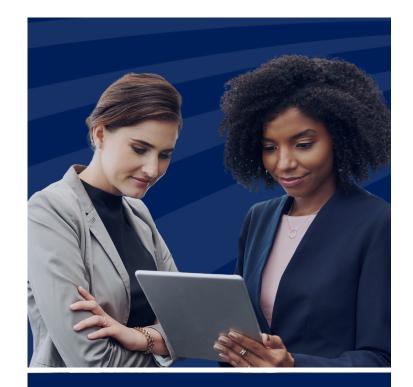


## How can I participate in political activities as a public servant?

With the 2025 General Elections approaching, it is crucial that public servants know how to balance their democratic rights with the obligation to remain politically neutral so that the government of the day, and any future government, maintains confidence in the Public Service.

As a public servant, you have the right to be politically informed, including by gathering information, asking questions, and taking reasonable steps to make informed decisions on Election Day. However, you must avoid activities that could violate, or seem to violate, the Public Servant's Code of Conduct. The Policy on Political Activities of Civil Servants and **Employees of Statutory Authorities and Government-Owned Companies** clarifies your responsibilities and limitations regarding political activities. The examples of appropriate and inappropriate activities listed below, while not exhaustive, can help you maintain your neutrality and professionalism.



Guidelines for Individual Conduct as Public Servants

## **Examples of Appropriate Participation in Political Activities**



Attending political meetings as a general member of the crowd or as an online viewer on a social media platform, provided that you:

- X Do not use an official CIG social media account
- X Do not "like" or "comment" on the live stream or post



Receiving and reviewing campaign literature or materials, provided you:

× Avoid posting online or otherwise publicly displaying (i.e., in CIG offices, on personal or company vehicles, on personal property, etc.) campaign literature/materials



Listening to radio talk shows, podcasts or similar where political candidates or parties are featured



Meeting with candidates at your private residence to discuss their manifestos/plans



Privately asking political candidates initial or follow-up questions to clarify your understanding of political matters



Discussing political considerations and choices in a private capacity and in a confidential forum, such as with a spouse or partner in a private dwelling

## **Examples of Inappropriate Participation in Political Activities**





Expressing views/giving interviews on political matters, candidates or political parties in letters to the press, or in books, articles, leaflets or on social media, unless being undertaken as part of your official public duty as sanctioned by your organisation

Advocating for or against candidates, groups of candidates, political parties or campaigns

Canvassing or collecting funds in support, or on behalf, of a political party or candidate

Providing information to political candidates (including incumbent Ministers), parties or the general public regarding the operation of the government, policy initiatives, internal communications or management decisions made by the government of the day, other than as authorised through official CIG methods

Authorising campaign signage to be erected on personal property, such as a residence or business you own

Placing bumper stickers, flags or similar political paraphernalia on personal or government property (such as a company or personal vehicle or CIG office), or wearing such items in a public setting

Providing personal views on candidates or political parties to the media

Taking part in any political activity when on duty, or in uniform (including CIG branded polo shirts or gear), or on official premises, unless being undertaken as part of your official public duty as sanctioned by your organisation (e.g., an officer assigned by RCIPS to undertake crowd control at an event)



To see the full Policy on Political Activities of Civil Servants and Employees of Statutory Authorities and Government-Owned Companies, scan the QR code or visit www.gov.ky/pocs/publications

