in the public space (Uvalle, 2005).

¹⁰ Ramón Vargas-Machuca Ortega. "The Quality of Democracy" in Topics in philosophy for the S-XXI, in its 6th edition, dedicated to Politics: Reality against utopia. Language and Communication Centre of Cáceres, Cádiz, 2007, pp. 1, 12.

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

the District Councils, ergo the resolution of appeals.

Information from the applicable laws and regulations.

It is also within these collegiate bodies where, in addition to designating the District Electoral Board of entities concerned, they are monitored to integrate, install, and session work in a collegial manner, however, the primary contribution of this body college is monitoring the activities of Local and District Boards, joint action essential to the development of different stages of the federal electoral process in the state. As from 2008 it was established, and is inferred from a functional interpretation of Articles 139 and 150 of the Electoral Code, the Electoral Board of the devolved areas of the federal electoral authority would have space to carry out their activities within the headquarters of the Institute, as well as telephone service, fax, online internal network of the IFE, furniture, materials and

supplies for the proper performance of their duties.

For its part the District Council is the last link in the organizational chain in electoral matters before the Board of Casilla. It is the election authority for the federal elections in each district of the country, and is also, in the same way as local councils, composed of impartial citizens who serve as supervisors of the organization of the elections, as well as representatives of all political parties and coalitions, which contribute to these bodies to attest to the legality and fairness of the acts and resolutions which the Institute developed through the District Boards Executive¹¹ (such

¹¹ Recall that the District Board intense develops a program of work in election years, because it is responsible for implementing in the field, directly with the public, concrete actions to prepare for Election Day and its development, in addition to the computation of district results and a series of related activities, such as children's elections, promoting democratic culture and civic education, and therefore receives direct vertical line through the Local Board plans, programs and projects to

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

boards should be tightly attached to clearly defined criteria in the electoral legislation and the applicable regulations of the IFE).

In the same way, a table that briefly outlines the functions developed by the District Councils during the federal election:

Table II ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THE BOARD IN ORDER TO DISTRICT EXECUTIVE DISTRICT BOARD
A c t i v i t y
Recruiting, hiring and evaluation of Trainers-Assistants and Supervisors Election (CAES), from the Training Strategy and Electoral Assistance approved for the electoral process in question (which must be submitted to the Local and District Councils during November and December before the election).
Voter education verification and integration of polling stations that perform the Local and District Boards in the preparation stage of the electoral process.
Determination, approval and adjustment (for supervening cause) of the location of polling places and adjacent basic.
Determination and approval of the location of special and unique boxes.
Approval of staff will have access to the hold elections, and support staff in the reception

develop Ordinarily, as well as the norms and guidelines of work and even the agreements reached at the General Council which impact on their operation, so that the District Council for discussion may or may not decide to amend and / or adjustment, particularly in those matters involving members of the Council.

activities, protection, sealing, counting and grouping of the ballots.
Participation in the amount of minutes of scrutiny and counting of boxes to be receiving and to the legal deadline.
Participation in the workshop to prepare the session and the district count carrying it, as well as in the issuance of the declaration of validity of the election majority representatives on.
Participation in the integration of working groups, where counting of votes in all the boxes.
Declaration of validity of the election and delivering the most recorded election deputies by the principle of relative majority.
From the Federal Electoral Process 2008-2009, the District Councils were given powers to substantiate the routine and special administrative sanction that is, to respond to complaints regarding the physical location, the content of political or electoral propaganda printed in that painted on walls or otherwise different from radio or television broadcast, as well as those relating to anticipated events or pre-campaign campaign and general offenses and penalties.

Information from the applicable laws and regulations.

