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OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
(VENICE COMMISSION)

EXTRACTS FROM NATIONAL LEGISLATION ON OCV¹

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Where official versions into English or French were not available, provisional translations have been produced with the assistance of automated tools. These translations are provided for information purposes only. In all cases, the authoritative version of the applicable legislation remains the original text as published by the competent national authorities.

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ALBANIA / ALBANIE**a) Constitution****Article 45**

1. Every citizen who has reached the age of 18, even on the date of the elections, has the right to elect and to be elected. [...]

b) Electoral Code 2008, amended by Law 81/2024**Article 24**

Competencies of the CEC regarding voting from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania

1. The CEC directs, supervises and is responsible for the process for preparing the conditions and implementing the measures that enable voting from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania for the elections for the Assembly.
2. The right to vote from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania is enjoyed by every Albanian citizen with the right to vote who is outside the territory of the Republic of Albania on the date of the elections.
3. Voting from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania is organized and administered by the CEC in all its components, after the Regulator has approved all the by-laws required for voting from outside the country, according to this Code. Every Albanian state body and every other state or private entity involved in this process are obliged to implement the rules set out in this Code and in the by-laws that the CEC adopts in its implementation. [...]

Article 25

List of voters voting outside the territory of the Republic of Albania

1. A voter who is outside the territory of the Republic of Albania and who wishes to exercise the right to vote for the next elections for the Assembly must be registered in the list of voters abroad, in accordance with the provisions of this Code and the by-laws implementing it.
2. The list of voters who vote from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania is a single list at the electoral zone level and contains the list of Albanian citizens who have expressed their will to vote from abroad and who are registered in the National Civil Status Registry in the territory of the respective electoral zone.
3. The list of voters who vote from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania is compiled and used anew for each election for the Assembly according to the criteria, procedures and deadlines set out in this Code and the normative acts of the CEC issued in accordance with it, and are valid only for the elections for which they were compiled. In any case, the CEC and the General Directorate of Civil Status maintain the database of voters who vote from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania for each election. [...]
5. A voter who wishes to vote from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania after the opening of the registration process by the CEC applies individually for registration in the list of these voters. The CEC creates, maintains and updates the electronic platform for the registration of requests from voters who wish to vote from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania. The voter for registration in the list presents documentation that proves his residence outside the territory of the Republic of Albania. The detailed list of documentation required for the registration of voters who vote outside the territory of the Republic of Albania is determined by decision of the Regulator.
6. The address of the citizen who votes from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania is based on one of the documents submitted to the CEC as per point 5 of this article. The citizen's identity data is required to be verified by the CEC in the National Civil Status Registry and, if they

are the same, the DPGJC records the address of the citizen who votes outside the territory of the Republic of Albania in a special column in the National Civil Status Registry.

7. The State Election Commissioner, 63 days before the election date, shall publish the preliminary list of voters from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania, so that voters can request registration or correction of inaccuracies in their registration within 48 hours from its publication. The State Election Commissioner, 60 days before the election date, shall approve and publish on the official website of the CEC the final list of voters from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania. Once the process is completed, the voter list may not be changed under any circumstances or any reason after the deadline specified in this point, except for cases provided for in point 8 of this article.

8. When a voter who submits a request for registration on the list of voters from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania finds that he/she is not registered on this list, or their registration contains inaccuracies, they have the right to submit a request to the First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction in Tirana up to 7 days before the election date. Requests made under this point, are exempt from court fees. The court shall review and decide on requests made under this point within 24 hours from the date of registration of the request, but no later than 5 days before the election date. The name and other data of the voter, who is added to the list of voters from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania, are attached to the court's decision.

9. Albanian citizens registered on the lists of out of country voters, following the completion of the registration procedure as per this article, shall be removed from the domestic voter list, which is published according to Article 56 of this Code.

Article 25/1

Voting from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania and the election result

1. Voting from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania is considered open from the day that the CEC initiates the procedures for sending the voting documentation and the guidance documentation to the address of voters from abroad. Voting from abroad closes on the day of voting, at the time set by this Code for the closing of voting at polling stations. Upon the closing of voting from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania, the CEC cannot accept and include in the count any ballots received after this time, with the exception of envelopes with ballots that have the entry stamp or any other note to this effect in the territory of the Republic of Albania until the closing time of voting within the country, according to this Code.

2. The CEC shall send the ballot papers and any other electoral and informational material by postal service to the voter's declared address of residence according to the voter list for voting from outside the territory of the Republic of Albania. The ballot paper is the same, but with a special distinguishing element, as the ballot paper used within the territory of the Republic of Albania.

3. The completed and sealed ballot papers are sent to the official address of the CEC via postal service at the expense of the voter. The CEC initially makes an effort to select international postal service providers abroad, who have experience and good reputation in express mail service, and its selection is carried out through the shortest possible procedures that the legislation on public procurement allows.

4. The ballot papers sent by voters outside the territory of the Republic of Albania and administered are counted at the premises of the CEC. The ballot papers sent by voters outside the territory of the Republic of Albania are registered in a special register upon arrival at the CEC and are divided according to the electoral zone of the voter's last place of residence before leaving Albania. The process of counting them begins at the same moment that the counting of the first ballot box of the respective electoral zone begins, and their evaluation is carried out by the CEC administration and tabulated in the results table of the respective electoral zone. The Regulator, upon the proposal of the Commissioner, shall determine by sub-legal act the documentation, the manner of its completion and any other aspect for the administration, observation of the counting process, counting, evaluation of the vote and tabulation of the election result according to this article.

ALGERIA / ALGERIE**a) Constitution****Article 56**

Tout citoyen remplissant les conditions légales est électeur et éligible.

b) Ordonnance n° 21-01 du 26 Rajab 1442 correspondant au 10 mars 2021 portant loi organique relative au régime électoral**Article 10**

L'Autorité indépendante exerce ses missions depuis la convocation du corps électoral jusqu'à l'annonce des résultats provisoires, conformément aux dispositions de la présente loi organique. A ce titre, l'Autorité indépendante est chargée, notamment : — de tenir le fichier national du corps électoral, des listes électorales communales et des listes électorales de la communauté nationale à l'étranger et de les actualiser de manière permanente et périodique, conformément aux dispositions de la présente loi organique ; [...]

Article 20

L'Autorité indépendante dispose de coordinateurs au niveau local ainsi que de coordinateurs et de délégués aux niveaux des représentations diplomatiques et consulaires à l'étranger.

Article 21

Le Conseil de l'autorité indépendante est composé de dix (10) membres désignés par le président de la république parmi les personnalités indépendantes, dont un (1) membre issu de la communauté nationale établie à l'étranger, pour un mandat de six (6) ans, non renouvelable.

Article 37

Les délégations de wilayas, de communes et auprès des représentations diplomatiques et consulaires à l'étranger exercent leurs attributions dans les limites de la circonscription électorale relevant de leur compétence sous l'autorité du Président de l'Autorité indépendante.

Article 53

Est créé et est tenu sous la responsabilité de l'Autorité indépendante, conformément à la législation en vigueur, un fichier national des électeurs, composé de l'ensemble des listes électorales des communes et des postes diplomatiques et consulaires à l'étranger.

Article 57

Les algériens et les algériennes établis à l'étranger et immatriculés auprès des représentations diplomatiques et consulaires algériennes peuvent demander leur inscription :

1- Sur la liste électorale de l'une des communes ci-après, en ce qui concerne les élections des assemblées populaires communales et des assemblées populaires de wilayas :

- commune de naissance de l'intéressé ;
- commune du dernier domicile de l'intéressé ;
- commune de naissance d'un des ascendants de l'intéressé.

2- Sur la liste électorale des représentations diplomatiques et consulaires algériennes se trouvant dans le pays de résidence de l'électeur, en ce qui concerne les élections présidentielles, les élections législatives et les consultations référendaires.

Article 64

Les listes électorales sont dressées et révisées dans chaque circonscription diplomatique ou consulaire à l'étranger, sous la responsabilité de l'Autorité indépendante par une commission de révision des listes électorales composée :

- du chef de la représentation diplomatique ou du chef du poste consulaire ou son représentant, président ;
- de deux (2) électeurs inscrits sur la liste électorale de la circonscription diplomatique ou consulaire, désignés par l'Autorité indépendante, membres ;
- d'un fonctionnaire consulaire, membre.

La commission désigne un secrétaire parmi ses membres.

La commission se réunit au siège de la représentation diplomatique ou consulaire sur convocation de son président.

L'Autorité indépendante arrête la liste nominative des membres de la commission de révision des listes électorales par décision diffusée par tout moyen approprié et certain.

Les règles de fonctionnement de la commission sont fixées par décision du Président de l'Autorité indépendante.

Article 70

A l'occasion de chaque élection, l'Autorité indépendante est tenue de mettre la liste électorale communale ou la liste électorale des postes diplomatiques et consulaires à l'étranger à la disposition des représentants, dûment habilités des partis politiques participant aux élections et des candidats indépendants, sans porter atteinte aux données à caractère personnel.

Article 72

Une carte d'électeur, établie par l'Autorité indépendante, valable pour toutes les consultations électorales et référendaires, est délivrée à tout électeur inscrit sur la liste électorale.

L'Autorité indépendante bénéficie, dans ce cadre, de l'assistance des différentes administrations publiques et représentations diplomatiques et consulaires à l'étranger.

Les modalités d'établissement, de délivrance, de remplacement et de retrait de la carte d'électeur sont définies par décision du Président de l'Autorité indépendante publiée au Journal officiel de la République algérienne démocratique et populaire.

Article 81

Sont interdites la publication et la diffusion de sondages portant sur les intentions de vote des électeurs soixante-douze (72) heures avant la date du scrutin sur le territoire national, et cinq (5) jours avant la date du scrutin pour la communauté nationale établie à l'étranger.

Article 90

Ne sont pas considérés financement étranger, les dons effectués par les algériens résidents à l'étranger pour le financement de la campagne électorale de candidats ou de listes de candidats aux circonscriptions électorales à l'étranger.

Ces dons ne peuvent excéder, par personne physique, l'équivalent de quatre cent mille dinars (400.000 DA) pour les élections législatives et de six cent mille dinars (600.000 DA) pour les élections présidentielles.

Article 97

La désignation du trésorier de campagne électorale s'effectue au moyen de déclaration écrite du candidat pour les élections présidentielles ou du candidat mandaté par le parti ou par les candidats de la liste indépendante pour les élections législatives.

La déclaration est déposée, accompagnée de l'accord écrit du trésorier de campagne électorale désigné, auprès de l'Autorité indépendante pour les élections présidentielles et auprès des délégations de wilayas de l'Autorité indépendante ou auprès de la délégation de l'Autorité indépendante à l'étranger compétente pour les élections législatives.

Article 132

Le scrutin se déroule en un seul jour. Il est ouvert à huit (8) heures et clos le même jour à dix-neuf (19) heures. [...]

Le Président de l'Autorité indépendante, en collaboration avec les représentations diplomatiques et consulaires à l'étranger, ainsi que les délégations concernées peut, par décision, avancer de cent-vingt (120) heures la date d'ouverture du scrutin. [...]

Article 157

Peut exercer, à sa demande, son droit de vote par procuration, l'électeur appartenant à l'une des catégories ci-après :

- Les malades hospitalisés et/ou soignés à domicile ;
- Les grands invalides ou infirmes ;
- Les travailleurs et personnels exerçant hors de la wilaya de leur résidence ou en déplacement et ceux retenus sur leur lieu de travail le jour du scrutin ;
- Les universitaires et les étudiants en formation en dehors de leur wilaya de résidence ;
- Les citoyens se trouvant momentanément à l'étranger ;
- Les membres de l'Armée Nationale Populaire, de la sûreté nationale, de la protection civile, les fonctionnaires des douanes algériennes et des services pénitentiaires retenus sur leur lieu de travail le jour du scrutin.

Article 158

S'agissant des élections présidentielles, des élections législatives et des consultations référendaires, les électeurs établis à l'étranger exercent leur droit de vote auprès des représentations diplomatiques et consulaires algériennes dans le pays de leur résidence.

Les électeurs mentionnés à l'alinéa ci-dessus, peuvent, sur leur demande, exercer leur droit de vote par procuration en cas d'empêchement ne leur permettant pas d'accomplir leur devoir le jour du scrutin, auprès des représentations diplomatiques et consulaires algériennes.

Ils peuvent, en outre, exercer leur droit de vote par procuration pour les élections aux assemblées populaires communales et de wilayas.

Article 160

Chaque mandataire ne peut disposer que d'une seule procuration.

Article 161

Les procurations données par les personnes résidant sur le territoire national, sont établies par acte dressé devant le président de la commission communale de révision des listes électorales visée à l'article 63 de la présente loi organique. [...]
Les procurations données par les personnes se trouvant hors du territoire national sont établies par acte dressé par-devant les services consulaires à l'étranger.[...]

Article 162

La période d'établissement des procurations débute dans les quinze (15) jours qui suivent la date de convocation du corps électoral et prend fin trois (3) jours avant la date du scrutin.

Les procurations sont inscrites sur un registre ouvert à cet effet, coté et paraphé par le président de la commission communale de révision des listes électorales, le chef de la représentation diplomatique ou consulaire à l'étranger, le chef d'unité ou le directeur de l'institution ou le directeur de l'hôpital, selon le cas.

Article 191

L'Assemblée Populaire Nationale est élue pour un mandat de cinq (5) ans au scrutin de liste ouverte à la représentation proportionnelle avec vote préférentiel, sans panachage.

La liste des candidats doit comprendre un nombre de candidats supérieur de trois (3) au nombre de sièges à pourvoir dans les circonscriptions électorales dont le nombre de sièges est impair et de deux (2) dans les circonscriptions électorales dont le nombre de sièges à pourvoir est pair.

La liste présentée, sous peine d'être rejetée, doit tenir compte de la parité femmes et hommes et réserver, au moins, la moitié (1/2) des candidatures aux candidats âgés de moins de quarante (40) ans, et qu'au moins, le un tiers (1/3) des candidats de la liste aient un niveau universitaire. Lorsque le tiers donne un chiffre décimal, il est arrondi au chiffre supérieur en faveur de la catégorie citée à l'alinéa 3 du présent article.

Les élections ont lieu dans les trois (3) mois qui précèdent l'expiration du mandat en cours.

Nonobstant les dispositions de l'article 124 ci-dessus, la circonscription électorale de base pour l'élection des membres de l'Assemblée Populaire Nationale est fixée aux limites territoriales de la wilaya.

Toutefois, une wilaya peut faire l'objet d'un découpage en deux (2) ou plusieurs circonscriptions électorales, sur la base des critères de la densité démographique et dans le respect de la continuité géographique, conformément à l'alinéa 2 de l'article 124 de la présente loi organique. Pour l'élection des représentants de la communauté nationale établie à l'étranger, les circonscriptions électorales diplomatiques ou consulaires et le nombre de sièges à pourvoir sont définis par la loi.

Article 202

Chaque liste de candidats présentée, soit sous l'égide d'un ou de plusieurs partis politiques, soit au titre d'une liste indépendante, doit être expressément parrainée selon l'une des formules suivantes : [...]

Pour les circonscriptions électorales à l'étranger, la liste de candidats est présentée :

- soit au titre d'un ou de plusieurs partis politiques ;
- soit au titre d'une liste indépendante appuyée d'au moins, deux cents (200) signatures pour chaque siège à pourvoir parmi les électeurs de la circonscription électorale concernée.

Article 208

Les listes des candidatures remplissant les conditions légales pour les circonscriptions électorales à l'étranger sont remises immédiatement au Président de l'Autorité indépendante par le coordinateur de l'Autorité indépendante auprès de la représentation diplomatique et consulaire à l'étranger.

Article 274

Il est institué des commissions électorales auprès des missions diplomatiques ou consulaires dont le nombre et la composition sont déterminés par décision du Président de l'Autorité indépendante, en consultation avec les services du ministère des affaires étrangères.

Ces commissions ont pour mission le recensement des résultats obtenus dans l'ensemble des bureaux de vote y relevant.

Article 275

Il est institué une commission électorale des résidents à l'étranger pour superviser, centraliser et consolider les résultats enregistrés par l'ensemble des commissions de circonscriptions diplomatiques ou consulaires à l'étranger. Elle est composée de :

- un magistrat ayant, au moins, rang de conseiller, désigné par le président de la Cour d'Alger, président;
- un membre nommé par le Président de l'Autorité indépendante parmi ses membres ;
- un officier public, réquisitionné par le Président de l'Autorité indépendante, membre, chargé du secrétariat de la commission.

Les membres de la commission sont assistés par un (1) fonctionnaire proposé par le ministre des affaires étrangères et un (1) fonctionnaire proposé par le Président de l'Autorité indépendante. Ils sont désignés par décision du Président de l'Autorité indépendante.

La commission électorale des résidents à l'étranger se réunit au siège de l'Autorité indépendante. Les travaux de la commission, consignés dans un procès-verbal en trois (3) exemplaires, doivent être achevés, au plus tard, dans les quatre-vingt-seize (96) heures qui suivent la clôture du scrutin. Le Président de l'Autorité indépendante peut, le cas échéant, proroger le délai, cité à l'alinéa ci-dessus, de quarante-huit (48) heures, au maximum.

La commission dépose, aussitôt, les procès-verbaux correspondants, sous pli scellé, auprès du greffe de la Cour constitutionnelle contre accusé de réception.

Un exemplaire du procès-verbal de centralisation des résultats est conservé auprès de la commission électorale des résidents à l'étranger.

Une copie originale du procès-verbal est remise immédiatement contre accusé de réception au président de l'Autorité indépendante.

Une copie, certifiée conforme à l'original du procès-verbal de la commission électorale des résidents à l'étranger, est remise, séance tenante, au siège de la commission, à chacun des représentants dûment mandatés des candidats ou du représentant dûment habilité des listes de candidats, contre accusé de réception. Cette copie doit être estampillée sur toutes ses pages à l'aide d'un cachet humide portant la mention « copie certifiée conforme à l'original ».

c) Ordonnance n° 21-02 du 2 Chaâbane 1442 correspondant au 16 mars 2021 déterminant les circonscriptions électorales et le nombre de sièges à pourvoir pour les élections du Parlement

Article 4

Le nombre de sièges de la circonscription électorale de la communauté nationale à l'étranger, pour

l'élection à l'Assemblée Populaire Nationale, est fixé à huit (8) sièges.

