

## SECTION B

### ORGANISATION OF THE KNESSET

#### CHAPTER ONE

##### THE SPEAKER OF THE KNESSET, AND THE DEPUTY SPEAKERS

Election of  
the Speaker  
and his  
deputies  
(Amendment  
No. 105)

2. (a) The Knesset shall elect the Speaker of the Knesset and the Deputies of the Speaker of the Knesset, by means of open elections, in accordance with the provisions of article 20 of Basic-Law: The Knesset, and article 10 of the Knesset Law. The Deputies shall be elected upon the recommendation of the House Committee, and as long as it has not been selected – upon the recommendation of the Organizing Committee, taking into account the Parliamentary Group make-up of the Knesset and the size of the Parliamentary Groups. The election of several deputies on the same occasion shall take place by means of a single vote only.
- (b) The Speaker of the Knesset shall be elected no later than the date on which the Knesset convened for the purpose of establishing the Government, as stipulated in article 13 of Basic-Law: The Government. Should the elections of the Knesset Speaker be scheduled for the same date set for the sitting for the purpose of establishing the Government, the Speaker of the Knesset shall be elected first.
- (c) The Speaker of the Knesset and the Deputies shall be elected for the whole Knesset term. However, the Knesset is entitled to elect deputies to the Speaker of the Knesset, on the basis of a recommendation as stipulated in clause (a), for shorter terms of office, and determine their commencement and termination.
- (d) A minister or a deputy minister shall not be Speaker of the Knesset or a deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset.
- (e) (1) Should the position of the Knesset Speaker be vacated, the Knesset shall elect a new Speaker within 21 days, in the manner laid down in clause (a). Should the position of a deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset be vacated, the Knesset is entitled to elect another Member of the Knesset in his place, in the said manner.
- (2) Should a deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset be suspended from his position, the Knesset is entitled to elect another Member of the Knesset in his place in the said manner, and despite what is said in the beginning of clause (c), he shall serve as a deputy to the Speaker for the period of the suspension only.

Restrictions  
to the election  
of the Knesset  
Speaker or a  
deputy to  
the Speaker  
of the Knesset

3. (a) The House Committee, and before it is selected – the Organizing Committee, is entitled to decide, on the basis of a recommendation by the Ethics Committee, if it has been appointed, that a Member of the Knesset shall not be a candidate for the position of Speaker of the Knesset or Deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset, should one of the following apply:

(Amendments  
Nos. 105,  
107, 115 &  
120)

(1) the Attorney General has submitted a copy of an indictment against him, as stated in article 4(a) of the Immunity Law, or criminal proceedings, as defined in article 7(a) of the Knesset Law (henceforth – criminal proceedings), and this whether or not it has been decided that he shall enjoy immunity from a criminal charge. Should the House Committee decide that the Member of the Knesset shall not be a candidate as stated in this clause, its decision shall remain in force as long as the criminal proceedings in his case have not terminated, and should it be decided that he shall have immunity from criminal proceedings - for the whole period of the term of that Knesset, or for a shorter period determined by the Committee.

(2) should the Member of the Knesset have been convicted in a final verdict on a criminal offence, whether while he was a Member of the Knesset or beforehand, and ten years have not yet elapsed from the day on which the sentence became final, or from the day on which he completed serving his sentence, whichever is later.

(b) The House Committee shall not take a decision, in accordance with clause (a), until after it has given the Member of the Knesset an opportunity to present his case.

(c) The deliberation proceedings in the House Committee, and in the Ethics Committee shall come to an end, in each of them, within a week.

(d) (1) Should the House Committee decide that the Member of the Knesset shall not be a candidate as stated, the Member of the Knesset is entitled to appeal the decision before the Knesset, within 48 hours.

(2) The debate in the Knesset shall take place within 48 hours of the appeal being submitted, or the following day on which a Knesset sitting may be held in accordance with the provisions of article 19(a), whichever is later. The appellant is entitled to explain his appeal, and is entitled to lay on the Knesset table documents connected with the appeal. The Chairperson of the House Committee is entitled to reply to the appeal, each one of them for a time frame of no more than 15 minutes, and the Knesset shall decide without a debate.

(e) The voting in the House Committee and the Knesset shall be open.

Suspension  
from office in  
accordance  
with article 7  
of the Knesset  
Law  
(Amendments  
Nos. 105, 115  
& 120)

4. (a) Should the Speaker of the Knesset, or a deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset be suspended, or should limitations be placed on his office on the basis of the provisions of article 7 of the Knesset Law, the suspension shall be terminated, or the limitations cancelled upon the delivery of a final verdict that finds him innocent, or does not state that the offence involves moral turpitude, and should it be decided that he shall be immune from criminal proceedings – upon the end of the term of that Knesset, and all this as long as the Knesset has not decided, on the basis of a recommendation by the House Committee, on a shorter period for the suspension or limitations.