Finally, remember that the District Electoral board must meet the same requirements set forth by Article 139 of the Electoral Code for Local Councilors, doing activities that require structures¹² of the

¹² Public participation is understood as a set of structures that are articulated through collaboration and decision

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

institution to make way for the direction, coordination and development of elections. Therefore, their participation as verifiers and supervisors helps to fulfill the Institute's guiding principals: completeness, legality, independence, impartiality and objectivity, in the context of the federal electoral authority, through the impartiality of the citizens who serve as directors, together with the experience and professionalism of the decentralized structure of IFE results in the institutional assurances that procedures will be performed correctly.

Based on the foregoing, it should be noted that some of the activities of Local and District Directors are not eligible for inclusion and regulation in the framework governing the legislature, the General Council of the Institute and these councils have been formed. Therefore, some of the functions to be performed to verify the directors,

supervise and monitor the activities of the various stages of the federal electoral process, are performed through extensive public address capabilities, which is not equivalent to exercise discretionary and categorical of the authority, among which the ability to persuade citizens to increase their interference in the discussion and decision making on matters of general interest.

As has been observed for the federal electoral authority the public dimension is of great importance and is attached to political changes taking place in the country, reaching these aspects of institutional life and cause them to review their capabilities leadership and management. For the present case, the federal electoral authority, it is important to consider that it is responsible for public outreach efforts, despite the foreseen and unforeseen circumstances, require to ensure full

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

operation, so Shifting avoid the social, political and economic community¹³, therefore, civic action, in this context, it should stimulate the improvement of the disagreements, with the central reference point for deliberation and argument on the issues common interest in order to create an environment that promotes the understanding and enable the transition to the generation of agreements.

- The political and electoral reform in 2007-2008: New allocations of Federal Electoral Institute.

The reforms as a whole, aimed at strengthening the character of the electoral body par excellence, attributed to the Federal Electoral Institute by CPEUM; reformulating their supervisory, control and

punishment, and corroborating the diversified functions, translated into possible implications for implementation of the measures, as well as the operational realization of them. Consequently, it is possible to note, in this regard, that the areas of reform which represented a major challenge for its implementation were threefold:

1. Access to electronic media and monitoring of transfers and content.
2. The audit of the resources of political parties
3. The resolution of grievances, complaints and disciplinary special procedures under the new rules and new powers of the General Council and the Institute's decentralized corporate bodies (local and district)

Similarly, although the reform did not impact dramatically IFE skills directly related to the organization of elections, it is possible

¹³ Uvalle. Op cit. 1998, p. 25

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

to identify the following aspects of transcendence that were subject to re scale and establishment in the federal electoral body:

TABLE III TOPICS RELEVANT TO THE REFORM OF THE INSTITUTE 2007-2008 FEDERAL ELECTION	
Media Access and Integrated System Management Timing of State	<p>The main challenge in this area was to ensure the timely exercise of the privileges in access to radio and television than the Constitution and give them COFIPE political parties, electoral authorities and the Institute itself, it constituted a new dimension of this institutional responsibility, accompanied by another form of planning activities and building new relationships between election officials and the media.</p> <p>The IFE must have the technological infrastructure and information necessary to ensure compliance with the mandate of law in this area, in a short time, so also had to set up monitoring systems in radio and television content for news coverage of news programs, according to the nature, criteria, procedures and samples ordered the General Council of the Institute.</p>

Responding to complaints and procedures sanctioning	<p>As a result of the amendment, the due process and substantiate IFE expeditiously, and in keeping with the principle of completeness, the ordinary and special disciplinary proceedings instituted in connection with the filing of complaints or reports of initiation or informal, in terms of what COFIPE provisions and applicable regulations.</p> <p>Additionally, the Institute acquired the responsibility to train the local executive and district, and, where appropriate, to the respective councils in punitive action.</p>
--	--

TABLE III TOPICS RELEVANT TO THE REFORM OF THE INSTITUTE 2007-2008 FEDERAL ELECTION	
Control	<p>In this case, the reform contemplated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The review of reports of fundraising and campaign expenditures of political parties and their candidates. - The review of reports of election observers organizations registered with the IFE. - The implementation of procedures for liquidation of political parties would lose their registration. - Ensuring the timely processing and substantiation of complaints, informal procedures and preliminary investigations arising from alleged irregularities in the source and destination of party financing. The preparation and presentation, for approval of the General Council of all resolutions that