ANDORRA / ANDORRE**a) Constitution****Article 24**

All Andorran citizens of legal age who are in full possession of their legal rights shall have the right to vote.

b) Law 44/2022, of December 12, consolidated text on the electoral and referendum regime**Article 5***Organization of the electoral register*

1. The communes shall organize by computer means a copy of the electoral register which, for the purposes provided for in this Law, shall be available to the General Council and the Government, if they request it.
2. The electoral register of each parish shall also contain the voters residing in other parishes and abroad.
3. Candidates for the General Council or communal elections shall have the right to obtain a free copy of the electoral lists of the corresponding constituency, which shall only include the name, surname and address of the voters recorded in the electoral register.

Article 6*Conditions for registration in the electoral register*

1. The communes must register in the electoral register of each parish the Andorrans who are registered in their population census and those who have obtained registration by parish of origin, and who meet the requirements referred to in article 1.
2. The Government, each time it resolves favorably a file of nationality with full use of civil and political rights, must notify the communes. Each commune must register ex officio in the electoral register of its parish the person who has obtained nationality with full use of civil and political rights, in accordance with the provisions of the previous paragraph.
3. Voters who appear registered in the population census and in the electoral register of a parish, and who are deregistered as residents due to having established their residence abroad, continue to be registered in the electoral register of that parish, unless the interested party exercises the option provided for in article 7.
4. Andorrans who reside abroad and who are not registered in the electoral register of any parish, may request their registration in the parish of origin, in accordance with the provisions of article 7, if they meet the requirements of article 1.

Article 31*Authorization of media for the electoral campaign and professions of faith*

1. The Government shall provide the personal, material and economic resources necessary for the proper conduct of the electoral campaign and the elections, without prejudice to the legal powers of the local councils.
2. The Government shall, in sufficient advance, send to all voters at the address indicated on the electoral lists, including those residing abroad and those who have requested to vote by judicial deposit by post, an envelope containing the professions of faith of the various candidacies. All shall be treated equally in the documentation included and, in their presentation, without prejudice to what is mentioned in the following paragraph. The documentation sent to voters residing abroad shall also contain information regarding judicial voting by post.

Institutional electoral information shall ensure access under conditions of equality to all voters. Persons with disabilities who request it within 5 working days following the publication of the date set for the elections will be sent the necessary information, which may be in Braille, large print, easy reading, or in audio or electronic format on the one hand, or in sign language on the other. The Government must establish a form for this purpose in which the applicant must be identified, the parish where they vote, as well as the type of disability they have. The Government must send this information to the different polling stations concerned, so that accessible voting material can be available to interested persons in the terms provided for in articles 42 and 43. Likewise, institutional campaigns will provide detailed and accessible information aimed at voters with disabilities on the exercise of their electoral rights. [...]

Article 35

Vote by judicial deposit by mail

1. Voters who have moved abroad, either because they have fixed their residence there or because they are present there for any reason, and who are registered on the definitive electoral lists, may use the vote by judicial deposit by mail.
2. In order to use this method of voting, interested parties must expressly request it. The request must be made in writing or through the website of the Municipality where the registration is recorded, before 12 noon on the fifteenth working day from the date of publication of the call for elections in the terms established by the regulations. Immediately after receiving the request, the Municipality must notify the voter of their correct registration in the electoral register, by any means, including telematics, and at the latest on the following working day after the request to vote by mail.
3. Once the candidacies have been announced, the Government, on behalf of the municipalities, shall send voters abroad all the documentation necessary to cast their vote. The Government shall regulate, by means of the corresponding regulation, the form, deadlines and means to be used both to deliver the aforementioned documentation to the voter exercising his or her right, and to deliver the envelope containing the vote to the Batllia. This documentation, which shall be sent sufficiently in advance, shall consist of the official envelopes, official ballots for all the candidacies and an envelope for sending the vote in which the Batllia address shall be printed. An explanatory sheet of the procedures shall be attached to these documents.
4. To vote, the voter shall insert the ballot paper he or she has chosen into each of the official envelopes and shall proceed to seal it. These envelopes are inserted into the envelope intended for sending the documentation to the Municipality, together with a photocopy of the valid passport. This envelope - which must be closed - will contain the name and address of the sending voter and their signature on the back. Following the instructions that, subject to the provisions of the regulations, are included in the documentation received, the voter will carry out the necessary procedures so that the envelope is sent to the Municipality.
5. There will be a record and registration of the sending made by the Government and of the reception by the recipient and the Municipality. This documentation will be available to the Electoral Board.
6. Once received by the Municipality, the votes will be delivered in the terms provided for in article 34.4.

Article 36

Voting delegation

1. Voters who have a disability, duly certified by an official certificate, that makes it impossible for them to exercise their right to vote by legally authorized means or that this exercise is difficult, and voters who have a serious illness, certified by a medical certificate sufficiently attesting to the causes and consequences of the illness, proving that the voter is unable to exercise their right to vote by legally authorized means or that this exercise is difficult, may delegate their right to vote to a third party under the conditions set forth in this article.

2. Voters who use this voting method may freely designate the voter who will vote by proxy.
3. The same person may only hold one proxy vote.
4. To use this voting method, interested parties must formalize the proxy vote by means of a public deed authorized by an Andorran notary, with the authorizing notary verifying the express will to delegate the vote and the voter's disability or serious illness in the terms of section 1 of this article.
5. The proxy vote must expressly indicate the election(s) for which it is valid and, in any case, will have a maximum duration of one year.

ARMENIA / ARMENIE**a) Constitution****Article 48***Right of Suffrage and Right to Participate in a Referendum*

1. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia having attained the age of eighteen on the day of an election to the National Assembly or on the day of a referendum, shall have the right to elect and the right to participate in the referendum.
2. Everyone who has attained the age of twenty-five, has held citizenship of only the Republic of Armenia for the preceding four years, has been permanently residing in the Republic for the preceding four years, has the right of suffrage and has command of the Armenian language, may be elected as a Deputy of the National Assembly.
3. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia having attained the age of eighteen on the day of election or referendum shall have the right to elect and be elected during the elections of local self-government bodies, and the right to participate in a local referendum. The law may prescribe the right of persons not holding citizenship of the Republic of Armenia to take part in the elections of local self-government bodies and in local referenda.
4. Persons declared, upon civil judgment of the court having entered into legal force, as having no active legal capacity, as well as persons sentenced and those serving the sentence, upon criminal judgment having entered into legal force, for a grave criminal offence committed intentionally shall not be entitled to elect or be elected or participate in a referendum. Persons sentenced and those serving the sentence, upon criminal judgment having entered into legal force, for other criminal offences shall not be entitled to elect as well.

b) Electoral Code (Constitutional Law)**Article 9***Maintaining the Register of Electors, drawing up lists of electors*

1. The Register of Electors of the Republic of Armenia shall be a permanently maintained document which is drawn up by electoral districts and communities. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia included in the State Population Register of the Republic of Armenia, registered in any community of the Republic of Armenia and having the right to elect shall be included in the Register of Electors of the Republic of Armenia.
Electors having no registration in the Republic of Armenia, as well as electors not holding citizenship but having the right to elect during elections of local self-government bodies shall not be included in the Register of Electors of the Republic of Armenia, which does not restrict their right to elect.
2. The Register of Electors of the Republic of Armenia shall be maintained, and the list of electors shall be drawn up by the authorised body. The authorised body shall be responsible for maintaining and drawing up the Register of Electors of the Republic of Armenia and the list of electors in accordance with the requirements of this Code.
3. Heads of penitentiary institutions and facilities for holding arrestees, as well as commanders of military units shall also draw up lists of electors in cases and as prescribed by this Code.
4. The authorised body shall, twice a year, in June and November (during the first one week), submit to the Central Electoral Commission the Register of Electors of the Republic of Armenia by communities, and in case of elections of the National Assembly no later than 41 days and 5 days before the voting day also by electoral precincts, in an electronic format, for posting it on the website of the Commission with search functionality. The Register of Electors of the Republic of Armenia shall be a permanent and integral part of the website of the Central Electoral Commission.
5. Everyone shall have the right to submit an application to the authorised body on eliminating inaccuracies (including those not relating to the persona of the applicant) in the Register of

Electors of the Republic of Armenia. The application must contain necessary substantiations, and evidence of the factual circumstances must be presented attached thereto. Within 30 days following the receipt of the application, the authorised body shall, in case there are grounds prescribed by the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On state register of population", eliminate inaccuracies, informing the applicant thereon in writing.

Article 10

[...] 5. For the purpose of participating in the voting, during elections of the National Assembly, electors having no registration in the Republic of Armenia shall, no later than 10 days before the voting day, submit an application to the authorised body on being temporarily included in the list of electors, indicating the address of their place of residence in the Republic of Armenia on the voting day.

The authorised body shall, within a 3-day period following the receipt of the application, include the elector in the list of electors of the electoral precinct of his or her place of residence in the Republic of Armenia on the voting day and shall provide him or her with a statement of information thereon. The forms of the application and the statement of information shall be established by the Central Electoral Commission.

Article 62

Organization of voting in diplomatic and consular missions

1. Electors who are on diplomatic service in diplomatic or consular representations of the Republic of Armenia, as well as members of their families residing abroad with them and having the right to elect, in case of being outside of the territory of the Republic of Armenia, on the voting day, may participate in elections of the National Assembly by voting electronically in the manner and within the time limits prescribed by the Central Electoral Commission. The Central Electoral Commission shall be obliged to establish such terms for electronic voting that would ensure free expression of will of voters and secrecy of voting. Electors voting electronically shall give their votes only to political parties running in elections.

2. Electronic voting may be held after the end of the time limit established for registration of the electoral lists for the political parties running in elections of the National Assembly, but no later than 5 days before the voting day.

3. The provisions of this Article shall also extend to military servants seconded for a long period of time to or those studying in foreign states, as well as to persons employed at representations of legal persons registered in the Republic of Armenia, which are located abroad (irrespective of the form of ownership), and their family members residing with them abroad and having the right to elect.

Article 80

The right to be elected

1. Everyone who has attained the age of 25, has been a citizen of the Republic of Armenia only, for the preceding 4 years, has been permanently residing in the Republic of Armenia for the preceding 4 years, has the right of suffrage and has command of the Armenian language may be elected as Deputy of the National Assembly.

2. A citizen shall not be considered as permanently residing in the Republic of Armenia for the preceding 4 years where he or she has been absent from the Republic of Armenia for at least 731 days out of 1 461 days preceding the day of submitting an application to the public administration body authorised by the Government of the Republic of Armenia maintaining State Population Register for the purpose of obtaining a statement of information, in the manner prescribed, on having permanent residence for the registration of a candidate, except for cases when the absence has been conditioned by circumstances related to being abroad for service purposes of a person who is a public servant of the Republic Armenia, or to his or her study at higher educational institutions abroad.

3. The command of the Armenian language shall be certified by a graduation document (education certificate, academic certificate, diploma) issued by educational institutions on having received education in the Armenian language in educational institutions or having completed studies of the Armenian language provided by educational programmes and having passed final attestation. In case of absence of a graduation document certifying the command of the Armenian language, the command of the Armenian language shall be tested as prescribed by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia which must provide for reasonable, objective criteria for testing the command of the Armenian language, as well as process supervision procedures. The results of the testing may be appealed against before a court within a 3-day period.

(Article 80 amended by HO-318-N of 4 May 2018)

c) Law On Referendum of the Republic of Armenia

Article 26

Preparation and conduct of voting for arrested persons, detainees, military personnel, and convicted persons; organisation of voting in diplomatic and consular missions

1. The preparation and conduct of voting for detainees, prisoners, military personnel, and convicted persons entitled to participate in the referendum, including access to the polling station, registration of citizens entitled to participate in the referendum, voting, as well as the organisation of voting in diplomatic and consular missions, the provisions established by the Constitutional Law "Election Code of the Republic of Armenia" shall apply.

AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE**a) Federal Constitutional Law, Federal Law Gazette No. 1/1930 last amended by Federal Law Gazette I No. 106/2016****Article 26**

(1) The National Council shall be elected by the federal people on the basis of equal, direct, personal, free and secret suffrage of men and women who have reached the age of 16 on the day of the election, in accordance with the principles of proportional representation.

(2) The federal territory shall be divided into spatially closed constituencies, the boundaries of which may not cross provincial borders; these constituencies shall be subdivided into spatially closed regional constituencies. The number of members of parliament shall be distributed among the eligible voters in the constituencies (electoral bodies) in proportion to the number of citizens who, according to the results of the last census, had their main residence in the respective constituency, plus the number of citizens who, on the census day, did not have their main residence in the federal territory but were registered in the electoral register of a municipality in the respective constituency; in the same way, the number of members of parliament assigned to a constituency is distributed among the regional constituencies. The electoral regulations for the National Council must provide for a final investigation procedure throughout the federal territory, whereby both the seats allocated to the parties standing for election in the constituencies and the distribution of the seats not yet allocated are carried out in accordance with the principles of proportional representation. The division of the electorate into other electoral bodies is not permitted.

(3) Election day must be a Sunday or a public holiday. If circumstances arise that prevent the election from starting, continuing or ending, the electoral authority may extend or postpone the election to the following day.

(4) Those eligible to vote are persons who are eligible to vote for the National Council, who have Austrian citizenship on the cut-off date and who have reached the age of 18 on election day.

(5) Exclusion from the right to vote or from eligibility to vote, even to varying degrees, may only be provided for by federal law as a consequence of a final court conviction.

(6) Persons eligible to vote who are likely to be prevented from casting their vote before the electoral authority on election day, for example due to absence from their place of residence, for health reasons or because they are abroad, may exercise their right to vote by postal ballot upon application, stating the reason. The identity of the applicant must be verified. The eligible voter must declare by signing a sworn statement that the vote was cast personally and secretly.

(7) The detailed provisions on the election procedure shall be laid down by federal law.

Article 95

(1) Legislation in the provinces shall be exercised by the provincial parliaments. The provincial parliaments shall be elected on the basis of equal, direct, personal, free and secret suffrage of male and female citizens of the province who are eligible to vote in accordance with the provincial election regulations and in accordance with the principles of proportional representation. The provincial constitution may provide that citizens who had their residence in the province before moving their main residence abroad are also entitled to vote in provincial elections for the duration of their stay abroad, but for a maximum period of ten years.

(2) The state election regulations may not impose conditions for the right to vote and eligibility for election that are more restrictive than those laid down in the Federal Constitution for elections to the National Council, nor may they impose conditions for eligibility for election that are more restrictive than those laid down in federal law for elections to the National Council.

(3) Voters shall exercise their right to vote in constituencies, each of which must comprise a contiguous area and which may be subdivided into contiguous regional constituencies. The number of representatives shall be distributed among the constituencies in proportion to the number of citizens. The Landtag election regulations may provide for a final investigation

procedure throughout the entire territory of the Land, whereby both the seats allocated to the parties standing for election in the constituencies and the seats not yet allocated are distributed in accordance with the principles of proportional representation. The division of the electorate into other electoral bodies is not permitted.

(4) The detailed provisions on the electoral procedure shall be laid down in the state election regulations. Art. 26 (6) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(5) Art. 59a shall apply to public servants who stand for election to the state parliament or who are elected as members of a state parliament; stricter regulations are permissible. A state constitutional law may establish a body with the same powers and the same obligation to publish a report as the commission pursuant to Art. 59b.

Article 117

(1) The following shall in any case be provided for as organs of the municipality:

a) the municipal council, which is a general representative body to be elected by the eligible voters of the municipality;

b) the municipal executive committee (city council), or in cities with their own statutes, the city senate;

c) the mayor.

(2) The municipal council shall be elected on the basis of equal, direct, personal, free and secret suffrage of male and female citizens who have their main residence in the municipality, in accordance with the principles of proportional representation. However, the electoral regulations may provide that citizens who have a residence in the municipality but not their main residence there are also eligible to vote. The electoral regulations may not impose conditions for the right to vote and eligibility for election that are more restrictive than those laid down in the Landtag electoral regulations; however, it may be stipulated that persons who have not been resident in the municipality for at least one year are not entitled to vote or stand for election if their residence in the municipality is clearly only temporary. Under the conditions to be laid down in the electoral regulations, nationals of other Member States of the European Union shall also be eligible to vote and stand for election. The electoral regulations may stipulate that voters shall exercise their right to vote in constituencies, each of which must comprise a closed area. The electorate may not be divided into other electoral bodies. Art. 26 (6) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*. In the event that no nominations are submitted, the electoral regulations may stipulate that the persons whose names appear most frequently on the ballot papers shall be deemed elected.

(3) A resolution of the municipal council requires a simple majority of the members present in a quorum; however, other resolution requirements may be provided for certain matters.

(4) The meetings of the municipal council are open to the public, but exceptions may be provided for. When the municipal budget or the municipal accounts are being discussed, the public may not be excluded.

(5) Electoral parties represented in the municipal council shall be entitled to representation on the municipal executive committee in proportion to their strength.

(6) The mayor shall be elected by the municipal council. The provincial constitution may provide that those entitled to vote in municipal council elections shall elect the mayor. In this case, Art. 26 (6) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(7) The affairs of the municipalities shall be conducted by the municipal office (city office), those of cities with their own statutes by the magistrate. A legally qualified employee of the magistrate shall be appointed as magistrate director to head the internal service of the magistrate.

(8) In matters within the municipality's own sphere of activity, provincial legislation may provide for the direct participation and involvement of those eligible to vote in the municipal council.

b) Federal Act on the Election of the National Council**§ 4.**

Number of seats in the constituencies, calculated on the basis of the most recent census.

- (1) In each constituency, as many National Council seats shall be allocated as calculated in accordance with paragraphs 2 to 5.
- (2) The number of citizens who, according to the final results of the most recent census (Registerzählungsgesetz, BGBl. I No. 33/2006) in the territory of the Republic, plus the number of citizens living abroad who were registered in the electoral register on the reference date (Section 1(1) of the Register Count Act), shall be divided by 183. This quotient shall be calculated to three decimal places. It shall constitute the ratio.
- (3) Each provincial constituency shall be allocated as many seats as the ratio (para. 2) in the number of citizens who, according to the final results of the most recent census, had their main residence in the provincial constituency, increased by the number of citizens living abroad who were registered in the electoral register in the provincial constituency on the reference date (§ 1 (1) of the Register Counting Act).
- (4) If not all 183 seats can be allocated in this way, the quotients to be determined in accordance with paragraph 3 shall be calculated to three decimal places. The remaining seats shall be allocated to the provincial constituencies with the largest decimal remainders in order of magnitude. If the decimal remainders are the same for two or more provincial constituencies, these provincial constituencies shall each receive one remaining seat, unless it is the allocation of the last of the 183 seats. If two or more state constituencies have the same claim to the allocation of this last seat as a result of equal decimal remainders, the question of which state constituency is allocated this last remaining seat shall be decided by lot.
- (5) Each regional constituency shall receive as many of the National Council seats allocated to the respective state constituency as is calculated by applying paragraphs 3 and 4 *mutatis mutandis*.