		(b)	Should the House Committee propose to the Knesset to suspend the Speaker of the Knesset, or a deputy Speaker of the Knesset from his office, or lay down limitations to his office, the Chairperson of the House Committee, shall present the proposal of the House Committee to the Knesset, and the Member of the Knesset to whom the proposal relates is entitled to reply, each within a time frame that shall not exceed 15 minutes, and the Knesset shall decide without a debate.
Resignation of the Knesset Speaker or a deputy to the Knesset Speaker (Amendment No. 105)	5.	(a)	<p>(1) The Speaker of the Knesset is entitled to resign from his position by laying a letter of resignation on the Knesset table. Should the Speaker choose to resign during the Knesset recess, and no special session is to take place, he shall hand the resignation letter over to the Secretary General of the Knesset, who shall bring it immediately to the attention of the Knesset Members.</p> <p>(2) The service of the Knesset Speaker, who has resigned, shall end 48 hours after the letter of resignation was laid on the Knesset table, or handed over to the Secretary General of the Knesset, as the case may be, unless he retracted from his resignation beforehand.</p> <p>(3) The Speaker of the Knesset who submitted or handed over a resignation letter, is entitled to inform the Knesset of the reasons for his resignation.</p>
		(b)	<p>(1) A deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset is entitled to resign from his position by handing over a letter of resignation to the Speaker of the Knesset.</p> <p>(2) The service of a deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset, who has resigned, shall end 48 hours after the letter of resignation was handed over to the Speaker of the Knesset, unless he retracted his resignation beforehand.</p> <p>(3) The Speaker of the Knesset shall inform the Knesset of the resignation of a deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset.</p>
Duties of the Knesset Speaker and a deputy to the Knesset Speaker (Amendments Nos. 105, 107 & 121)	6.	(a)	The Speaker shall run the affairs of the Knesset, represent it externally, uphold its dignity, maintain order during its sittings, and oversee the observance of its Rules of Procedure. He shall preside over the sittings of the Knesset, and run them, determine the results of votes, and in addition perform any task assigned to him by law.
		(b)	The Speaker is responsible for the preparation of and implementation of the Knesset budget. Once the annual budget proposal has been approved in First Reading within the framework of the annual Budget Bill, it shall be referred for deliberation in the Joint Committee of the House Committee and the Finance Committee as stipulated in article 11(b) of the Budget Foundations Law. The proposal shall be brought for Second Reading and Third Reading within the framework of the annual Budget Bill.
		(c)	The Speaker of the Knesset is responsible for the administration of the Knesset and the Knesset Secretariat.
		(d)	While serving as acting President of the State, as stated in article 23(a) of Basic-Law: The President of the State, the Speaker of the

Knesset shall not run the sittings of the Knesset, unless the House Committee has decided otherwise.

- (e) The Speaker of the Knesset shall not be a member of any of the Knesset Committees, except for the Interpretations Committee, however, he is entitled to participate in the deliberations of each of the Knesset Committees, including joint committees, and subcommittees, even if their minutes are confidential.
- (f) The Speaker of the Knesset is entitled, from time to time, to hand over to one of the deputies, the running of the Knesset sitting, or any of his tasks as determined in these Rules of Procedure, except for his duties in accordance with clauses (b) and (c).
- (g) The Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, who is replacing the Speaker of the Knesset as stated in article 29 of the Knesset Premises Law, or to whom the Speaker of the Knesset has delegated some of his powers as stated in article 30(a) of the said law, or who is running the sitting of the Knesset, or performing one of the tasks of the Knesset Speaker, shall assume, on that occasion, all the duties and powers that are vested in the Speaker of the Knesset.
- (h) A deputy to the Speaker of the Knesset shall not be a chairperson of the House Committee, or his substitute.

Publication in  
the Official  
Gazette of  
matters  
regarding the  
Speaker of  
the Knesset  
and his  
deputies  
(Amendment  
No. 105)

7. Regarding the Speaker of the Knesset and his deputies, a notice shall be published in the Official Gazette on behalf of the Knesset on the following matters:
- (1) the election, suspension or termination of the service of the Knesset Speaker or of a deputy to the Knesset Speaker;
  - (2) the service of a deputy to the Knesset Speaker as Acting Speaker of the Knesset in accordance with article 20a of Basic-Law: The Knesset.