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

	<p>fell to reviews of reports, as well as the substantiation of complaints and informal procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The serve as a means for local authorities in the control could exceed the secrets banking, trust and tax.
Organization of the election	<p>This category includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new rules for the formation of coalitions. - The inclusion of emblems of the parties separately on the ballot and minutes. - The provision to add new data to the report. - The change in the computational procedures and scrutiny in the box (Particularly those referring to the coalition). - The district counts (in which from the Federal Electoral Process 2008 – 2009 is attributed to the councils new powers to that level for the partial or full recount of the votes), for which they were established causal for partial or full recount in the law, and adopted new rules internal matter. - They set up new computer systems to process the information that would be generated in the computations and other activities that the various stages of the PEF. <p>In a broader sense of the issues concerning the preparation of the election, electoral training material involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement of the educational platform, with the purpose of providing quality training, which emphasizes

	<p>the practical exercise of procedures to be conducted by the polling officials.</p>
Comptroller General	<p>Figure was established by the Comptroller General, fully equipped with technical and managerial autonomy, laying the groundwork for a spot check of the authorized budget year to the central and decentralized agencies, and to be left with strict adherence to the framework applicable rules.</p> <p>This new area of the Institute would give better control and greater guarantees the exercise of the authorized budget for the implementation of public construction work, adhering to the applicable rules.</p> <p>Assume the role of the Comptroller General became fundamental to the new institutional framework for the federal electoral authority, as it contributes to the good administrative operations of the IFE to make it more effective, efficient, professional and transparent.</p>

TABLE III TOPICS RELEVANT TO THE REFORM OF THE INSTITUTE 2007-2008 FEDERAL ELECTION	
Local and District Councils	<p>The reform substantially changed the treatment of complaints and reports of alleged administrative violations. From the Federal Electoral Process 2008-2009, the district councils gained new powers in the matter, since they had to substantiate the special disciplinary procedure regarding complaints and complaints about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The physical location or the content of political or electoral propaganda printed. - Political propaganda painted on

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

	<p>walls.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political propaganda in any way different from the radio broadcast or television. - Anticipated acts pre-campaign or campaign. <p>For their part, local councils would solve the challenges generated by the decisions of the district councils.</p>
--	---

Information from the applicable laws and regulations

➤ Resizing the federal electoral authority in the local and district levels: structure, powers and duties

At this point we can observe the various changes introduced by the reform had a direct impact on the powers and the institutional design of the IFE, in its local and district levels, and generated a multitude of factors and secondary incidents. These changes were identified by many as a double-edged sword, because although the functions of the Institute increased the budget to meet them did not grow at the same rate, which implies the risk of "affect the ability of the institution to fulfill its functions and, hence, erode the confidence in it by political parties and citizens in general "(IFES Research Team, p. 29).

In terms of access to media, the Electoral Reform 2007-2008 had two central aspects. The first is that neither political parties (their candidates and candidates) and no third parties can contract and (in any mode) spaces in radio and TV, in favor or against one or more of them, while the second regards the extension of the functions and powers of IFE in monitoring access to the media by political parties for this, the General Council would direct the implementation of a comprehensive monitoring and promotional guidelines (as well as transmissions on the pre-campaign and campaign on radio and TV programs).

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

This new role of the Institute demanded changes in administrative costs and therefore more resources (for this reason is that the reform was noted that the electoral authority would have budgetary resources, technical, human and material required for the exercise direct powers and responsibilities for radio and TV), to ensure the necessary means to verify compliance with the transmission patterns that are approved (IFES Research Team, p. 2). For the present case, the local and district of the Institute were impacted to the extent that within the facilities (or in your case, administrative dependent facilities and budgets) devolved institutions were established verification and monitoring for better coverage of each of the regions.