§ 24.

Place of registration

- (1) Every person eligible to vote shall be entered in the electoral register of the place (the municipality, the electoral district) where he or she has his or her main residence on the reference date, 24:00. For persons entitled to vote living abroad, the place of their entry in the electoral register shall be determined according to the information in the electoral register.
- (2) Each person entitled to vote may only be entered once in the electoral registers.
- (3) If a person eligible to vote is entered in the electoral register of several places (municipalities, electoral districts), they shall be removed immediately from the electoral register in which they were wrongly entered. The person eligible to vote and the municipality in whose electoral register they are to remain shall be notified of this immediately.

§ 35.

Reports on the number of eligible voters

- (1) On the twentieth day after the cut-off date, the Federal Electoral Authority shall publish the number of eligible voters, broken down by federal state, regional constituency, electoral district and municipality, using data from the ZeWaeR. The number of eligible voters living abroad shall be shown separately.
- (2) The Federal Electoral Authority shall do the same after the electoral registers have been finalised and on the second day before election day.

§ 38.*Entitlement to a postal ballot*

(1) Persons eligible to vote who are likely to be prevented from casting their vote at the competent electoral authority on election day, for example due to absence from their place of residence, health reasons or residence abroad, are entitled to a postal ballot.

(2) Persons who are unable to visit the competent polling station on election day due to limited mobility, whether for reasons of illness, age or other reasons, or because they are being held in court prisons, penal institutions, in secure psychiatric hospitals or in detention facilities, and who wish to make use of the option of voting before a special electoral authority (§ 73 (1)), provided that the exercise of the right to vote in accordance with § 72 or 74 is not possible.

(3) If a person eligible to vote subsequently ceases to meet the requirements for claiming a postal ballot for reasons specified in paragraph 2, they must notify the municipality in whose area they were staying in good time before election day that they are waiving their right to a visit by a special electoral authority established in accordance with § 73.

§ 39.*Issuing of postal ballot papers*

(1) The issuing of a postal ballot paper must be requested in writing or verbally by the person entitled to vote from the municipality in which they are entered in the electoral register, starting on the day the election is announced, stating the reason in accordance with Section 38(1).

Applications by telephone are not permitted. Legal acts performed by a representative on behalf of a person eligible to vote, in particular an adult representative, in connection with the application for the issue of a postal ballot are not permitted. The application must be received by the competent authority no later than the fourth day before election day. Verbal applications may be made no later than 12 noon on the second day before election day. An application may also be submitted in writing by the latter date if it is possible to hand over the postal ballot in person to a person authorised by the applicant. Abroad, the issuance and delivery of the postal ballot may also be requested through an Austrian representative authority. In the case of a verbal application, the identity of the applicant must be verified by means of a document, unless the applicant is known to the authorities. In the case of a written application, if the application is submitted electronically and does not bear a qualified electronic signature, the identity may also be verified by other means, in particular by providing the passport number, the identity card number, or by presenting a photocopy of an official photo ID or other document. The municipality is authorised to verify the passport number or identity card number through the passport authority and photo IDs or other documents through the authority responsible for issuing these documents. Provided that the technical requirements are met, the municipality is also authorised to verify the passport number or identity card number on the basis of the central register pursuant to Section 22b of the Passport Act 1992, Federal Law Gazette No. 839/1992, and the driving licence number using the central driving licence register (Section 16 of the Driving Licence Act, Federal Law Gazette I No. 120/1997). In the case of Section 38(2), the application must contain an explicit request for a visit by a special electoral authority in accordance with Section 73(1) and precise details of the premises where the applicant expects the visit by a special electoral authority. In the case of persons in public custody, the application must be accompanied by official confirmation of their accommodation. The request for a visit by a special electoral authority in accordance with Section 73(1) may also be made after applying for a postal ballot, at the latest by 12 noon on the second day before election day.

(2) A person eligible to vote whose main residence is abroad and who is registered in the electoral register (Section 3 WEviG) shall be notified by post by the municipality in which they are registered in the electoral register immediately after the announcement of the National Council election of the possibility of exercising their right to vote by postal vote, provided that their residential address is recorded in the electoral register. They must be informed of the options for submitting an application, including, where applicable, via the internet. The notification may be sent by email if the municipality has an email address. Postal voting cards must be sent to

persons who have applied for an official postal voting card in accordance with Section 3(6) or Section 11(4) WEviG as soon as the municipality has the relevant postal voting card forms and official ballot papers available. [...]

§ 60.

Procedure for postal voting

(1) Voters who have been issued with postal voting cards in accordance with §§ 38 and 39 may also exercise their right to vote by sending the sealed postal voting card to an electoral authority authorised to receive it (postal voting). Postal voting may take place immediately after receipt of the postal voting card.

(2) To this end, the voter must place the official ballot paper completed by him in the ballot envelope (§ 64 (1)) and place this in the postal voting card. He must then declare on the postal voting card by means of his own signature that he has completed the official ballot paper personally, unobserved and without influence. They must then seal the postal ballot. Unless the postal ballot is deposited with the issuing authority after voting for forwarding to the competent electoral authority, it must be sent to the competent district electoral authority in good time so that it arrives there no later than 5 p.m. on election day 5 p.m. at the latest, or on election day at a polling station during opening hours or at a district electoral authority by 5 p.m. Delivery by a courier is permitted. Postal votes cast abroad at an Austrian representative authority or an Austrian entity that arrive by the sixth day before election day, or at a representative authority outside the European Economic Area or outside Switzerland that arrive by the ninth day before election day, must be forwarded by the representative authority or the Austrian entity to the competent district electoral authority. The forwarding of a postal ballot received after the sixth day before election day, or after the ninth day before election day in representative authorities outside the European Economic Area or outside Switzerland, by an Austrian representative authority or an Austrian entity to the competent district electoral authority is permissible if it appears certain that the postal ballot can still reach the competent district electoral authority in time, or if the person entitled to vote is informed that it may not be possible to guarantee that it will arrive in time. The costs of sending the postal ballot to the district electoral authority by post shall be borne by the Federal Government. [...]

c) Federal Presidential Election Act

§ 5a.

(1) Voters who are likely to be prevented from casting their vote at the competent electoral authority on election day, for example due to absence from their place of residence, health reasons or residence abroad, are entitled to be issued with a postal ballot.

(2) Persons who are unable to visit the competent polling station on election day due to lack of mobility or transport, whether due to illness, age or other reasons, or because they are being held in court prisons, penal institutions, in secure psychiatric hospitals or in detention centres, and who wish to make use of the option of voting before a special electoral authority (Section 73 (1) NRWO), provided that the exercise of the right to vote in accordance with Sections 72 or 74 NRWO is not possible.

(3) If a person eligible to vote subsequently ceases to meet the requirements for claiming a postal ballot for reasons specified in paragraph 2, they must notify the municipality in whose area they were staying in good time before election day that they are waiving their right to a visit by a special electoral authority established in accordance with Section 73 (1) NRWO.

(4) The issue of the postal ballot must be applied for in writing or verbally, stating the reason in accordance with paragraph 1, to the municipality in which the eligible voter was entered in the electoral register, starting on the day the election is announced. Applications by telephone are not permitted. The application must be received by the competent authority no later than the fourth day before election day. Verbal applications may be made no later than 12 noon on the second day before election day. A written application may also be submitted by the latter date if

it is possible to hand over the postal ballot in person to a person authorised by the applicant. Abroad, the issuance and delivery of the postal ballot may also be requested through an Austrian representative authority. In the case of a verbal application, the identity of the applicant must be verified by means of a document, unless the applicant is known to the authorities. In the case of written applications, if the applicant is not known to the authorities or if the application is submitted electronically without a qualified electronic signature, identity may also be verified by other means, in particular by providing the passport number, by presenting a photocopy of an official photo ID or another document. The municipality is authorised to verify the passport number through a passport authority and photo ID cards or other documents through the authority responsible for issuing these documents. Provided that the technical requirements are met, the municipality is also authorised to verify the passport number independently on the basis of the central register in accordance with Section 22b of the Passport Act 1992, Federal Law Gazette No. 839/1992. In the case of paragraph 2, the application must contain an explicit request for a visit by a special electoral authority in accordance with Section 73(1) of the National Electoral Code and precise details of the premises where the applicant expects the visit by a special electoral authority. In the case of persons in public custody, the application must be accompanied by official confirmation of their accommodation.

(5) A person eligible to vote whose main residence is abroad and who is registered in the electoral register (Section 3 of the Electoral Register Act 2018 – WEviG, Federal Law Gazette I No. 106/2016), shall be notified by post by the municipality in which they are registered in the electoral register immediately after the announcement of the federal presidential election of the possibility of exercising their right to vote by postal vote, provided that their residential address is recorded in the electoral register. In doing so, they must be informed of the options for submitting an application, including, where applicable, via the internet. The notification may be sent by e-mail if the municipality has an e-mail address. Postal voting cards shall be sent to persons who have applied for an official postal voting card in accordance with Section 3 (6) or Section 11 (4) of the WEviG as soon as the municipality has the relevant postal voting card forms and official ballot papers available.

(6) The postal ballot and the postal ballot for the second ballot shall each be produced in a sealable envelope. The postal ballot shall bear the imprints shown in Annex 4, and the postal ballot for the second ballot shall bear the imprints shown in Annex 5. The local authority may affix a barcode or QR code. Postal ballots for voters whose main residence is abroad shall be marked in the appropriate section. Postal ballots issued by means of automated data processing may be signed with an official signature in accordance with Sections 19 and 20 of the Federal Act on Regulations to Facilitate Electronic Communication with Public Authorities (E-Government Act – E-GovG), Federal Law Gazette I No. 10/2004, whereby § 19 (3) second sentence E-GovG shall not apply. The postal ballot forms shall be made available in sufficient quantities to the authorities responsible for issuing postal ballots on the basis of a regular needs assessment.

(7) If the application for the issue of a postal ballot is granted, an official ballot paper in accordance with Section 11(2) and a sealable white ballot envelope shall also be issued in addition to the postal ballot. If the Federal Electoral Authority has published the names of more than two candidates (Section 9) and the application has been submitted by a person living abroad who is eligible to vote or contains a corresponding request, a postal ballot for the second ballot must also be provided, together with an official ballot paper in accordance with Section 11(3) and a beige-coloured sealable ballot envelope. The ballot paper in accordance with Section 11(2) and the white ballot envelope must be placed in the postal ballot; the ballot paper in accordance with Section 11(3) and the beige-coloured ballot envelope must be placed in the postal ballot for the second ballot, if applicable. All documents must be provided to the applicant. The applicant must keep the respective postal ballot carefully until the vote is cast. In the case of postal delivery, the envelope containing the postal ballot must be marked 'Postal ballot for the federal presidential election XXXX'.

(8) The following applies to the delivery or transmission of requested postal ballots:

- In the case of personal delivery of a postal vote, the applicant must sign a confirmation of receipt. If the applicant is unable to do so, a note to this effect must be made in the file.

- In the case of patients in hospitals and nursing homes (§ 72 NRW), postal votes sent by registered mail must be addressed exclusively to the recipient themselves. In this case, the letter must be marked 'Not to be delivered to authorised postal representatives.'
- If postal votes are delivered to the persons referred to in Z 2 by courier, the confirmation of receipt must be signed by the patient themselves. If the applicant is unable to do so, a note must be made in the file.
- For applicants not mentioned in Z 2, the postal vote must be sent by registered post, unless the postal vote was requested verbally, or the electronic application was provided with a qualified electronic signature or the postal vote was issued ex officio on the basis of an application pursuant to Section 3 (6) or Section 11 (4) WEviG.
- If postal voting cards are sent to persons not mentioned in Z 2 by courier or via an Austrian representative authority, the procedure shall be the same as that laid down in Section 16 (1) and (2) of the Zustellgesetz (ZustG) [Austrian Law on the Service of Documents], with the proviso that a postal voting card may also be delivered to persons who are eligible to vote but have not yet reached the age of 18. The ballot paper may be issued without proof if the application for the ballot paper was made verbally or if the application submitted electronically was provided with a qualified electronic signature.
- Postal votes requested in writing and collected in person by the applicant may only be issued by the local authority against a confirmation of receipt. If the applicant is unable to do so, a note to this effect must be made in the file. When a postal vote requested in writing is issued to a person authorised by the applicant, that person must confirm receipt of the postal vote.
- It is not permitted for a courier to take away a postal ballot delivered by him and used for voting by post.

(9) Confirmations of receipt for postal ballots delivered by courier or via an Austrian representative authority must in all cases be forwarded to the municipalities that issued the postal ballots. The forwarding of confirmations of receipt available to the Austrian representative authorities by electronic means is permitted. The municipalities shall forward written applications, confirmations of receipt, file notes and a compilation of applications received by electronic means to the municipal electoral authority, or in statutory cities to the respective district electoral authority, after the expiry of the deadline specified in paragraph 4. The competent authority shall attach the documents forwarded to it to the municipal election file or, in statutory cities, to the electoral district election file.

(10) Duplicates for lost postal ballot papers may not be issued by the municipality. Postal ballot papers that have become unusable, have not yet been sealed and on which the affidavit has not yet been signed may be returned to the municipality. In this case, the municipality may issue a duplicate after receiving the postal ballot paper. In such a case, a ballot paper that has become unusable must be marked accordingly and forwarded to the municipal electoral authority. The latter must attach the ballot paper to the municipal electoral register.

(11) The municipal electoral authorities must ensure that items marked as postal ballot papers (para. 7, last sentence) that have been deposited at the locally responsible post offices are collected at the time of the last closing of the respective post office before election day and are kept ready for delivery to the applicant on election day. At this point in time, items marked as postal votes (para. 7, last sentence) that have been deposited at the post offices but not collected must be sorted out and kept ready for handover to a person sent by the municipal electoral authority. The municipal electoral authorities shall inform the Federal Ministry of the Interior of any items marked as ballot papers (para. 7, last sentence) stored in their area. The Federal Ministry of the Interior shall take appropriate measures, e.g. setting up a telephone hotline, to ensure that applicants can be informed of the location of items marked as ballot papers (para. 7, last sentence). Ballot papers deposited with Austrian representative authorities and not collected shall be destroyed after election day. The municipality that issued such a postal ballot must be notified of this by electronic means.

(12) A person eligible to vote must be notified by the municipality as soon as possible if their application for a postal ballot has not been granted.

(13) The municipality must note the issuance of a postal ballot and the issuance of a postal ballot for the second ballot in the electoral register. Until the twenty-ninth day after the respective election day, the municipalities shall, upon verbal or written request, provide information to every person eligible to vote who is entered in the electoral register as to whether a postal ballot has been issued for them. When making a request, the person eligible to vote must prove their identity.

(14) In the event of a postal ballot being issued in accordance with paragraph 2 to a person eligible to vote who is residing outside the place where they are registered in the electoral register, the issuing local authority shall notify the local authority in whose area the person eligible to vote is residing of the issue of the postal ballot, indicating that this person is to be visited by a special electoral authority.

(15) The number of postal ballot papers issued and, where applicable, the number of postal ballot papers issued for the second ballot shall be published after the expiry of the period specified in paragraph 4, based on the notes stored in the ZeWaeR in accordance with paragraph 13, broken down by province and electoral district. When announcing the number of absentee ballots, the number of eligible voters living abroad and the number of absentee ballots issued for the second ballot shall be shown separately. The notes stored in the electoral registers of the municipalities shall be deleted from the ZeWaeR once the result of the election is final, but no earlier than on the thirtieth day after election day.

§ 7.

(1) Nominations for the election of the Federal President must be submitted to the Federal Electoral Authority by 5 p.m. on the thirty-seventh day before election day at the latest; § 42 (1) NRWO shall apply *mutatis mutandis*. The nominations must be accompanied by a total of 6,000 declarations of support in accordance with the template in Annex 1 and declarations of support from abroad in accordance with the template in Annex 7.

(2) The declaration of support must contain confirmation from the municipality that the person named in the declaration was registered in the electoral register on the cut-off date and was eligible to vote (Section 21 (1) NRWO). This confirmation shall only be issued by the municipality if the person named in the declaration appears in person before the municipal authority responsible for maintaining the electoral register, has proven their identity by means of a photo ID (e.g. identity card, passport or driving licence), the declaration of support contains the first name, surname, date of birth and residential address, as well as the name of the candidate to be supported, and the handwritten signature of the person submitting the declaration of support has either been provided before the municipal authority or has been certified by a court or notary. The municipalities are obliged to provide those willing to support the candidate with printed forms based on the model in Appendix 1 without charging administrative fees, other charges or fees; In doing so, they must use any printed forms available to them that are made out to the candidate designated by the person wishing to support them. The confirmation on a declaration of support must be issued without delay.

(3) Upon request, a local authority must send a form for a declaration of support from abroad to a person eligible to vote who resides abroad; the local authority shall enter the name and date of birth of the person wishing to support the candidate on the form and confirm by entering the relevant information in the appropriate sections that the person wishing to support the candidate is registered in the electoral register on the reference date and is eligible to vote (Section 21(1) NRWO).

(4) An eligible voter living abroad may support a nomination by appearing in person at an Austrian representative authority, proving their identity with a photo ID (e.g. identity card, passport or driving licence) and signing a declaration of support abroad bearing a confirmation in accordance with paragraph 3.

(5) For each election, a confirmation may only be issued once for each person, either on a declaration of support or on a declaration of support from abroad. The municipalities shall immediately delete any notes they have made to prevent double or multiple issuance of a confirmation in accordance with paragraphs 2 or 3 once the result of the election is final.

(6) An Austrian representative authority shall confirm on a fully completed declaration of support for overseas voters, bearing the confirmation of a local authority in accordance with paragraph 3, that the person wishing to give their support has signed the declaration of support in person before the authority.