The treatment of complaints and appeals handled by the IFE was amended on electoral reform and measures introduced

substantive and important in the service of federal electoral authority. In relation to the handling of complaints and reports of alleged administrative violations, the District Councils and Local IFE acquired new powers, in fact, one of the most significant innovations of the reform was the attempt to decentralize substantially the treatment of these administrative proceedings (that were previously the exclusive competence of the General Council). Thanks to this amendment, the District Councils were given powers to substantiate the special procedure penalty, ie to address the aforementioned allegations and / or complaints regarding the physical location or the content of political or electoral propaganda printed, painted on walls of that or otherwise different from the one transmitted by radio or television¹⁴, as

¹⁴ The only exception in the new district and local powers off the Where complaints are related to the radio and TV, which must be processed before the

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

well as for anticipated actions on pre-campaign or campaign, while local councils will meet the challenges arising from decisions of the District Councils.¹⁵

Therefore, the District Councils are now empowered to facilitate the substantiation of these processes and reduce the excessive workload of the General Council on matters of this nature, optimizing the means of relief in the past were slow and could not e! compliance with the timelines. The District Boards were

reaffirmed as the appropriate body to receive complaints subsequently resolved the Councils District¹⁶ and the General Council, and appeal from the results, which in his case, final and unappealable resolved.

All this (as already noted) require a great deal of decentralized bodies, under which they gave the obligation to conduct and substance in an expeditious manner, and in keeping with the principle of completeness, comment procedures, the COFIPE provisions and applicable regulations would, for the 2011-2012 electoral process, because it is new functions, enabling the Local and District Boards and the Local and District Councils in punitive action. On this last point it is worth mentioning that although many of the

IFE nationwide. However, in print media spectacular, banners, etc., the district and local councils are authority to address complaints. The ban hang this type of advertising certain places (clearly established in law) existed prior to the reform, however, is novel from 2009 that the matter can be subject of complaint.

¹⁵ Previously, there was only one type of infringement procedure ("ordinary") which served as the basis for the rules of good acting. At first I was, and still being "designed to resolve in 40 days. The problem has always been to meet the allocated time, because usually a file without research takes between 120 and 150 days to resolve. For the electoral process 2009, the Electoral Tribunal of the Judiciary of the Federation (TEPJF) asked the IFE that all investigations were thorough, which made the procedure unsuitable to the electoral process under which the times are not expedited.

¹⁶ In three of the above assumptions of jurisdiction, procedure and substantiation: a) claims on physical location of an advertisement or advertising (Article 228 of the COFIPE), b) the advertising content, c) acts anticipated campaign, whether before the start of the fundraising or campaign.

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

complaints and appeals of the Federal Electoral Process 2008-2009, substantiating the General Council, may have been done locally, it is reasonable to confer powers to the District Councils solving resources is another setback to progress. So under these directors involved with the Institute in part, are not paid wages¹⁷ and are mainly a supervisory role in logistics, however, new tasks politicize their activity (because they can place them in a more open confrontation with board members, representatives of parties and the parties sanctioned), converts in administrative JUSTICE imparters electoral duties for which they are unprepared, even efforts to train them IFE (circunstancially on the subject.) If to this we add that the devolved bodies IFE - in general, are not integrated mainly by lawyers

but by a plurality of professionals-in the best-when dealing with complaints has functioned as a kind of "jury", which will not necessarily be solved with proper legal argument and reasoning, and much will ensure the legality of their actions and decisions, making them subject to review and appeal in elective immediate superiors of the Institute and in the halls Electoral Tribunal of Judicial Power of the Federation¹⁸.

Another relevant topic-derivative of the 2006 election - was the district counts, one of the most questionable aspects that, together with claims for the issue of counting votes-was very present during the litigation and political conflicts arising from the

¹⁷ Only receive compensation or symbolic diet in each election determines federal General Council

¹⁸ This without considering the possibility of not resorting to the district and local councils to maintain (or even encouraging) the trend to continue using the highest levels, with consequent workload and slow process, as well as the latent risk issuing contradictory rulings on the same subject, treated by different councils

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

presidential election¹⁹. The reform of later years who have referred it possible that hereafter may be opened (for different reasons) packs a box for a recount (recount and count specific records in the ballot box for members), in addition to that, if there are indications that the difference in a district has recorded less than one percentage point between the first and second, the law contemplated the possibility of requesting a count of all blocks in the district²⁰ (total count vote for deputies, senators or president of all cells in a district²¹). The grounds for re-counting and computation of records in the boxes are²²:

- When the difference between the first and second place in the box more smaller than the number of invalid votes.
- When they are "obvious errors in the record", which can not be explained to the satisfaction of suing.

To recap, all far above leads to the assertion that the basic profile that should satisfy the citizens who participate as Local and District Directors must include at least the following aspects:

may have some level of operational difficulty (it is estimated that about 10 percent of the minutes can fall into that scenario), but where there is greater concern regarding the operational implications is in the third stage, since its definition is vague and can be misleading. An estimated 63 percent of the records contain errors, from errors quite simple to serious problems (conflicting figures, for example). There is thus a high potential for have to retell a high number of cells; slowing computations district and engaging production of official results due time. Additionally, it is clear that a high number of cells to recount, the computation time can be extended up to 50 hours, plus normal computation, so that the operation can last up to three days (IFES Research Team).

¹⁹ The previous law did not favor opening the ballot boxes to do a recount.

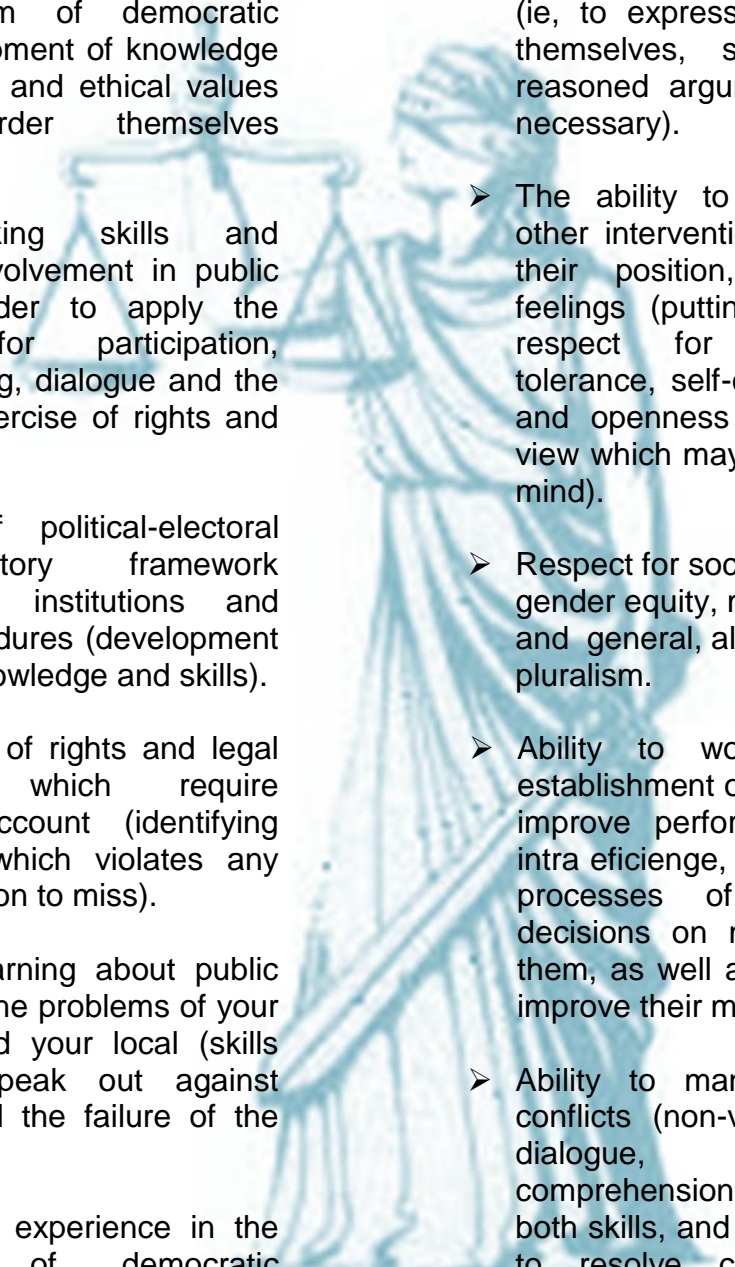
²⁰ Ibid, pp 34-35.