(7) The nomination must contain:

1. the first names, surname, date of birth, place of birth, occupation and place of residence of the candidate;
2. a declaration by the candidate that he or she agrees to be included in the nomination;
3. the name of an authorised representative who fulfils the requirements of Section 41 NRW and is authorised to represent the signatories of the nomination, as well as at least two deputies who also fulfil the requirements of Section 41 NRW.

(8) The nomination must also be accompanied by confirmations from the municipality that the representative authorised to receive service of process, and his deputies were registered in the electoral register on the cut-off date and were eligible to vote (Section 21 (1) NRW). If they are supporters of the nomination, these confirmations are not required. The penultimate and last sentences of paragraph 2 shall apply mutatis mutandis.

(9) At the same time as submitting the nomination (paragraph 1), the representative authorised to receive service of process for the nomination must pay a contribution towards the costs of the election procedure in the amount of €3,600 in cash to the Federal Electoral Authority. Instead of the cash deposit, a payment receipt may be submitted showing that the contribution to the costs has been paid into an account of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. If the contribution to the costs is not paid, the nomination shall be deemed not to have been submitted.

§ 10.

(1) The provisions of Sections 52 to 55, 57 to 59, 61 to 67, 69 to 72, 73 (1) to (3) first sentence and (4) and 74 NRW shall apply to the voting procedure, with the proviso that § 61 NRW may be invoked by any representative authorised to receive service of process for an officially published nomination (§ 9) or by his authorised representative.

(2) The right to vote may be exercised by those voters who have been issued with postal voting cards in accordance with § 5a at any polling station or by sending the sealed postal voting card to the competent district electoral authority (postal voting).

d) Federal Act on the Keeping of Permanent Records of Persons Entitled to Vote

§ 2.

Requirements for registration

[...] (3) Registered persons who move their main residence abroad and notify the municipality in which they are giving up their main residence of this fact in writing shall remain on the electoral register of that municipality for the duration of their stay abroad, but for a maximum period of ten years. For the purpose of communication regarding the conduct of National Council elections (Section 39(2) of the National Council Election Regulations 1992), Federal Presidential elections (Section 5a(5) of the Federal Presidential Election Act 1971), referendums (Section 5(3) of the Referendum Act 1972 in conjunction with Section 39(2) of the National Council Election Regulations 1992) or plebiscites (Section 5a(2) of the Plebiscite Act 1989 in conjunction with Section 39(2) of the National Council Election Regulations 1992), for the purpose of sending an absentee ballot or voting card (§ 3 (5)) or for the purpose of transmitting information by the municipalities in accordance with § 3 (4), penultimate and last sentences, the persons registered with the municipality must also provide their residential address abroad (§ 1 (3)). If possible, they must also provide an email address. Section 3(4) applies to their re-registration.

§ 3.*Registration of Austrians who have their main residence abroad*

(1) Austrians with their main residence abroad who have reached the age of 15 in the year of registration or have reached it before 1 January of the year of registration and are not excluded from the right to vote for the National Council shall, upon application, be entered in the electoral register of the municipality in which they are registered in the European electoral register in accordance with the European Electoral Register Act – EuWEG, Federal Law Gazette No. 118/1996, or, if no such registration exists, in the electoral register of the municipality in which they last had their main residence in Austria; otherwise, in the electoral register of the municipality in which at least one parent has or last had their main residence in Austria. The application must be accompanied by the necessary supporting documents.

(2) If such an assignment cannot be made, the place of registration in the electoral register shall be determined by the following domestic ties, which must be substantiated in the application (para. 1) and which shall be taken into account in the following order:

1. Place of birth;
2. Main place of residence of spouse;
3. Main place of residence of closest relative;
4. Place of business of employer;
5. Ownership or tenancy rights to land or dwellings;
6. Assets;
7. Other ties to the country.

(3) Registered persons who have been entered in the electoral register of a municipality on the basis of an application pursuant to paragraph 1 or in a subsequent correction or appeal procedure must declare the continued existence of the registration requirement at least every ten years from the date of registration or re-registration, otherwise they shall be removed from the electoral register ex officio after this period has expired. Municipalities shall inform the persons registered at least three months before an impending removal and draw their attention to the possibility of declaring the continued existence of the registration requirement. The notification may be sent by e-mail if the municipality has an e-mail address.

(4) For the purpose of notification regarding the conduct of National Council elections (Section 39(2) of the National Council Election Regulations 1992), Federal Presidential elections (Section 5a(5) of the Federal Presidential Election Act 1971), referendums (Section 5(3) of the Referendum Act 1972 in conjunction with Section 39(2) of the National Council Election Regulations 1992) or plebiscites (Section 5a(2) of the Plebiscite Act 1989 in conjunction with Section 39(2) of the National Council Election Regulations 1992), for the purpose of sending an absentee ballot or voting card by official mail (para. 5) or for the purpose of transmitting information by the municipalities in accordance with para. 3, penultimate and last sentences, the registered persons must notify the municipality of any change in their residential address abroad. If necessary, they must also notify the municipality of any change in their e-mail address.

(5) Registered persons living abroad shall receive postal or voting cards for all National Council elections, federal presidential elections, referendums and plebiscites by official dispatch to the address abroad stored by the municipality (Section 1 (3)) if they request this from the municipality when submitting their application, their declaration pursuant to Section 2 (3), their declaration pursuant to paragraph 3 or at a later date, and acknowledge that they may lose their right to vote in the event of a change of residence abroad without notification pursuant to paragraph 4 due to a resulting misdelivery of the postal ballot or voting card. Official delivery ends when the applicant establishes their main residence in Austria or when the period specified in Section 2(3) or (3) expires, and must be reapplied for thereafter.

(6) Applications pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 3 must be submitted to the competent local authority. Where possible, municipalities shall offer the option of submitting applications via the internet, if necessary with the aid of a central internet platform. They shall notify applicants if their application has not resulted in their entry in the electoral register. Where technically possible, applications may be submitted via the ZeWaeR data processing system by means of identification using a qualified electronic signature.

AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAIDJAN**a) Constitution****Article 2***Sovereignty of the people*

I. Freely and independently determining their destiny and establishing their own form of governance is the sovereign right of the people of Azerbaijan.

II. The people of Azerbaijan shall exercise their sovereign right directly by nation-wide popular vote - referendum, and through their representatives elected on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by free, secret and personal ballot.

b) Election Code**Article 2***Principles of Participation in Elections and Referendum*

[...] 2.3. The diplomatic representations and consulates of the Republic of Azerbaijan should facilitate the implementation of the rights of citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan residing outside the Republic of Azerbaijan, which are enshrined in Articles 3 and 56 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, with regard to the holding of elections and referendums.[...]

Article 16*Cases of Citizens' Non-Participation in Voting*

[...] 16.4. Citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan who are in a foreign country where no Azerbaijani Diplomatic Representation or Consulate exist, or where no Precinct Election Commission has been established at the Azerbaijani Diplomatic Representation or Consulate according to Article 35.6 of this Code, shall not participate in voting.

16.5. No voting shall be held for municipal elections or elections of deputies to the Milli Majlis for the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan in a foreign country on Voting Day. [...]

Article 29*Election (Referendum) Constituencies*

29.1. In order to hold elections, the Central Election Commission shall form 125 election (referendum) constituencies (hereinafter election constituencies) every 5 years, based on information on the number of voters permanently residing and registered in the relevant territorial units, provided by the municipalities in conjunction with the relevant executive bodies. Election constituencies shall, as a rule, be formed on the basis of the of average voter representation norm.

The average voter representation norm is determined by dividing the total number of registered voters in the country by 125. Election constituencies shall be considered single-mandate constituencies during the elections of deputies of the Milli Majlis and considered as election territories during the Presidential and Municipal Elections and referendums.

29.2. Voters residing outside the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be included in the voters' lists of election constituencies. Information on the number of voters permanently residing outside the Republic of Azerbaijan, or on long-term missions abroad and registered with the relevant diplomatic representations and consulates of The Republic of Azerbaijan, shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission by a relevant executive power body. Based on this information, the Central Election Commission shall approve a list of the relevant election constituencies for inclusion of the voters residing outside the country on the voter lists during referendums and Presidential elections. The number of voters in election constituencies where the voters residing

outside the Republic of Azerbaijan are included on the lists should be less than the of average voter representation norm. [...]

Article 35

Establishment of Election (Referendum) Precincts

35.6. Election precincts, which are established for the collection and counting of votes of voters outside the country on Voting Day, shall be created by the heads of diplomatic representations or consulates of the Republic of Azerbaijan at least 30 days prior to Voting Day, in the territories where such voters reside, provided the number of voters registered with the consulate is more than 50. Such polling stations may only be created during referendums and Presidential elections.

Article 46

Compilation of Voters' Lists

46.8. Voters' Lists for electoral precincts created outside of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be approved at least 25 days prior to Election Day by the relevant Precinct Election Commission, on the basis of information provided by heads of the diplomatic representations and consular offices of the Republic of Azerbaijan. [...]

Article 99

Ballot Papers

99.8. In exceptional cases, pursuant to Articles 35.4 and 35.6 of this Code, Precinct Election Commissions shall be allowed to produce election documents, including ballot papers, if technical facilities are available, in the ships sailing on Voting Day and in election precincts organized outside the Republic of Azerbaijan. A decision on the production of election documents, with an indication of the appropriate circulation, shall be made by a relevant Precinct Election Commission in agreement with the Central Election Commission. [...]

Article 100

Voting Protocols of Election Commissions

[...] 100.10. According to Articles 35.4 and 35.6 of this Code, Precinct Election Commissions shall be allowed to produce the protocols in exceptional cases and if technical facilities are available, on ships sailing on Voting Day and in election precincts organized outside the Republic of Azerbaijan.[...]

Article 104

Rules for Voting

104.4. If a voter ascertains that he/she will not be able to go to the polling station on Voting Day because of his/her state of health or other valid reasons, he/she should inform the Precinct Election Commission directly or via other persons either orally or in writing, at least 24 hours prior to Voting Day on his/her intention to vote outside the voting room. If the intention is declared orally, it shall be made official by a relevant application during the voting period. Constituency Election Commissions may issue permission to ships sailing under the State Flag of The Republic of Azerbaijan, and to remote and almost impassable distant places to hold the voting at the most 10 days prior to Voting Day.[...]

BELGIUM / BELGIQUE**a) Constitution****Article 61**

Les membres de la Chambre des représentants sont élus directement par les citoyens âgés de dix-huit ans accomplis et ne se trouvant pas dans l'un des cas d'exclusion prévus par la loi. Chaque électeur n'a droit qu'à un vote.

Article 62

La constitution des collèges électoraux est réglée par la loi.
Les élections se font par le système de représentation proportionnelle que la loi détermine.
Le vote est obligatoire et secret. Il a lieu à la commune, sauf les exceptions à déterminer par la loi.

b) Electoral Code**Article 180**

§ 1er. Tous les Belges inscrits aux registres de la population tenus dans les postes consulaires de carrière belges à l'étranger et qui remplissent les conditions de l'électorat visées à l'article 1er, sont soumis à l'obligation de vote.

Les personnes visées à l'alinéa 1er sont rattachées comme électeur à l'une des communes suivantes :

1° la commune belge dans laquelle la personne a un jour été inscrite dans les registres de la population;

2° à défaut, la commune belge du lieu de sa naissance;

3° à défaut, la commune belge dans laquelle le père ou la mère de la personne est inscrit ou a été inscrit en dernier lieu dans les registres de la population;

4° à défaut, la commune belge dans laquelle le mari, l'épouse, le précédent mari, la précédente épouse ou la/le partenaire dans une cohabitation enregistrée est inscrit(e) ou a été inscrit(e) dans les registres de la population;

5° à défaut, la commune belge dans laquelle un parent jusqu'au troisième degré est inscrit ou a été inscrit en dernier lieu dans les registres de la population ou la commune belge dans laquelle un ascendant est né, est inscrit ou a été inscrit dans les registres de la population;

6° à défaut, la commune de Bruxelles.

§ 2. Les personnes visées au § 1er exercent leur droit de vote soit en personne ou par procuration dans un bureau de vote sur le territoire du Royaume, soit en personne ou par procuration dans le poste consulaire de carrière dans lequel elles sont inscrites, soit par correspondance.

§ 3. Sauf dérogation prévue dans le présent titre, les dispositions du Code électoral sont d'application aux

opérations de l'élection, quel que soit le mode de vote choisi.

§ 4. Les postes consulaires de carrière vérifient les conditions de l'électorat énumérées à l'article 1er, § 1er.

Article 180bis

§ 1er. Lors de son inscription aux registres de la population tenus dans les postes consulaires de carrière belges à l'étranger, le poste consulaire de carrière belge remet au Belge un formulaire de demande d'inscription dont le modèle est fixé par le Roi.

Il remet aussi ce formulaire à tout Belge inscrit au registre consulaire de la population qui en fait la demande.

Entre le premier jour du neuvième mois et le premier jour du septième mois qui précèdent la date fixée pour le renouvellement ordinaire de la Chambre des représentants, chaque poste consulaire de carrière transmet par voie postale ou, le cas échéant, par voie électronique aux Belges inscrits en son sein un formulaire de demande d'inscription sauf s'ils sont déjà inscrits sur une liste consulaire d'électeurs.

Si le Belge doit être rattaché à l'une des communes visées à l'article 180, § 1er, alinéa 2, 2° ou 3°, le formulaire indique sa commune de rattachement. Toutefois, si le Belge doit être rattaché à une commune conformément à l'article 180, § 1er, alinéa 2, 3°, et que son père et sa mère ont eu leur dernière inscription dans les registres de la population de communes belges différentes, le Belge est invité à indiquer à laquelle de ces deux communes il désire être rattaché.

Si le Belge doit être rattaché à une commune visée à l'article 180, § 1er, alinéa 2, 1°, 4° ou 5, il indique la commune pour laquelle il peut attester, par toutes voies de droit, un des liens de rattachement visés par cette disposition. La vérification de ce lien de rattachement et des justificatifs émis par le Belge à cet effet est effectuée par le poste consulaire de carrière qui prend contact si nécessaire avec la commune belge concernée.

§ 2. Le Belge indique sur le formulaire visé au § 1er le mode selon lequel il entend exercer son droit de vote.

§ 3. Le Belge résidant à l'étranger dépose en personne ou renvoie par courrier postal ou électronique au poste consulaire de carrière dans lequel il est inscrit, le formulaire complété, daté et signé et, le cas échéant, les éléments attestant qu'il doit être rattaché à une commune visée à l'article 180, § 1er, alinéa 2, 1°, 4° ou 5°. Dans le cas où le Belge se trouve dans l'impossibilité de produire une pièce justificative du lien de rattachement, il peut produire une déclaration sur l'honneur dont le modèle est déterminé par le Roi.

Cette demande d'inscription vaut pour la participation du Belge à toute élection législative qui se déroulera à partir du premier jour du quatrième mois suivant le dépôt du formulaire, aussi longtemps que le Belge reste inscrit au registre de la population du même poste consulaire de carrière. Si le poste consulaire de carrière dans lequel le Belge est inscrit est fermé, la demande d'inscription du Belge à toute élection législative reste valable dans le nouveau poste consulaire de carrière dans lequel il est inscrit au registre de la population."; 4° dans le paragraphe 4, alinéa 1er, la deuxième phrase est complétée par les mots "ainsi que, le cas échéant, le mandataire choisi par l'électeur en application de l'article 180quater, § 1er, ou de l'article 180sexies, § 1er.

§ 4. Après avoir procédé à la vérification des conditions de l'électorat dans le chef du demandeur, conformément à l'article 180, § 4, les postes consulaires de carrière inscrivent l'électeur sur la liste consulaire d'électeurs. Cette liste précise, outre les données visées à l'article 10, § 2, le mode de vote choisi par l'électeur et la commune à laquelle il est rattaché.

Lorsque le poste consulaire de carrière refuse de reconnaître à un Belge résidant à l'étranger la qualité d'électeur, il notifie sa décision motivée par écrit à l'intéressé et communique une copie de cette décision au ministre des Affaires étrangères ou à la personne désignée par lui.

Dans les trente jours de la réception de cette notification, l'intéressé peut introduire par écrit une réclamation devant le ministre des Affaires étrangères ou la personne désignée par lui.

Le ministre des Affaires étrangères ou la personne désignée par lui se prononce dans les quinze jours de la réception de la réclamation et sa décision est immédiatement notifiée par écrit à l'intéressé, via le poste consulaire de carrière où il est inscrit.

L'intéressé peut interjeter appel de cette décision devant la Cour d'appel de Bruxelles dans un délai de trente jours à partir de la notification. A l'expiration de ce délai, la décision du ministre des Affaires étrangères ou de la personne désignée par lui est définitive.

L'appel est introduit par une requête remise au procureur général près la Cour d'appel de Bruxelles. Celui-ci en informe aussitôt le ministre des Affaires étrangères ou la personne désignée par lui.

Les parties disposent d'un délai de vingt jours à compter de la remise de la requête pour déposer de nouvelles conclusions. A l'expiration de ce délai, le procureur général envoie dans les deux jours le dossier, auquel sont jointes éventuellement les nouvelles pièces ou conclusions, au greffier en chef de la Cour d'appel de Bruxelles qui en accuse réception.

Les articles 28 à 39 sont d'application.

§ 5. Dans le cas visé à l'article 105, le poste consulaire de carrière arrête la liste consulaire des électeurs le quatre-vingtième jour qui précède celui de l'élection.

Dans le cas prévu à l'article 106, la liste consulaire des électeurs est arrêtée à la date de l'arrêté royal fixant la date de l'élection. Toutefois, les électeurs sont convoqués au scrutin sur la base de la liste dressée en prévision de la réunion ordinaire des collèges électoraux, lorsque la dissolution de la Chambre des représentants intervient après le quatre-vingtième jour qui précède la date de la réunion ordinaire des collèges électoraux, avec pour conséquence qu'une élection doit être organisée avant la date prévue.

L'arrêt de la liste consulaire des électeurs dans chaque poste consulaire de carrière est effectué sur base des données insérées par ces postes dans le Registre national des personnes physiques. Le Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères demande au Registre national des personnes physiques d'établir la liste consulaire des électeurs.

Dès que la liste consulaire des électeurs est arrêtée, chaque collège des bourgmestre et échevins ou collège communal envoie, par la voie digitale, au Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères les données nécessaires permettant d'identifier le bureau de vote dans lequel les électeurs belges résidant à l'étranger ayant choisi de voter en personne en Belgique exerceront ce droit.