²¹ The latter scenario requires that at the beginning of the session there computer request of the representative of the party that ran for the candidate who won second in the voting.

²² In the first scenario is not expect major implications for operations counting and calculation, because these cases are not numerous. In the second scenario if there is a good number of cases and

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

- 
- Ability to identify, understand and implement experiential and everyday behavior consistent with the set of values and ethics provisions that constitute a particular form of democratic (sound development of knowledge and civic skills and ethical values of the order themselves democratic).
 - Critical thinking skills and responsible involvement in public affairs (in order to apply the knowledge for participation, decision making, dialogue and the responsible exercise of rights and obligations).
 - Knowledge of political-electoral and regulatory framework applicable to institutions and electoral procedures (development of attitudes, knowledge and skills).
 - Understanding of rights and legal mechanisms which require compliance account (identifying situations in which violates any right or obligation to miss).
 - To have a warning about public events today, the problems of your community and your local (skills needed to speak out against opponents and the failure of the law).
 - Have previous experience in the development of democratic practices in the field of social and collective life (with democratic principles, project their ability to interpersonally).
 - Capacity development dialogue (ie, to express clearly the ideas themselves, set up a stand, reasoned argument to discuss if necessary).
 - The ability to actively listen to other interventions, to understand their position, arguments and feelings (putting up attitudes of respect for diverse views, tolerance, self-control of emotions and openness to new points of view which may even change your mind).
 - Respect for social diversity, gender equity, multiculturalism, and general, all forms of pluralism.
 - Ability to work (through the-establishment of groups working to improve performance and make intra eficiencia, through democratic processes of involvement in decisions on matters concerning them, as well as actions aimed at improve their management).
 - Ability to manage and resolve conflicts (non-violent and-through dialogue, understanding, comprehension and application of both skills, and attitudes congruent to resolve conflicts occur at different scales, from the actions

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

and legal proceedings).

- Have a high sense of justice and legality for law enforcement and its fundamental duties (to participate in elective processes and democratic consultation from a knowledge of political rights, understanding of electoral processes and the development of skills choose, make decisions and express their opinion through mechanisms citizen participation).
- Ability to take decisions based on the responsible exercise and informed of their powers and elements of analysis (articulated from social and cultural conditions of their immediate environment, with relation to different contexts and levels of response to situations complex and not under the regulatory framework governing it.)

Such capabilities are necessary to fulfill an essential task which becomes valid upon completion of the following expression: "The administration should result in increasing its efficiency to actually make the construction of citizenship²³, ie, extending

beyond the simple task of organizing federal elections, contributing to citizenship formation and the development of practices, skills and abilities to contribute to democratic transformation of Mexican political culture in a democratic (and in the case of Mexican electoral administration overcoming the dependence of political parties, through their parliamentary factions and their representatives on governing bodies, board members and even general directors proposed, affecting the selection process and identifies all Local and District Councillors in the country). All this in order to provide Local and District Councils guidelines to help support their work planning and logistics for each of the different stages of the federal elections that are involved, ergo, the public service is

administration. Myths to win" in politics and governance. Buenos Aires, FCE-CLAD, 2004, p. 2.

²³ Nuria Cunill Grau. "The democratization of public

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

professionalized an important option to contribute to improved performance of the public, and represents a "key factor to create a service-oriented management and, ultimately, to improve relations between state institutions and citizens."²⁴

➤ **Conclusions**

Political and Electoral Reform in 2007-2008 and the new forms of participation arising within the bodies answerable to the IFE identified, determine the conditions, elements and provisions for the design and implementation of standards, policies and procedures in these areas will translate an efficient participation of Local and District Electoral Advisers, in full compliance with the law. Grounds in earlier lines "for the future,

undoubtedly the greatest change that could impact in the stage of results and declaration of validity of election²⁵, is the reference to the district counts and the possibility of the total counts of the vote, which would not be surprising to observe possible logistical and operational difficulties for its implementation, if was not the case in the 2009 election, yes to elections in which the organization of choice includes not one but three separate and distinct counts²⁶.

In such a way that oriented towards the conceptualisation of the core elements and categories that explain the historical

²⁴ Nuria Cunill Grau. "Transparency. The public management. How do we build sustainability?" In State Government, Public Management. Chilean Journal of Public Administration. Santiago, 2007, p. 206.

²⁵ The risks do not appear to be important at the central level, and that instances devoted to technical and logistical aspects of the election are not concerned with the new powers, a situation that is very different in the organs decentralized, which not only increase the powers, but also remains the same human resource (IFES Research Team, 2007).

²⁶ Well evidenced by the concern that the new powers of the Institute increase and diversify the workload of the organization of the election, what that could have negative effects upon reaching the stage of results and declaration of validity of the election.

LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012

Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor

development of political representation in Mexico²⁷, the importance of the citizenship of the election authority of the Mexican state as well as the importance of management public in the art that could be deployed, to have more inputs to professionalize the role of members of local corporate bodies of IFE; us to return to the approach of Leonardo Valdez (1998) with respect to his scheme for the evaluation the effects of a reform of the electoral system as a whole, which states, to include and structured based on the following criteria²⁸ (in the version applied to

the scope and purpose of this research):

- Reliability in the activities of citizens who serve as Directors Election.
- Fairness and impartiality in the decisions taken as a body of the local election authority and district levels.
- Governance relating to the minimum political and social conditions that must ensure the different levels of government for the conduct of the election, as well as non-interference of public employees in the process.
- Active participation of the citizenry and abundant in various plains of federal electoral process (updating your information in the federal register voters, to give greater reliability, "participating in the various stages of training, the preparation stage of the election; informed of proposals and platforms of the political forces contend in the election, participating as observers and promoters vote and, of course, going to vote on election day.) Special attention of the participation of citizens as adjunctive preparation of the election with the electoral authorities, as supervisors, trainers and Electoral Assistance.

²⁷ It should be pointed out that departed from the description of the institutional framework and inference of specific conditions of the object, and then applies tools and techniques relevant research. The instruments referred to are intended for the production of knowledge about the object, from conceptual accuracy, attachment theory, historical development, however, development or evaluation. Therefore, it is part of the analysis of existing literature on matter and the development of tools that enable the measurement of indicators through the appropriate variables.

²⁸ By using these parameters can be assessed a constitutional amendment on electoral matters, to analyze further the impact it had on the secondary legislation and local regulations. Which is a good

basis from which the analysis to assess the overall effects of political and electoral reform.

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

These ideas can be summarized in the minimal recognition of the conditions for inclusive citizenship: freedom of information and association, as well as formal and informal mechanisms to ensure accountability, thus corroborating that the key to the legitimacy of the institutions election in Mexico is that all in all stages of the election, all areas, fields and officials of the electoral institution, adopt transparency as a principle, so that the election results are accepted by all citizens, regardless of who the winner or winners in the elections. Therefore, it is accepted that these areas have become key in the processes of apprenticeship and political changes that have taken place in Mexico since the mid-twentieth century, becoming living spaces for deliberation and electoral confrontation between various political forces acting as a guarantor of the electoral process to citizens.