Dès que la liste consulaire des électeurs est arrêtée, le Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères envoie à chaque président de bureau principal de circonscription, par la voie digitale, une copie de la liste des électeurs belges résidant à l'étranger ayant choisi le vote par correspondance ou le vote en personne ou par procuration dans les postes consulaires de carrière.

Les dispositions des articles 15 et 93 ne sont pas d'application à la liste consulaire des électeurs.

§ 5bis. Lorsque les élections pour la Chambre des représentants ont lieu à la même date que celle fixée pour le renouvellement du Parlement européen, la liste consulaire des électeurs, dressée pour l'élection du Parlement européen, ne tient pas lieu de liste consulaire des électeurs pour l'élection de la Chambre des représentants.

La liste consulaire des électeurs pour l'élection de la Chambre des représentants est arrêtée le même jour que la liste consulaire des électeurs pour l'élection du Parlement européen.

§ 6. A partir de la date à laquelle la liste des électeurs doit être arrêtée, toute personne indûment inscrite, omise ou rayée de la liste des électeurs, ou pour laquelle les mentions prescrites au § 4 figurant sur cette liste sont incorrectes, peut introduire une réclamation devant le ministre des Affaires étrangères ou la personne désignée par lui jusqu'au douzième jour précédant celui de l'élection.

La procédure qui règle le traitement de la réclamation devant le ministre des Affaires étrangères est identique à celle prévue aux articles 20 à 26 devant le collège des bourgmestre et échevins. Toutefois, il y a lieu de lire :

1. au lieu des mots "le collège des bourgmestre et échevins", les mots "le ministre des Affaires étrangères ou la personne désignée par lui";
2. au lieu des mots "secrétaire communal", les mots "Président du Comité de Direction";
3. au lieu des mots "administration communale", les mots "Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères".

Les articles 27 à 39 sont également d'application. Toutefois, il y a lieu de lire au lieu des mots "le bourgmestre", les mots "le ministre des Affaires étrangères ou la personne désignée par lui". La Cour d'appel compétente est la Cour d'appel de Bruxelles.

§ 7. Les Belges résidant à l'étranger qui figurent sur la liste des électeurs en sont rayés lorsque, entre la date à laquelle elle est arrêtée et le jour de l'élection, soit ils cessent de satisfaire à la condition d'être belge, soit ils viennent à décéder, soit ils sont rayés des registres consulaires de la population.

Les électeurs belges résidant à l'étranger qui, postérieurement à la date à laquelle la liste des électeurs est arrêtée, font l'objet d'une condamnation ou d'une décision emportant dans leur chef soit l'exclusion des droits électoraux, soit la suspension à la date de l'élection, de ces mêmes droits, sont pareillement rayés de la liste des électeurs.

Si après son inscription, le Belge souhaite modifier le mode selon lequel il entend exercer son droit de vote, il dépose en personne ou par courrier postal ou électronique au poste consulaire de carrière auquel il est inscrit une demande en ce sens. Cette modification vaut pour toute

élection législative qui se déroulera à partir du premier jour du quatrième mois suivant cette demande.

§ 8. Le Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères délivre des exemplaires ou copies de la liste consulaire des électeurs résidant à l'étranger, dès qu'elle est dressée, aux personnes qui agissent au nom d'un parti politique et qui en font la demande par envoi recommandé adressé au ministre des Affaires étrangères au plus tard le 25 du troisième mois qui précède celui au cours duquel l'élection a lieu, dans les cas visés à l'article 105, ou au plus tard le trente-troisième jour avant celui de l'élection, dans les cas visés à l'article 106.

Chaque parti politique peut obtenir uniquement un exemplaire électronique de la liste à titre gratuit, pour autant qu'il dépose une liste de candidats à l'élection de la Chambre des représentants. La liste fournie contient uniquement les électeurs belges de l'étranger rattachés à une commune faisant partie du ressort de la circonscription dans laquelle ce parti politique dépose une liste de candidats.

Si le parti politique ne présente pas de liste de candidats, il ne peut plus faire usage de la liste des électeurs, fût-ce à des fins électorales, sous peine des sanctions pénales édictées à l'article 197bis.

L'article 17, §§ 2 et 3, est applicable par analogie.

Section 1. - Le vote en personne dans une commune belge

Article 180ter

§ 1er. L'électeur émet son vote dans la commune à laquelle il est rattachée en application de l'article 180, § 1er.

§ 2. Le poste consulaire de carrière envoie à la résidence de l'électeur belge résidant à l'étranger une lettre de convocation au scrutin selon les modalités prescrites à l'article 107.

A cette fin, dans les plus brefs délais après l'arrêt de la liste des électeurs, le Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères, transmet aux postes consulaires de carrière les données transmises par les communes en application de l'article 180bis, § 5, alinéa 4.

Section 2. - Le vote par procuration dans une commune belge.

Article 180quater

§ 1^{er}. Au moyen de la procuration dont le modèle est fixé par le Roi, le Belge résidant à l'étranger qui aura choisi le vote par procuration dans une commune belge désigne un mandataire parmi les électeurs de la commune à laquelle il est rattaché comme électeur.

Si le mandataire désigné décède, est rayé des registres de la population de la commune belge, perd son droit de vote ou a déjà été désigné comme mandataire par un autre électeur belge de l'étranger, il en est fait communication au Belge résidant à l'étranger dans les plus brefs délais.

§ 2. Chaque mandataire ne peut disposer que d'une seule procuration.

§ 3. La procuration, signée par le mandant, mentionne les nom, prénoms, date de naissance et adresse du mandant et du mandataire. Cette procuration doit parvenir à la commune de rattachement au moins vingt jours avant les élections.

§ 4. Lorsqu'il convoque au scrutin le mandataire désigné par l'électeur belge résidant à l'étranger, le collège des bourgmestre et échevins annexe à la convocation un extrait de la procuration qui l'habilite à voter en son nom.

§ 5. Pour être reçu à voter au nom de son mandant, le mandataire remet au président du bureau de vote la procuration et lui présente son propre document d'identité et sa propre convocation au scrutin sur laquelle le président mentionne « a voté par procuration » .

Section 3. – Le vote en personne dans les postes consulaires de carrière.

Article 180quinquies

§ 1^{er}. Le poste consulaire de carrière sur la liste consulaire duquel l'électeur est inscrit envoie à la résidence de celui-ci, selon les modalités prescrites à l'article 107, une lettre de convocation au scrutin.

§ 2. Au plus tard le vingt-quatrième jour qui précède celui du scrutin, dans les cas visés à l'article 105, ou au plus tard le douzième jour qui précède celui du scrutin dans les cas visés à l'article 106, le président du bureau principal de circonscription, envoie les bulletins de vote nécessaires au Ministère des Affaires étrangères.

Dès leur réception, les bulletins de vote sont envoyés aux postes consulaires de carrière par le Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères.

Les postes consulaires de carrière organisent le scrutin le mercredi précédant le jour de l'élection sur le territoire du Royaume, de 13 heures à 19 heures, heure locale. Le ministre des Affaires étrangères peut de manière motivée, pour des raisons de sécurité propres à la situation d'un poste consulaire de carrière, décider de limiter les heures d'ouverture d'un bureau de vote, sans que le bureau concerné ne puisse être fermé avant 16 heures, heure locale. Les électeurs concernés en sont avertis dans les plus brefs délais.

§ 3. Alinéa 1^{er} abrogé.

Un bureau de vote est composé du président, de deux assesseurs, de deux assesseurs suppléants et d'un secrétaire. Dans les bureaux comptant plus de 200 électeurs, les deux assesseurs suppléants peuvent, sur demande du président du bureau de vote, être invités à participer aux opérations de ce bureau.

Le chef de poste, ou la personne qu'il désigne, remplit la fonction de président du bureau de vote du poste consulaire de carrière.

Les assesseurs et les assesseurs suppléants sont désignés par le président du bureau de vote du poste consulaire de carrière douze jours au moins avant l'élection dans le poste, parmi les membres du poste consulaire de carrière, du poste diplomatique ou parmi les électeurs belges inscrits auprès du poste consulaire de carrière ayant le jour de l'élection, au moins trente ans et sachant lire et écrire.

Le secrétaire est désigné par le président du bureau de vote du poste consulaire parmi les membres du poste consulaire de carrière, de l'ambassade de Belgique ou parmi les électeurs inscrits auprès du poste consulaire de carrière.

Le président du bureau de vote du poste consulaire de carrière prend les mesures nécessaires pour permettre la consultation par le public de la liste reprenant le numéro du bureau de vote et son adresse.

§ 4. Le Roi établit la liste des postes diplomatiques ou consulaires de carrière chargés du dépouillement des bulletins de vote des Belges résidant à l'étranger ayant opté pour le vote en personne dans les postes consulaires de carrière. Le Roi désigne les postes consulaires de carrière dont les votes seront dépouillés dans ce bureau régional.

Le bureau régional de dépouillement se compose d'un président, de huit assesseurs et d'un secrétaire.

Le bureau régional de dépouillement est présidé par le chef du poste consulaire de carrière où le bureau régional de dépouillement est établi.

Les membres du bureau régional de dépouillement sont désignés parmi les membres du personnel des postes consulaires de carrière où les votes seront comptabilisés et parmi les personnes chargées de la transmission des bulletins de vote selon les dispositions du § 5.

§ 5. Le bureau régional de dépouillement procède au dépouillement au plus tard le samedi qui précède le jour fixé pour l'élection sur le territoire du Royaume.

Dès la fermeture des bureaux de vote constitués dans les postes consulaires de carrière, les bulletins sont transmis par la personne désignée à cette fin par le président du bureau, au bureau régional de dépouillement.

Les bulletins sont conservés sous enveloppe fermée jusqu'au début des opérations de dépouillement.

Les bulletins de vote doivent parvenir au bureau régional de dépouillement au plus tard le vendredi qui précède le jour fixé pour l'élection sur le territoire du Royaume.

Les bulletins qui parviennent au bureau régional de dépouillement au-delà du délai prévu à l'alinéa 4 ne sont pas pris en compte et sont détruits par le président du bureau régional de dépouillement.

§ 6. Le bureau régional de dépouillement établit, pour chacune des circonscriptions, un tableau indiquant les résultats du recensement des suffrages dans l'ordre et d'après les indications d'un tableau modèle à dresser par le président du bureau principal de circonscription.

Les résultats du dépouillement des votes des Belges résidant à l'étranger sont transmis par voie électronique par le président du bureau régional de dépouillement, au président du bureau principal de circonscription. Le président du bureau régional de dépouillement prend toutes les mesures nécessaires afin que ces résultats parviennent au président du bureau principal de circonscription en temps utile.

Les résultats du dépouillement des votes des Belges résidant à l'étranger et ayant voté dans un poste consulaire de carrière sont intégrés à l'ensemble des suffrages émis dans la circonscription.

§ 7. Les dispositions de l'article 104 sont applicables aux bureaux de votes établis dans les postes consulaires de carrière et au bureau régional de dépouillement visés aux paragraphes 3 et 4 du présent article.

Section 4. – Le vote par procuration dans les postes consulaires de carrière.

Article 180sexies

§ 1er. Au moyen de la procuration dont le modèle est fixé par le Roi, le Belge résidant à l'étranger qui aura choisi de voter par procuration dans le poste consulaire de carrière dans lequel il est inscrit, désigne un mandataire parmi les électeurs inscrits dans ce même poste.

Si le mandataire désigné décède, est rayé des registres consulaires de la population, perd son droit de vote ou a déjà été désigné comme mandataire par un autre électeur belge de l'étranger, il en est fait communication au Belge résidant à l'étranger dans les plus brefs délais.

§ 2. Chaque mandataire ne peut disposer que d'une seule procuration.

§ 3. La procuration, signée par le mandant, mentionne les nom, prénoms, date de naissance et adresse du mandant et du mandataire. Cette procuration doit parvenir au poste consulaire de carrière au moins vingt jours avant les élections.

§ 4. Lorsqu'il convoque au scrutin le mandataire désigné par l'électeur belge résidant à l'étranger, le poste consulaire de carrière sur la liste consulaire des électeurs duquel celui-ci est inscrit annexe à la convocation un extrait de la procuration qui l'habilite à voter en son nom.

§ 5. Pour être reçu à voter au nom de son mandant, le mandataire remet au président du bureau de vote du poste consulaire de carrière la procuration et lui présente son propre document d'identité et sa propre convocation au scrutin sur laquelle le président mentionne " a voté par procuration ".

§ 6. Le dépouillement et la répartition de ces votes se déroulent suivant la procédure prévue à l'article 180quinquies , §§ 4 à 6.

Section 5. - Le vote par correspondance.

Article 180septies

§ 1er. Au plus tard le vingt-quatrième jour qui précède celui du scrutin, dans les cas visés à l'article 105, ou au plus tard le douzième jour qui précède celui du scrutin dans les cas visés à l'article 106, le président du bureau principal de la circonscription électorale adresse aux électeurs belges résidant à l'étranger et ayant choisi de voter par correspondance, via le Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères, une enveloppe électorale comprenant :

1° une enveloppe de renvoi A libellée à l'adresse du président du bureau principal de circonscription dont le Belge résidant à l'étranger relève;

2° une enveloppe neutre B contenant un bulletin de vote de la circonscription électorale de rattachement dûment estampillé au verso au moyen d'un timbre portant la date de l'élection ainsi que la mention "vote des Belges à l'étranger";

3° un formulaire que l'électeur est invité à signer après l'avoir complété par l'indication de ses nom, prénoms, date de naissance et adresse complète;

4° des instructions pour l'électeur établies par le Roi.

Pour la préparation des enveloppes électorales visées à l'alinéa 1er, les bureaux principaux de circonscription électorale se fondent sur les listes d'électeurs qui leur ont été communiquées par [2 le Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères en application de l'article 180bis, § 5.

Le modèle des enveloppes et du formulaire visés à l'alinéa 1er est fixé par le Roi.

§ 2. Le Belge résidant à l'étranger émet son vote sur le bulletin glissé dans l'enveloppe neutre B visée au § 1er, alinéa 4, 2°. Après avoir replacé le bulletin dûment replié dans cette enveloppe, il ferme celle-ci.

Dans l'enveloppe de renvoi A que l'électeur belge résidant à l'étranger fait parvenir aux bureaux principaux de circonscription électorale, il glisse, d'une part, l'enveloppe neutre B contenant le bulletin de vote et d'autre part, le formulaire visé au § 1er, alinéa 4, 3°, dûment complété.

§ 3. Les enveloppes de renvoi qui parviennent aux bureaux visés au § 2, alinéa 2, après la fermeture des bureaux de vote établis en Belgique ne sont pas pris en compte et sont détruits par le président du bureau principal de circonscription électorale.

§ 4. Le président du bureau principal de circonscription ouvre ces enveloppes au fur et à mesure qu'il les reçoit. Les noms des électeurs sont pointés sur les listes des électeurs qui leur ont été transmises par le Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères, après vérification de la concordance des énonciations de ces listes avec les mentions du formulaire visé au § 1er, alinéa 4, 3°.

Les enveloppes neutres B contenant les bulletins de vote sont conservées dûment fermées jusqu'au début des opérations de dépouillement.

§ 5. Le jour de l'élection, à la fermeture des bureaux de vote, le président du bureaux principal de circonscription électorale fait procéder au dépouillement des bulletins provenant des Belges résidant à l'étranger en répartissant ces bulletins entre des bureaux de dépouillement constitués spécifiquement, au sein du canton dont fait partie la commune chef-lieu de la circonscription électorale, pour dépouiller ceux-ci.

Si le vote dans le canton visé à l'alinéa 1er se déroule de manière entièrement électronique, le président du bureau principal de circonscription électorale répartit les bulletins provenant des Belges résidant à l'étranger entre des bureaux de dépouillement constitués spécifiquement, au sein d'un autre canton de cette circonscription électorale, pour dépouiller ceux-ci.

Les bulletins de vote des électeurs belges résidant à l'étranger du canton électoral de Rhode-Saint-Genèse pour l'élection de la Chambre des représentants sont dépouillés par le bureau de dépouillement désigné par le président du bureau principal de canton de Rhode-Saint-Genèse.

Si le vote dans la circonscription se déroule de manière entièrement électronique, le président du bureau principal de circonscription électorale constitue un ou plusieurs bureaux de dépouillement manuels, conformément au prescrit des articles du présent Code.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE**a) Constitution****I.2.***Democratic Principles*

Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be a democratic state, which shall operate under the rule of law and with free and democratic elections.

IV.2.a.*Parliamentary Assembly, House of Representatives*

Members of the House of Representatives shall be directly elected from their Entity in accordance with an election law to be adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly. [...]

b) Election Law**Article 1**

This law shall regulate the election of the members and the delegates of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of the members of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina and shall stipulate the principles governing the elections at all levels of authority in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Article 1.1 a

[...] 15) "Refugee" shall mean a national of Bosnia and Herzegovina who has the voting rights and has taken up his/her residence abroad, having the status as refugee from BiH. [...]

Article 1.5

(1) All BiH citizens who have the right to vote, pursuant to this Law, shall have the right to vote in person in the municipality of their permanent residence.

(2) A BiH citizen, who is temporarily residing abroad and has the right to vote, shall be entitled to vote in person (by appearing at an appropriate polling station in BiH or at a diplomatic and consular representation office of BiH abroad) or by mail (sending the ballot by mail) for the municipality where the person had the permanent place of residence prior to his or her departure abroad, provided that he or she is registered as a permanent resident in that municipality at the moment of submitting his or her application for out-of-country vote.

(3) The Central Election Commission of BiH shall issue a separate regulation, in accordance with this Law, in order to regulate the complete procedure of voting at the diplomatic and consular representation offices of BiH (the voting application procedure and deadlines, the appointment of polling station committees, determining the number and arrangement of polling stations and the procedure of conducting the elections).

(4) The Central Election Commission of BiH shall determine the number and arrangement of polling stations in the diplomatic and consular representation offices of BiH according to the criteria referred to in Article 5.2 of this Law.

(5) The Central Election Commission of BiH shall appoint the polling station committees for voting in the diplomatic and consular representation offices of BiH by ensuring the representation of members from among each constituent people in each polling station committee.

(6) A citizen of BiH, who has dual citizenship in line with Article I 7D of the BiH Constitution, shall have the right to vote only if Bosnia and Herzegovina is the country of his/her permanent place of residence.

Article 3.2

- (1) The Central Voters Register shall be unique, permanent and shall be updated on a regular basis.
- (2) Excerpts from the Central Voters Register shall be published twice a year in a non-election year for the purpose of their updating. The competent authorities shall be required to submit data about displaced persons in the election year no later than March 31.
- (3) The following citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the permanent residence registered in BiH shall be recorded in the Central Voter Register ex officio:
- a) those of age 18 or older;
 - b) those who will become 18 years of age on the Election Day;
 - c) those who have the right to vote in accordance with this Law, but are temporarily residing abroad; and
 - d) those having the right to vote as provided by Article 20.8, paragraph (6) of this Law. [...]

Article 3.6

- (1) The Central Election Commission of BiH is responsible for accuracy, correctness and general integrity of the Central Voters' Register. [...]
- (4) The excerpts from the Central Voters Register for the voters referred to in paragraph (2), subparagraph c) of this Article shall be drawn up on the basis of:
- a) data compiled and delivered to the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina by the diplomatic and consular missions of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
 - b) data delivered by the voters who vote outside Bosnia and Herzegovina; [...].

Article 3.9

- (1) A citizen of BiH who has the right to vote shall be recorded in the Central Voters Register for the basic constituency where he is registered as a permanent resident in BiH, unless otherwise specified by this Law.
- (2) A citizen of BiH who has the right to vote under this Law and who is temporarily residing abroad shall be recorded in the Central Voters Register for the basic constituency in which he was registered as a permanent resident in BiH before the departure abroad.
- (3) A citizen of BiH who has the right to vote under this Law and who has the status of a refugee from BiH shall be recorded in the Central Voters Register for the basic constituency where he used to have permanent residence in accordance with the provisions of Article 20.8 of this Law. [...]

Article 3.15

- (1) A BiH citizen who has the right to vote under this Law and is temporarily residing abroad and is recorded in the Central Voters' Register, in order to be included in the excerpt from the Central Voters' Register for out-of-country voting, shall be required to file an electronic application with the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina for every elections. The application shall contain, inter alia, information containing the accurate details about the temporary residence address abroad.
- (2) The applicant shall attach the following proofs to the electronic application referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article:
- a) a proof of the applicant's identity as prescribed by this Law;
 - b) a proof issued by the competent authority of the country of temporary residence indicating the accurate address of the applicant's temporary residence taken in the respective country.
- (3) Once he/she has filed the electronic application specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article, the applicant shall be required to sign a hard copy of the electronic application by affixing a signature that is identical to the one affixed in the identification document that is attached to the

application and shall deliver it to the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the period and in the manner determined by an implementing regulation of the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(4) In order to be included in the excerpt from the Central Voters' Register for out-of-country voting, the BiH citizen who has the status of a refugee from BiH, has the right to vote under this Law and is recorded in the Central Voters Register, shall be required to file an electronic application with the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina for every elections.

(5) The applicant shall attach the following proofs to the electronic application referred to in paragraph (4) of this Article:

1. a proof of the applicant's identity,
2. in the event that the voting option under which the voter is registered in the Central Voters Register in line with Article 20.8 of this Law has been changed, the applicant shall also submit a proof confirming the change in the place of permanent residence in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
3. a proof with the accurate details indicating the address of temporary residence taken abroad.

(6) Once he/she has filed the electronic application specified in paragraphs (4) and (5) of this Article, the applicant shall be required to sign a hard copy of the electronic application by affixing a signature that is identical to the one affixed in the identification document that is attached to the application and shall deliver it to the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina within the period and in the manner determined by an implementing regulation of the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(7) A refugee from BiH who is not recorded in the Central Voters' Register shall be required to file an electronic application with the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to be recorded in the Central Voters Register for the purpose of out-of-country voting.

(8) The applicant shall attach the following proofs to the electronic application referred to in paragraph (7) of this Article:

- a proof of the applicant's identity,
- a proof of BiH citizenship,
- a proof of the permanent residence taken in BiH, in accordance with Article 20.8 of this Law; and
- a proof with the accurate details indicating the address of temporary residence taken abroad.

(9) For the purpose of sub-paragraph, a) of paragraph (8) of this Article, the following documents shall be admissible as a valid proof of the applicant's identity:

- a) Passport
- b) Valid personal identity card issued by the host country; and
- c) Refugee card issued by the Government of the host country or another international organization.

(10) The applicant may send the completed and signed application and the required documents by e-mail, by postal mail or deliver them in person. The procedure and method of sending, receiving, processing, filing (archiving) and protection of electronic applications and documents shall be defined by the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina under a special regulation.

(11) In the event that he/she has met the requirements referred to in this article, the applicant shall be recorded in the excerpt from the Central Voters Register for voting outside Bosnia and Herzegovina, by-postal mail or at the diplomatic and consular missions of BiH abroad.

(12) The applicant referred to in paragraphs (1), (4) and (7) of this Article shall be held responsible for the accuracy of the data presented in the application and authenticity of the proofs attached to the application.

(13) The Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall prescribe the format and layout of the application form referred to in paragraphs (1), (4) and (7) of this Article, the manner and procedure used to verify the accuracy of data presented in the application and the authenticity of the proofs attached to the application.

(14) The Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall issue the appropriate instructions regarding the procedure of registration of voters in the excerpt from the Central Voters register for voting outside Bosnia and Herzegovina, by postal mail or at the diplomatic-consular missions.

(15) Registration of nationals of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Central Voters Register shall be a continuous process.

Article 3.16

(1) A BiH citizen referred to in Article 3.15, paragraphs (1), (4) and (7) of this Law shall be required to provide all changes affecting the data that he/she has previously delivered to the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina and based on which he/she is recorded in the excerpt from the Central Voters Register to vote outside of BiH by postal mail or at a diplomatic and consular mission abroad. The changes in the data must be provided no later than the deadline established for the submission of applications for out-of-country voting in the next elections.

(2) In the event that the BiH citizen referred to in paragraph (1) of Article 3.15 of this Law has failed to file an application before the deadline established for out-of-country voting by postal mail or at the diplomatic and consular missions abroad in the next election, he/she shall be recorded in the excerpt from the Central Voters Register for voting in the appropriate Polling Station in the basic constituency of his/her permanent residence.

(3) In the event that the BiH citizen referred to in paragraph (2) of Article 3.15 of this Law has failed to submit the proof of his permanent residence in BiH in accordance with Article 20.8 of this Law, he/she shall be recorded in the excerpt from the Central Voters Register for voting outside Bosnia and Herzegovina by postal mail or at the diplomatic and consular mission abroad, with the right to vote for the basic constituency of his/her permanent residence.

(4) In the event that the BiH citizen who is recorded in the excerpt from the Central Voters Register for out-of-country voting has returned to BiH before the deadline established for the submission of applications for out-of-country voting in the next elections, he/she shall be allowed to exercise the right to vote by voting with a tendered/enveloped ballot.

(5) The Voters Register Centre shall deliver to the Central Election Commission all information about the BiH nationals referred to in paragraph (4) of this Article through the Municipal Election Commission for the purpose of recording the changes made in the excerpt from the Central Voters Register for out-of-country voting by postal mail and at the diplomatic-consular missions.

(6) In the event that the BiH citizen who is recorded in the excerpt of the Central Voters Register for out-of-country voting by postal mail or at the diplomatic consular missions abroad has returned to BiH after the expiry of the deadline established for the submission of applications for out-of-country voting in the next elections, he/she shall be allowed to vote with the tender-ballot/enveloped ballot in the Polling Station in the basic constituency where he/she is entitled to vote.

Article 5.21

(1) A BiH citizen, who has the right to vote and is abroad, shall have the right to vote by mail. The Central Election Commission of BiH shall regulate the manner and procedure of voting by citizens by mail.

(2) The Central Election Commission of BiH shall establish Regulations for voting by citizens of BiH, who have the right to vote and are homebound due to old age, illness or disability, or are prisoners or confined to institutions.

Article 20.8

[...] (8) Until otherwise decided by the High Representative or the Parliamentary of BiH pursuant to paragraph seven of this article, a citizen of BiH who is a refugee and who has the right to vote shall have the right to register and to vote in person or by mail for the municipality in which the

person had his or her permanent place of residence according to the last Census conducted by the State of BiH, except in the case where the person can provide proof of a change of his or her permanent residence in accordance with the law, in the period from the last Census conducted by the State of BiH until that person acquired refugee status.

(9) A citizen of BiH who has refugee status and has the right to vote under this article, shall be registered in the excerpt from the Central Voters' Register for the municipality where he or she had a permanent place of residence according to the last Census conducted by the State of BiH, except in the case where he or she can provide proof of a change of his or her permanent residence in accordance with the law, in the period from the last Census conducted by the State of BiH until that person acquired refugee status.

(10) The special rights to register in the excerpt from the Central Voters' Register and to vote provided to displaced persons and refugees in this article shall expire on a day determined by the High Representative. If the High Representative does not so decide before his or her mandate terminates, then the special rights to displaced and refugee voters shall continue until so decided by the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH. [...]

Article 20.12a

Voting in the diplomatic and consular representation offices of BiH referred to in Article 1.5 paragraph (2) of this Law, shall be held only in the respective diplomatic and consular representation office of BiH for which the Central Election Commission of BiH, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH finds that it meets the requirements provided by a separate regulation referred to in Article 1.5, paragraph (3) of this Law.

BRAZIL / BRESIL**a) Constitution****Article 14**

The sovereignty of the people shall be exercised by universal suffrage and by direct and secret voting, with equal value for all and according to the law, by means of:

I – plebiscite;

II – *referendum*;

III – popular initiative.

Paragraph 1. Electoral enrolment and voting are:

I – mandatory for people over eighteen years of age;

II – optional for:

a) the illiterate;

b) those over seventy years of age;

c) those over sixteen and under eighteen years of age.

Paragraph 2. Foreigners, and conscripts during their period [...]

b) Electoral Code**Article 225**

Voters who are abroad may vote in elections for President and Vice-President of the Republic.

§ 1 For this purpose, polling stations shall be organised at the headquarters of embassies and consulates-general.

§ 2 If it is necessary to set up two or more polling stations, premises where Brazilian government services are provided may be used.

Article 226

In order to organise a polling station abroad, there must be a minimum of thirty (30) registered voters in the district under the jurisdiction of the Diplomatic Mission or Consulate General.

Sole paragraph. When the number of voters does not reach the minimum provided for in the previous paragraph, voters may vote at the nearest polling station, provided that it is located in the same country, in accordance with the communication made to them.

Ac.-TSE, of 5 August 2014, in PA No. 59165: possibility of authorising the operation of a polling station abroad, despite not having reached the minimum number of voters.

Article 227

Polling stations shall be organised by the Regional Court of the Federal District upon proposal by the heads of mission and consuls-general, who shall be vested, where applicable, with the administrative functions of electoral judges.

Sole paragraph. The process of party composition and supervision in force for those operating in the national territory shall apply to polling stations.

Article 228

Up to thirty (30) days before the election, all Brazilian voters residing abroad shall notify the headquarters of the Diplomatic Mission or Consulate General, by letter, telegram or any other means, of their status as voters and their residence.

§ 1 Based on these communications and the consular registry data, the voting sheets shall be organised, and voters shall be notified of the time and place of voting.

§ 2 On election day, only those listed on the voting sheet and passengers and crew members of warships and merchant ships who are at the polling stations on that day shall be allowed to vote.

Article 229

Once voting has ended, the ballot boxes shall be sent by the consuls-general to the headquarters of the diplomatic missions. These shall send them, by diplomatic pouch, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which shall deliver them to the Regional Electoral Court of the Federal District, which shall be responsible for counting the votes and ruling on any doubts and appeals that may have been lodged.

Sole paragraph. All transportation of electoral material shall be done by air.

Article 230

All voters who vote abroad shall have their voter registration cards seized by the receiving table.

Sole paragraph. All voters who vote abroad shall be given a receipt for legal communication to the electoral judge of their zone.

Article 231

Anyone who is required to vote but fails to do so shall be subject, in addition to the penalties provided for voters who do not vote in the national territory, to a prohibition on requesting any document from the diplomatic office to which they are subordinate, until they provide a *justification*.

See Art. 7 of this code.

Law No. 6,091/1974, Art. 16, § 2, and Res.-TSE No. 23659/2021, Art. 126, I, *b*: 30-day period for *justification*, counted from the voter's entry into the country.

Article 232

The entire electoral process carried out abroad is directly subordinate to the Regional Court of the Federal District.

See art. 3, §§ 3 to 6, of Res.-TSE No. 23422/2014: overseas electoral zone.

Ac.-TSE, of 27 May 2014, in Cta No. 11794: voting abroad is only permitted for Brazilians residing abroad who register with the Overseas Electoral Zone (Zone ZZ), under the jurisdiction of the TRE/DF.

Article 233

The Superior Electoral Court and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall issue the necessary instructions and adopt the appropriate measures for voting abroad.

Res.-TSE No. 20573/2000: procedures to be adopted by diplomatic missions and consular offices in situations of interest to the Electoral Justice.

Ac.-STF, of 30/9/2010, in ADI No. 4467: preliminary injunction granted to recognise, through interpretation in accordance with the CF/1988, that only the absence of an official identity document with a photograph will prevent the exercise of the right to vote.

Ac.-TSE, dated 2 September 2010, in PA No. 245835: appropriateness of using a passport on election day for voter identification purposes.

Article 233-A

Voters travelling within the national territory are guaranteed the right to vote for the President of the Republic, governor, senator, federal deputy, state deputy and district deputy at polling stations specially set up in capitals and municipalities with more than one hundred thousand voters.

Caput as amended by Art. 4 of Law No. 13,165/2015.

§ 1 The exercise of the right provided for in this article is subject to compliance with the following rules:

I – to vote while travelling, voters must register with the Electoral Court within forty-five days of the date set for the election, indicating the location where they intend to vote;

II – voters who are outside the Federation unit of their electoral domicile are only guaranteed the right to register to vote while travelling in elections for President of the Republic;

III – voters who are travelling within the Federation unit of their electoral domicile may vote in elections for President of the Republic, governor, senator, federal deputy, state deputy, and district deputy.

§ 2 Members of the Armed Forces, members of the public security agencies referred to in Article 144 of the Federal Constitution, as well as members of the municipal guards mentioned in § 8 of the same Article 144, may vote in transit if they are on duty at the time of the elections.

§ 3 The heads or commanders of the agencies to which the voters mentioned in § 2 are subordinate shall be required to send to the Electoral Court, within forty-five days of the date of the elections, a list of those who will be on duty on election day, indicating their original and destination polling stations.

§ 4 The voters mentioned in § 2, once qualified in accordance with § 3, shall be registered and shall vote in the polling stations indicated in the lists mentioned in § 3, regardless of the number of voters in the municipality.

Paragraphs 1 to 4 added by Article 4 of Law No. 13,165/2015.

BULGARIA / BULGARIE**a) Constitution****Article 10**

All elections, and national and local referendums shall be held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Article 42

(1) Every citizen above the age of 18, with the exception of those placed under judicial interdiction or serving a prison sentence, shall be free to elect state and local authorities and vote in referendums.

(2) The organization and procedure for the holding of elections and referendums shall be established by law.

(3) The elections for Members of the European Parliament and the participation of European Union citizens in the elections for local authorities shall be regulated by law.

b) Election Code**Chapter two.****Electoral Regions and Polling Stations**

[...]

Section III**Polling Stations Abroad**

Determining the Conditions and Procedure for Formation of Stations (Title amend. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016)

Article 11

(1) The Central Electoral Commission shall determine the conditions and procedure for formation of the polling stations abroad, including the conditions, procedure and organization for voting of Bulgarian citizens abroad, not later than 57 days before the election day.

(2) (New – State Gazette No. 39 of 2016, effective as of May 26, 2016, amended, No. 104 of 2022, No. 23 of 2026, effective as of February 27, 2026) The establishment of polling stations outside the territory of the diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Bulgaria is not permitted, except in the cases under Article 14, paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and 5.

(3) (Prev. text of Para. 2 - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) The Central Electoral Commission shall immediately submit the decision under Para. 1 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Determining the Voting Locations

Article 12

(Amend. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) The Central Electoral Commission, not later than 21 days before the election day shall determine the places in the states, in which polling stations will be formed outside the country and the number of the polling stations in each place. The decision of the Central Electoral Commission may be appealed under Art. 58.

Competent Body for Formation of the Stations

Article 13

(1) In elections for Members of Parliament, for President and Vice President of the Republic and for Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria, the heads of the diplomatic

and consulate representations of the Republic of Bulgaria shall form polling stations outside the country while observing the legislation of the relevant state.

(2) (Revoked - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016; new, SG 57/16, in force from 22.07.2016) Heads of diplomatic and consular representative offices shall determine the location of the polling stations outside the country based on the territorial distribution of Bulgarian community in the respective place.

(3) (Revoked - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016; new, SG 57/16, in force from 22.07.2016) Organizations of Bulgarian citizens in the respective place can make a proposal for the location of polling stations outside the country to the heads of diplomatic and consular representative offices. The proposal shall be made within 25 days before the elections day at the latest and shall be published without any delay on the Internet page of the respective diplomatic and consular representative offices.

(4) (Revoked - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016; new, SG 57/16, in force from 22.07.2016). The heads of diplomatic and consular representative offices can determine the location of polling stations outside the county based on the proposals under Para. 3.

(5) The polling stations shall be established by order of the heads of diplomatic missions and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria not later than 18 days in advance of Election Day on the basis of the decision of the Central Electoral Commission under Art. 12. The order shall state the location of polling stations locally.

(6) The order as referred to in Para. (5) herein shall be made public and shall be appealable within a 3-day term as of its announcement before the Central Electoral Commission, which shall, within a 3-day term, pronounce by a decision, which shall be made public. The decision of the Central Electoral Commission shall be appealable according to the terms as referred to in Art. 58 herein.

Formation of Polling Stations Abroad

Article 14

(Amended – SG, No. 39 of 2016, effective as of May 26, 2016, No. 57 of 2016, effective July 22, 2016, supplemented, No. 85 of 2016, effective October 28, 2016, amended, No. 36 of 2021, effective on May 1, 2021, No. 23 of 2026, effective as of February 27, 2026)

(1) Polling stations outside the country shall be established at a diplomatic or consular mission, except in the cases under paragraphs 2 and 3.