- Ensure access to radio and television fair to all political parties, becoming the highest authority for the administration and monitoring of time in state mass media.
- Strengthen systems for monitoring and oversight of the resources of political parties.
- Establish a clear legal framework for the development of pre-campaign. Consolidate new skills, activities and modalities for the authorities, district counts and calculations.

All this embedded in the new context of transparency that permeates the campaign trail since the second part of the last decade in Mexico, understanding the implications and direct influence it has on building! To citizenship, and therefore the key effects that had on society (as an instrument of change in governance, while catalyzing the capabilities to produce more efficiency and more efficiency in general) by providing services and care of public affairs,

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

understanding such is necessary to make a more careful analysis of each of the areas and organs of the Federal Electoral Institute that have been identified.

➤ Sources of Information

Bibliography

- ARBOS Xavier and Salvador Giner. Citizenship and democracy in the global crossroads. Siglo XXI Editores, Madrid, 1996.
 - Cunill Grau, Nuria. "The democratization of public administration. Myths overcome" in Politics and Governance, Buenos Aires, FCE-CLAD, 2004
 - "Transparency. The public management. How do we build sustainability?" In State, Government, Public Management. Chilean Journal of Public Administration. Santiago, 2007
 - CURZI Gutierrez, Leonardo. 'Hobbes's Dilemma: Freedom or security? in Globalization and Conflict: U.S. and the crisis of September. CISAN-IIJ (UNAM), Mexico, 2002.
 - IFES (Research Team). Implementation of the 2007/2008 Electoral Reform in Mexico from an international comparative perspective. First Report, International Foundation for Election Systems, 2009.
 - Uvalle Serrone, Ricardo. "The Importance of Political Change in Mexico and their influence on government and public administration" in CONVERGENCE. Journal of Social Sciences. CIEA in CP and AP, AP-UAEM FCPy, Year 5, No. 16 from May to August 1998.
 - Institutional and professional civil service in Mexico. Challenges and Prospects. Plaza y Valdés Editores, Mexico, 2000.
 - "Citizenship and Public Administration" in citizens face the XXI Century. UAEM (FCPyAP), Toluca, 2005.
 - Vargas-Machuca Ortega, Ramón. "The Quality of Democracy" in Topics in philosophy for the S-XXI, in its 6th edition dedicated to Politics: Reality against utopia. Language and Communication Centre of Cáceres, Cádiz, 2007.
 - ZURITA VALDEZ, Leonardo. "The Electoral Reform of 1996" in The National Debate 2. Democratization scenarios. Editorial Diana, UNAM, Mexico, 1998.
- Electoral regulatory framework
- Constitution of the United Mexican States

**LOCAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT OF THE INSTITUTE
FEDERAL ELECTORAL AND THE NEW DIRECTIONS
OF THE ELECTION AUTHORITY FEDERAL PROCESS
ELECTION FEDERAL 2011-2012**

**Juan Alberto García Rodríguez
Juan Carlos Vega Martínez
Traductor**

(election law. Volume I). Federal Electoral Institute, Mexico, 2008.

- Federal Code of Electoral Institutions and Procedures (election law. Volume II). Federation Institute! Electoral, Mexico, 2008.
- General Law on the System on Electoral Matters Challenge (election law. Volume III). Federal Electoral Institute, Mexico, 2008.
- Procedure of the Federal Electoral Institute. Federal Electoral Institute, Mexico, 2008.
- Regulation of the Federal Electoral Institute in Matter Transparency and Access to Public Information. Federal Electoral Institute, Mexico, 2008.
- Session Rules of Local Councils and District Federal Electoral Institute. Federal Electoral Institute, Mexico, 2008