(2) In locations within the Member States of the European Union:

- a. outside a diplomatic or consular mission, polling stations shall be established where there are at least 40 voters who have submitted an application under Article 16, paragraph 1;
- b. in which, in elections held up to 5 years prior to election day, at least one polling station was established where no fewer than 100 voters cast their ballots; the list of locations shall be announced by the Central Election Commission no later than 50 days prior to election day.

(3) By decision of the Central Election Commission, at the discretion of the heads of diplomatic and consular missions in locations in countries that are not members of the European Union, outside of a diplomatic or consular mission, polling stations shall be established based on no fewer than 40 voters who have submitted an application under Article 16, paragraph 1. The heads of the diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Bulgaria, based on the territorial distribution of the Bulgarian community, the distance between polling stations, and the requirement of paragraph 5, shall submit a reasoned proposal to the Central Election Commission no later than 22 days before election day.

(4) Paragraph 3 shall not apply to elections for members of the European Parliament from the Republic of Bulgaria.

(5) In countries that are not members of the European Union, up to 20 polling stations shall be established outside the diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Bulgaria in the respective country

*Formation of New Polling Stations***Article 15**

Where the number of the voters under Art. 14 herein exceeds 500, as many polling stations shall be formed, as the times the number 500 is contained in the number of voters. If there is a remainder an additional polling station may be formed.

*Procedure for Submitting Applications for formation of Polling Stations Abroad***Article 16**

(1) A Bulgarian citizen, who has the right to vote in elections for Members of Parliament for Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria and for President and Vice President and wishes to vote, shall declare this not later than 25 days before the election day by a written application according to a form, signed in person and delivered in person or submitted by post by a letter to the diplomatic mission or consular representation of the Republic of Bulgaria in the relevant state, or by electronic application via the website of the Central Electoral Commission. One letter may contain more than one application, and each application may contain the name of one person only.

(2) (Amend. and suppl. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) In the application as referred to in Para. (1) herein, the voter shall write in Bulgarian his names according to his passport, military identity card or identity card, his Uniform Civil Number and his permanent address in the Republic of Bulgaria. The voter shall write in both in Cyrillic and Latin script the location abroad, where he expresses the desire to vote, and current address (residence address) in the respective country. The voter may specify an e-mail address in his application, which will be used to notify him of the result of the check under Art. 17, Para. 3 herein.

(3) Upon conduct of elections of Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria, the voter shall present a declaration according to a form that he meets the requirements to vote.

(4) (New - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) The applications shall be filed in order to determine the number of the polling stations and to draw up the list referred to in Art. 31, Para 1.

*Publication of Applications and Data Check***Article 17**

(1) The heads of the diplomatic mission or consular representation of the Republic of Bulgaria shall transmit without delay to the Central Electoral Commission the applications received under Art. 16, Para. 1 herein by electronic means.

(2) (Amend. SG 17/19) The applications received shall be published without delay at the website of the Central Electoral Commission, subject to the requirements for the protection of personal data.

(3) (Amend. and suppl. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) The Central Electoral Commission shall check out the data under Art. 16, Para. 2 herein, not later than 22 days in advance of election day. The check of the electronic applications received shall be made in an automated manner simultaneously with the submission thereof. The data in the applications received in writing via the diplomatic missions and consular representations shall be checked upon their entering according to the procedure of Para. (1) herein. A voter, whose application has not been confirmed, but who has indicated an electronic address shall be notified immediately. The names of the persons whose application were not approved shall be immediately published on the website of the Central Electoral Commission.

(4) The Central Electoral Commission shall check whether the persons under Art. 16, Para. 1 herein, meet the requirements to vote not later than 22 days in advance of election day.

(5) (Amend. SG 98/14, in force from 28.11.2014) For the purposes of the check as referred to in Para. 3 and 4, the Directorate General of Registration and Administrative Services at the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works shall provide to the Central Electoral Commission access to the data in the National Population Register. On the basis of the results of the check,

the Central Electoral Commission shall transmit without delay to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the information under Art. 16, Para. 2 herein, solely on the persons who have the right to vote and solely on the locations where polling stations are formed.

(6) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall, not later than 20 days in advance of election day, summarise the data by States and transmit it without delay to the heads of the respective diplomatic missions and consular representations to form polling stations and to inscribe the persons in the lists referred to in Art. 31, Para. 1 herein.

Chapter three.

Organization and Technical Preparation of the Elections

[...]

Section II.

Preparation and Organization of the Elections Abroad

Publication of the Terms and Procedure for Conducting the Elections Abroad

Article 20

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and the heads of the diplomatic missions and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria shall publish without delay on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the diplomatic missions and consular representations the conditions and procedure for formation of the polling stations abroad, including the conditions, procedure and organization for voting of the Bulgarian citizens abroad.

Consent of the Receiving State

Article 21

(1) The heads of diplomatic missions and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria shall without delay, but not later than 55 days in advance of Election Day, request the consent of the receiving state if needed - for:

- a) the conduct of Elections;
- b) opening polling stations in the diplomatic missions and consular representations;
- c) opening polling stations at places other than the diplomatic missions and consular representations;
- d) opening polling stations in a state, where the Republic of Bulgaria has no diplomatic mission or consular representation, but has diplomatic relations and has appointed an accredited Ambassador.

(2) The heads of diplomatic missions and consular representations shall notify without delay the Ministry of Foreign Affairs about the responses received from the receiving State. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall without delay notify the Central Electoral Commission.

(3) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall notify the Central Electoral Commission about the states in which no consent is required under Para. 1.

Refusal of Assistance

Article 22

(1) The heads of diplomatic missions and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria shall render organization and technical assistance of the candidates and the representatives of the political parties, the coalitions of political parties and the initiative committees which have registered candidates upon the holding of meetings with the voters.

(2) (Amend. - SG 104/22) The heads of diplomatic missions and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria shall call for assistance to organisations of Bulgarian citizens abroad. The organisations may assist the activity on the preparation and organisation of elections abroad, provide contacts with the local administration, an appropriate hall for conduct of elections, ballot boxes, privacy screens, scanner, mobile internet and other equipment.

Chapter four.**Lists**

[...]

Section III.**Lists for Voting Abroad (Title amended - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016)***Compiling the Lists***Article 31**

(1) (Amend. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) Upon conduct of elections of Members of Parliament, of President and Vice President of the Republic and of Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria the heads of diplomatic missions and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria shall prepare and sign lists where the persons as referred to in Art. 17, Para. 5, shall be entered according to the relevant States and locations.

(2) (Amend. " SG 98/14, in force from 28.11.2014) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall transmit the summarised data from all States with the names, the Uniform Civil Number and the permanent address in the Republic of Bulgaria of the persons entered on the lists as referred to in Para. (1) herein, in a structured electronic fashion to the Directorate General of Civil Registration and Administrative Services at the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works not later than 18 days in advance of election day, the said persons would be deleted from the electoral lists in the Republic of Bulgaria.

*Publishing the Lists***Article 32**

The rolls under Art. 31, Para. 1 shall be published by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and by the heads of diplomatic missions and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria not later than 18 days in advance of election day and, respectively, on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the diplomatic mission and consular representations and shall state the names of the voter and the number and address of the polling station. The heads of diplomatic missions and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria shall ensure to each voter an option to search the list by Uniform Civil Number, including by means of a free of charge phone number. Any applications received additionally and any intervening changes in the lists shall be published without delay.

*Disputes and Additional Entry***Article 33.**

(1) Any persons, who have not been entered on a roll under Article 31 (1) herein, may dispute the non-entry thereof within three days after the publishing of the roll before the Central Election Commission, which shall pronounce within three days by a decision, which shall be appealable before the Supreme Administrative Court according to the procedure established by Article 58 herein.

(2) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 39/2016, effective 26.05.2016) Any voter, who has not been entered on the roll under Article 31 (1) herein but has the right to vote, shall be added to the roll by the section election commission upon presentation of an identity document and of a declaration completed in a standard form to the effect that he or she satisfies the conditions to elect.

Upon elections of President and Vice President of the Republic, of National Representatives and of Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria, the voter shall furthermore present a declaration completed in a standard form to the effect that he or she has not voted and will not vote elsewhere in the same elections. The said declaration shall be attached to the electoral roll and shall constitute an integral part thereof. All particulars of the voter according to the identity document thereof shall be entered on the roll.

(3) Any refusal by a section election commission abroad to admit to voting and to add a vote to the roll-on election day shall be disputed before the Central Electoral Commission by electronic means. The Central Electoral Commission shall pronounce without delay by decision, which shall be made public forthwith on the website of the Commission.

Powers of the Commission

Article. 57

(1) The Central Election Commission shall:

[...] 5. appoint the regional and Municipal election commissions and the section election commissions abroad and confirm lists of reserve members; appoint also the section election commissions in the country in the cases, where the regional or Municipal election commission has not appointed them in due time;

6. dismiss members of regional and Municipal election commissions and of section election commissions abroad in the cases of violations of this Code and of the decisions of the Central Election Commission, as well as upon occurrence of any circumstance covered under Art. 51, Para. 2; [...]

12a. (new - SG 36/21, in force from the date of official publication of the results of the 2021 census) registers and announces the candidate lists of the parties, coalitions and initiative committees abroad in the elections for Members of Parliament;

13. keep public registers of:

a) the political parties and coalitions of political parties in all types of elections;

b) the nomination committees in elections of President and Vice President of the Republic and of Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria;

c) the candidate lists for President and Vice President of the Republic and of Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria;

d) (new - SG 36/21, in force from the date of official publication of the results of the 2021 census) the initiative committees for participation in the elections for MPs abroad;

e) (new - SG 36/21, in force from the date of official publication of the results of the 2021 census) candidate lists for MPs outside the country of parties, coalitions and initiative committees; [...]

15. register until the election day the election agents of the candidate lists abroad and issue certificates thereto; keep a public register of the election agents by candidate lists;

16. determine the structure and the content of the uniform numbering of the polling stations;

17. determine the places where polling stations abroad will be established;

18. form and endorse the uniform numbers of the polling stations abroad; [...]

26. (amend. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) examine all complaints and signals for breaches in the election process in conformity with its powers, including against actions of constituency election commissions, Municipal election commissions and section election commissions abroad, pronounce on any such complaints and signals within 24 hours after receipt thereof; and, on election day, it shall pronounce within one hour after receipt of any such complaint or signal and by the end of the election day with decision;

26a. (new - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) consider any appeals against decisions of the regional and municipal election commission and the section election commissions abroad; in the elections day it shall issue decisions within an hour from receiving the appeal or signal and before the end of the elections day; [...]

Chapter five.
Election Commissions

[...]

Section V.

Section Election Commissions Abroad

Appointment

Article 101

Upon conduct of elections of MPs, for Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria and for President and Vice President of the Republic, the Central Election Commission shall appoint section election commissions for each polling station abroad not later than 12 days in advance of election day, except in the cases under Art. 104.

Composition

Article 107

(1) The section election commission abroad shall be composed of chairperson, deputy chairperson, secretary and members.

(2) The section election commission shall be represented by its chairperson, and in specific cases, by a deputy chairperson, secretary or a member as may be appointed by a decision of the Commission.

(3) The representatives of one party or coalition of political parties may not have majority in the section election commission. The chairperson, the deputy chairperson and the secretary may not be from the same party or coalition of political parties.

(4) The number of the members of the section election commission, including chairperson, deputy chairperson and secretary, shall be:

1. for polling stations with under 500 voters inclusive: up to seven members, but not fewer than five;
2. or polling stations with more than 500 voters: up to nine members, but not fewer than five.

(5) (Suppl. - SG 21/19, in force from 12.03.2019) Upon determining the composition and the heads of the section election commissions the ratio of the political parties represented in Parliament and coalitions of political parties shall be retained, but not less than one member of each party or coalition of parties represented in Parliament. The proportion shall be determined, after from the number of the members as referred to in Para. (4) herein the members have been excluded proposed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or by a Deputy Minister authorised by him under Art. 103.

Powers of the Commission

Article 108

(1) The section election commission abroad shall:

1. implement the activities and see to the application of this Code and the legal regulations thereto related at the polling site and in the area of the polling station;
2. assist to the arrangement of the polling site according to the requirements of this Code and with a view to ensuring access to voting for persons with sight or locomotor impairment;
3. provide free and undisturbed conduct of voting in the polling station;
4. count the votes cast in favour of the candidate lists upon all types of elections; count the preferences for the candidates of political parties and coalitions of political parties upon elections of Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria and issue an abstract of the tally sheet;
5. without delay, but not later than 24 hours local time on the election day, transmit to the Central Election Commission a scanned copy of the signed tally sheet under Art. 282 and of the list for voting abroad; [...]

Appeal
Article 109

The actions of the section election commissions abroad shall be appealable before the Central Election Commission. Any such appeal may be lodged with the Central Election Commission directly by electronic means or care of the head of the diplomatic mission or consular representation, who shall dispatch without delay the said complaint forthwith to the Central Election Commission. The Central Election Commission shall pronounce forthwith, within one hour after receipt of the appeal and before the closing of the polls. The decision shall be made public without delay and shall not be subject to appeal.

Chapter six.
Osbservers

Scope of Activity. Total Number of Observers
Article 111

- (1) The observers shall perform their activities as from registration thereof until the next elections of the same type are scheduled.
- (2) Upon conduct of elections of Municipal councillors and Mayors, the observers shall implement their activities as of their registration and through to the scheduling of the next general elections, with the registration of organisations and observers referred to in Art. 112 shall retain its force. The organisation may make changes to the list of registered observers.
- (3) The total number of observers registered by one non-governmental organisation may not exceed the number of polling stations in Bulgaria.
- (4) The total number of observers abroad registered by one non-governmental organisation upon elections of MPs, President and Vice President of the Republic and of Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria, may not exceed the number of polling stations abroad.

Taking Delivery of Electoral Papers and Materials
Article 217

(Suppl. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) The chairperson and the secretary of the section election commission abroad shall take delivery of the electoral papers and materials referred to under Art. 215, Para. 1, including the list for voting abroad under Art. 31, Para 1, from the Head of the Bulgarian diplomatic mission or consular representation or from an officer authorized thereby.

Beginning and End of Vote Casting
Article 220

- (1) (Amend. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) Voters shall cast their votes from 7:00 h to 20:00 h. Election day abroad shall start at 7:00 h local time and shall end at 20:00 h local time. In cases where at 20:00 h there are voters in front of the polling site, who have not cast their vote, the chairperson and the secretary of the precinct election commission shall establish their number and identity.
- (2) (Amend. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) Voters, who have not cast their vote shall submit their identity documents to the commission, and voters who are nationals of another European Union Member State shall also submit their certificate of residence. These are the only voters that shall be allowed to vote after 20:00 h, but not later than 21:00 h.

Delimitation of Constituencies
Article 249

(1) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 36/2021, effective as from the day of the official publication of the results of the census in 2021(*)) Thirty-two multi-member constituencies shall be established for the conduct of elections, of which three in the Administrative Region of Sofia City, two in the Administrative Region of Plovdiv, and one multi-member constituency abroad.² The rest of the constituencies shall be coextensive with the administrative regions within Bulgaria.

Chapter fifteen.

Election of Members of the National Assembly and of the Grand National Assembly

[...]

Section VI.

Ballot Paper

Content
Article 261

- (1) The ballot paper shall be combined and shall contain on its face:
1. the name and number of the constituency;
 2. the full and/or abbreviated name of the party or coalition as stated in the application for registration thereof, or the designation "Nomination Committee", with the abbreviation for a party being written as "ПП" [abbreviation for "political party" in Bulgarian], for a coalition of parties as "КП" [abbreviation for "coalition of parties" in Bulgarian];
 3. (supplemented, SG No. 21/2019, effective 12.03.2019) a square to be marked with an "X" or a "V", showing the choice of the voter, with the sequential number of the party, coalition or nomination committee being written inside the said square, which may not be greater than 100;
 4. (amended, SG No. 35/2014, effective 22.04.2014, supplemented, SG No. 21/2019, effective 12.03.2019) circles with sequential numbers written inside the said circles, whereof the number corresponds to the doubled number of seats in the respective constituency, to be marked with an "X" or a "V", showing the preference of the voter for a candidate on the candidate list of a party or coalition; the number written in each separate circle shall designate the sequential number by which the candidate has been registered on the candidate list of a party or coalition plus 100;
 5. (new, SG No. 39/2016, effective 26.05.2016) a square to be marked with an "X" or a "V", showing the choice of the voter, with "Не подкрепям никого [None Of The Above]" being written inside the said square. (...)
- (3) (Amend. - SG 39/16, in force from 26.05.2016) The name and number of the election region shall be written on the top line of the ballot paper. Details under Para. 1, p. 2, 3 and 5 shall be written sequentially from left to right on a single horizontal line for each political party, coalition or nomination committee. In the ballot papers for voting abroad, the name and number of the election region shall be replaced by the text "Ballot Paper for Voting Abroad". [...]

Drawing Lots for Ballot Paper. Number Determination
Article 262

(1) The sequential number in the ballot paper of the parties and coalitions shall be determined by the Central Election Commission by a lot drawn in the presence of representatives of the political parties and the coalitions of parties not later than 31 days before election day. The lot shall be drawn publicly, and the registered candidates and representatives of the mass media may also be present. The assigned sequential number shall be the same for the whole country and for the

² Pursuant to Final Provision § 56 of the Code, the multi-member constituency abroad will enter into force as of 1 January 2028.

vote abroad. The result of the drawing of the lots shall be publicly announced by decision of the Central Election Commission pursuant to Art. 57, Para. 2. [...]

Section VII.

Voting

Identification of Voters

Article 263

[...] (2) A voter who votes abroad shall establish his/her identity by producing a passport, identity card or military identity card according to Art. 13, Para. 1, p 1 and 2 of the Bulgarian Personal Documents Act. In case the validity of the ID document of the voter has expired, the voter shall be admitted to voting if he or she presents a certificate issued by the diplomatic mission or consular representation of the Republic of Bulgaria to the effect that the said person has submitted an application for the issuance of a new ID document.

Results of Voting Abroad

Article 286

(1) The chairperson of the section election commission abroad, or where the said chairperson is absent, the secretary, or where both the chairperson and the secretary are absent, a person designated by decision of the commission, shall forthwith dispatch the voting results to the Central Election Commission by means of a tally sheet cable and a scanned copy of the tally sheet of the precinct election commission and of the list for voting abroad.

(2) The election stationery and materials used for the voting abroad shall be dispatched by the section election commissions abroad to the accredited head of the Bulgarian diplomatic mission or consular representation or to a duly authorized representative. The election stationery and materials shall be sent by the first Diplomatic Bag, but not later than 14 days after the election day, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the delivery of the said stationery and materials to the Central Election Commission, where they shall be safe-kept until the next elections.

(3) The results of the voting on board navigation vessels flying the Bulgarian flag shall be communicated forthwith by radio to the shipping companies (tally sheet cables) and, care of the said companies, to the respective regional election commission. The said results must contain all numerical data as described in the tally sheet of the section election commission. Election stationery and materials shall be dispatched to the regional administration exercising jurisdiction over the location of the ship and shall be safe-kept until the next elections.

Allocation of seats

Article 297

(1) The total number of seats for each party and coalition shall be allocated by the Central Election Commission on the basis of the valid votes cast for the said party or coalition within Bulgaria and abroad according to the Hare-Niemeyer Method using a methodology described in Annex 1 hereto. [...]

Database

Article 301

[... (3) The scanned copies of the tally sheets showing the results of the voting abroad as received shall be entered and re-entered at the Central Election Commission. The votes received for the separate candidate lists shall be added to the votes received for the respective list within Bulgaria. [...]

Delimitation of Election Regions
Article 313

(1) For the purposes of conducting elections of President and Vice President of the Republic, the territory of Bulgaria, including the polling stations abroad, shall constitute one single-member election region.

(2) For the purposes of the administrative and logistical preparation for the elections, the territory of Bulgaria shall be divided into regions, which shall correspond to the election regions referred to in Art. 249 Para. 1, upon the last parliamentary elections.

Right to Elect
Article 350

(1) The right to elect Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria shall vest in the Bulgarian nationals who have attained the age of 18 years by polling day, have resided in the Republic of Bulgaria or in another Member State of the European Union at least during the last three months, are not interdicted and do not serve a custodial sentence. [...]

Determining the Election Regions
Article 356

(1) For the purposes of conducting elections of Members of the European Parliament for the Republic of Bulgaria, the territory of Bulgaria, including the voting sections abroad, shall constitute one single-member election region.

Delivery of Results of Voting Abroad
Article 380

The election stationery and materials from the voting on board navigation vessels flying the Bulgarian flag shall be sent immediately to the Central Election Commission and shall be safe-kept until the next elections.

CANADA

a) Constitution Act 1982

Part I

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Rights and Freedoms in Canada

1

1. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees the rights and freedoms set out in it subject only to such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

Democratic rights of citizens

3

Every citizen of Canada has the right to vote in an election of members of the House of Commons or of a legislative assembly and to be qualified for membership therein.

b) Canada Elections Act (S.C. 2000, c. 9)

Part 1 Electoral rights

[...]

8

[...] (2.1) The place of ordinary residence of a person who resides outside Canada is their last place of ordinary residence in Canada.

Part 11 Special Voting Rules

DIVISION 3 Electors Resident Outside Canada

Definitions

220

The definitions in this section apply in this Division.

elector means an elector who resides outside Canada. (*électeur*)

register means the register referred to in section 222. (*registre*)

Inclusion in register of electors resident outside Canada

221

An elector may vote under this Division if

(a) his or her application for registration and special ballot is received by the special voting rules administrator in the National Capital Region no later than 6:00 p.m. on the 6th day before polling day; and

(b) his or her name is entered on the register.

Register of electors

222

The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a register of electors in which is entered the surname, given names, gender, date of birth, civic address, mailing address and electoral district of each

elector who has filed an application for registration and special ballot in order to vote under this Division and who, at any time before making the application, resided in Canada.

Inclusion in register

223

(1) An application for registration and special ballot may be made by an elector. It shall be in the prescribed form and shall include

- (a) satisfactory proof of the elector's identity; [...]
- (c) the elector's date of birth; [...]
- (e) the address of the elector's place of ordinary residence; [...]
- (g) the elector's mailing address outside Canada; and
- (h) any other information that the Chief Electoral Officer considers necessary to determine the elector's entitlement to vote or the electoral district in which he or she may vote.

Optional information

(2) In addition to the information specified in subsection (1), the Chief Electoral Officer may request that the elector provide other information that the Chief Electoral Officer considers necessary for implementing agreements made under section 55, but the elector is not required to provide that information.

Prohibition — change of address

224

The address chosen as the place of ordinary residence in Canada in the application for registration and special ballot cannot be changed after the elector's name is entered in the register.

Information to be provided

225

The Chief Electoral Officer may require an elector whose name appears in the register to provide, within the time fixed by the Chief Electoral Officer, any information that is necessary to update the register.

Deletion of names from register

226

The Chief Electoral Officer shall delete from the register the name of an elector who

- (a) does not provide the information referred to in section 225 within the time fixed by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (b) makes a signed request to the Chief Electoral Officer to have his or her name deleted from the register;
- (c) has died and concerning whom a request has been received to have the elector's name deleted from the register, to which request is attached a death certificate or other documentary evidence of the death;
- (d) returns to Canada to reside; or
- (e) cannot be contacted. [...]

Special ballot

227

(1) After approving an application for registration and special ballot and after the issue of the writs, the Chief Electoral Officer shall provide a special ballot to every elector whose name is entered in the register.

Voting by special ballot

(2) An elector shall vote by special ballot by

- (a) writing the name of the candidate of his or her choice on the ballot;
- (b) placing the ballot in an inner envelope and sealing it;
- (c) signing the declaration prescribed by the Chief Electoral Officer; and
- (d) placing the inner envelope and the declaration — if it is not on the outer envelope — in the outer envelope and sealing it.

Writing candidate's name

(3) The candidate shall be indicated on a special ballot by writing the candidate's given name or initials and surname. If two or more candidates have the same name, their political affiliation shall be indicated.

Sending of outer envelope

228

An elector shall send the sealed outer envelope to the Chief Electoral Officer

- (a) by mail or any other means; or
- (b) by delivering it to a Canadian Embassy, Canadian High Commission or Canadian Consular Office, to a Canadian Forces base or to any place that the Chief Electoral Officer may designate.

Deadline for return of vote

229

The special ballot must be received by the special voting rules administrator in the National Capital Region no later than 6:00 p.m. on polling day in order to be counted.

Responsibilities of elector

230

For the purpose of this Division, an elector has the sole responsibility to ensure that

- (a) his or her application for registration and special ballot is made within the period specified; and
- (b) his or her special ballot is received within the period specified to be counted.

DIVISION 6 Counting of Votes at the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

Application

263

This Division applies to the counting of all special ballots cast in accordance with this Part, except those referred to in Division 7.

Administration

264

(1) The counting of the special ballots shall be conducted by special ballot officers under the supervision of the special voting rules administrator.

Special ballot officers

- (2) Special ballot officers shall work in pairs of persons representing different registered parties.

*Directives***265**

The Chief Electoral Officer shall prescribe security instructions for the safekeeping of special ballots, inner envelopes, outer envelopes and all other election documents, and instructions for the receiving, sorting and counting of special ballots.

*Counting of votes***266**

The counting of votes shall commence on a date to be fixed by the Chief Electoral Officer or, if no date is fixed, on Wednesday, the 5th day before polling day.

*Setting aside of inner envelope***267**

- (1) The special ballot officers shall set aside an inner envelope unopened if
- (a) the information concerning the elector, as set out in the declaration referred to in paragraph 227(2)(c) or subsection 257(1), does not correspond with the information on the application for registration and special ballot;
 - (b) a declaration referred to in paragraph (a) or in section 212 — other than one in respect of an elector who has voted with assistance under section 216, 243 or 259 — does not bear the elector's signature;
 - (c) the correct electoral district of the elector whose ballot is contained in the inner envelope cannot be ascertained;
 - (d) the outer envelope has been received by the special voting rules administrator in the National Capital Region after 6:00 p.m. on polling day; or
 - (e) the outer envelope relates to an electoral district for which the election was postponed in accordance with section 77.

Procedure when elector votes more than once

- (2) If, after receiving an elector's outer envelope but before counting the inner envelopes, the special ballot officers ascertain that the elector has voted more than once, they shall set the elector's inner envelope aside unopened.

Disposition of inner envelopes that are set aside

- (3) When an inner envelope is set aside unopened as described in subsection (1) or (2),
- (a) it shall be endorsed by the special voting rules administrator with the reason why it has been set aside;
 - (b) at least two special ballot officers shall initial the endorsement; and
 - (c) in the case of an inner envelope set aside under subsection (1), the ballot contained in it is deemed to be a spoiled ballot.

Envelopes and declarations kept together

- (3.1) When an inner envelope is set aside unopened as described in this section, it shall be kept with the outer envelope and — if it did not appear on the outer envelope — the declaration.

Dispute

- (3.2) If a dispute arises regarding the setting aside of inner envelopes, it shall be referred to the special voting rules administrator, whose decision is final.

Special Report

(4) The special voting rules administrator shall prepare a report in respect of the number of inner envelopes that are set aside under this Division.

Duties of special ballot officers

268

Each pair of special ballot officers shall count the votes for only one electoral district or part of an electoral district at a time.

Rejection of Ballots

269

(1) Each pair of special ballot officers shall, on examining a special ballot, reject it if

- (a) it has not been supplied by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (b) it is not marked;
- (c) it is marked with a name other than the name of a candidate;
- (d) it is marked with the names of more than one candidate; or
- (e) there is any writing or mark on it by which the elector could be identified.

Elector's intent

(2) No special ballot shall be rejected for the sole reason that the elector has incorrectly written the name of a candidate, if the ballot clearly indicates the elector's intent.

Disputed ballots

(3) If a dispute arises as to the validity of a special ballot, it shall be referred to the special voting rules administrator, whose decision is final.

Note of Dispute

(4) The number of disputed special ballots and the name of the electoral district in which they were cast are to be noted by the special ballot officers.

Statements of the vote

270

(1) Each pair of special ballot officers shall prepare a statement of the vote in the prescribed form and deliver it to the special voting rules administrator.

(2) The special voting rules administrator shall keep the statements of the vote in safe custody until the day after the communication of the results under section 280.

(3) On request, after the day that the results are communicated, a special ballot officer may be given a copy of the statement of the vote that he or she prepared.

Chief Electoral Officer to be informed of results of vote

271

Without delay after the counting of the votes for every electoral district has been completed, the special voting rules administrator shall inform the Chief Electoral Officer of

- (a) the number of votes counted for each candidate for every electoral district;
- (b) the total number of votes counted for each electoral district; and
- (c) the number of rejected ballots for each electoral district.

Sending of material to Chief Electoral Officer
272

As soon as practicable after the counting of the votes for every electoral district has been completed, the special voting rules administrator shall send to the Chief Electoral Officer, in separate envelopes,

- (a)** the lists of electors;
- (b)** all other documents and election materials received from commanding officers and election officers;
- (c)** the solemn declarations made under subsection 23(1); and
- (d)** the complete files of correspondence, reports and records in his or her possession.

CHILE / CHILI**a) Political Constitution****Article 13**

Chilean citizens are those who have reached the age of eighteen and have not been convicted of a serious crime.

Citizenship confers the right to vote, to hold elected office, and other rights conferred by the Constitution or the law.

Citizens with the right to vote who are outside the country may vote from abroad in presidential primary elections, presidential elections, and national referendums.

A constitutional organic law shall establish the procedure for registering on the electoral roll and shall regulate the manner in which electoral and plebiscite processes are carried out abroad, in accordance with the provisions of the first and second paragraphs of Article 18. [1]

In the case of Chileans referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 10, the exercise of the rights conferred upon them by citizenship shall be subject to their having been resident in Chile for more than one year.

Article 15

In popular votes, suffrage shall be personal, equal, and secret.

Voting shall be compulsory in all elections and plebiscites, except in primary elections. A constitutional organic law shall establish the fines or penalties to be imposed for failure to comply with this duty, those who shall be exempt from them, and the procedure for determining them.

A popular vote may only be called for the elections and plebiscites expressly provided for in this Constitution.

b) Law no. 18,556, Constitutional Organic Law on the Electoral Registration System and Electoral Service (last amended on 21 October 2021 by Law 21385)**Article 3**

A permanent Electoral Register shall be created under the direction of the Electoral Service, which shall contain the list of all Chileans covered by paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 10 of the Political Constitution of the Republic, aged 17 and over.

The Electoral Register shall also contain the list of other Chilean citizens and foreigners over the age of 17 who meet the requirements to vote established in Articles 13 and 14 of the Political Constitution of the Republic.

The Electoral Register shall contain all potential voters referred to in the preceding paragraphs, whether they are in Chile or abroad, even if their right to vote has been suspended or they have lost their citizenship for any reason.

The Electoral Register shall serve as the basis for compiling the electoral rolls to be used in each plebiscite or election, which shall contain exclusively those voters who are entitled to vote, whether they are in Chile or abroad.

Article 6

Chileans covered by paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 10 and foreigners referred to in Article 14, both of the Political Constitution of the Republic, shall be registered in the Electoral Register once it has been verified that they meet the age and residence requirements set forth in paragraph 4 of Article 13 or Article 14 of the Political Constitution of the Republic, as applicable.

Registration shall proceed automatically provided that the Electoral Service has access to information proving compliance with the residency requirement.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the interested party may submit a registration application to the Electoral Service at any of its offices or at Chilean consulates, accompanied by documentation proving their residence in the country for the required period of time, and declaring under oath their electoral domicile in Chile or abroad. This application shall be forwarded to the Immigration Department of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security or to the National Immigration and International Police Headquarters of the Chilean Investigative Police, which, if applicable, shall issue a certificate attesting to the fact that the residence requirement has been met and shall forward it to the Electoral Service for the corresponding registration. If the person resides abroad, the application may be submitted to the respective Chilean Consulate. Those interested in declaring their electoral domicile abroad must provide an email address, which will be the preferred means of receiving notifications from the Electoral Service, or, failing that, a postal address. If the interested parties do not provide their email address or postal address, the declaration will have no effect.

For the purposes of this law, consulates shall be understood to mean Consular Offices, including the Consular Sections of a Diplomatic Mission, headed by an official of the Foreign Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs appointed to perform consular functions.

Article 7

The Electoral Service shall notify new voters of their registration in the Electoral Register between 180 and 190 days prior to the next election or plebiscite, indicating the electoral district where they are entitled to vote, by means of a certified letter sent to the electoral address in Chile recorded in the Electoral Register. In the case of new voters with an electoral address abroad, the Electoral Service shall send the aforementioned notification to the email address provided by the voter, in accordance with the provisions of Article 6, or, where applicable, to the address provided by the voter. This registered letter shall inform the voter that they have the right to express to the Electoral Service their preference to receive notifications from the Service by electronic means, indicating the respective email address.

The Electoral Service shall make available to the public on a permanent basis, through its website and a telephone line, a consultation system where each voter may verify, using their identity card number or name, their registration status, the constituency and municipality, in the case of national constituencies; or the country and city, in the case of constituencies abroad, where they are registered and whether they are eligible to vote in the next election. Additionally, for each election or plebiscite and at least during the twenty-two days prior to its holding, said system shall also provide information on the polling place, indicating its address and the polling station where each voter is to vote, and whether they have been designated as a polling station official or member of a counting station.

Article 9

For the sole purpose of obtaining the data referred to in the previous article, the Electoral Service shall have direct and permanent access to the electoral data of all persons registered with the Civil Registry and Identification Service and to the register of resident foreigners of the Immigration Department of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security. The National Immigration and International Police Headquarters of the Chilean Investigative Police shall likewise provide information on the residence of Chileans covered by paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 10 of the Political Constitution of the Republic.

The Civil Registry and Identification Service, the Immigration Department of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security, the National Headquarters of Immigration and International Police of the Chilean Investigative Police, and the Chilean consulates shall provide the Electoral Service with information on changes of address of voters or any other information necessary for the registration of Chileans and foreigners in the Electoral Register and which is in their possession. It is expressly prohibited to evaluate the background of individuals or to rule on their compliance with the legal requirements for exercising the right to vote.

Article 10

The electoral domicile is that located within Chile with which the person has an objective link, either because they reside there habitually or temporarily, exercise their profession or trade, or pursue their studies there. In the case of citizens with the right to vote who are abroad, the electoral domicile is that located outside Chile, declared as such by the voter. [...]

Article 13

The Electoral Service shall keep the Electoral Register up to date, taking into account the following circumstances:[...]

1. Revocations of residence permits for foreigners, who shall be removed from the Register.[...]

Article 16

Within the first five days of each month, the Immigration Department of the Ministry of the Interior shall inform the Electoral Service of the revocations of residence permits of foreigners, executed within the previous month.

Article 23

Between one hundred and eighty and ninety days prior to an election or plebiscite, the Electoral Service shall inform voters that their right to vote has been suspended or that they have been disqualified from voting in the next election, indicating the reason for such suspension or disqualification, by electronic means, if the voter has expressly requested this, or, failing that, by registered letter sent to the address recorded in the Electoral Register; or to the email address provided by the voter who declares their electoral domicile abroad or, where applicable, to the address indicated by the voter, in accordance with the provisions of Article 6.

Article 26

Without prejudice to the provisions of the previous article, the change of address may also be made directly to the Electoral Service, at the offices that this body has in the country, or to the national headquarters of the Immigration and International Police of the Chilean Investigative Police, upon entering or leaving the national territory, by means of a written request signed by the petitioner on forms specially designed by the Electoral Service, which will also be available on its website, where they will declare their new electoral address under oath. Chilean citizens residing abroad may submit the request through the respective consulate.

For the purposes of the preceding paragraph, the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall implement the necessary measures to facilitate the registration in the Electoral Register or the procedure for changing the electoral address of Chileans residing abroad and others aimed at better fulfilling its functions related to the exercise of suffrage abroad, in accordance with the instructions issued for this purpose by the Electoral Service's Governing Board.

The Electoral Service shall notify the voter who has changed their address in the register, indicating the electoral district where they will be entitled to vote. This notification shall be made by electronic means if the voter has expressly requested it or, failing that, by registered letter sent to the address recorded in the Electoral Register. Voters whose new address is abroad shall be notified by email to the address they provide for this purpose when changing their address or, where applicable, by registered letter sent to the address they provide.

The Electoral Service may provide other means of requesting a change of electoral address, either remotely or by electronic means, provided that these guarantee the reliability of the voter's identity and the security of their data.

Article 31

The Electoral Service shall draw up two electoral registers, one for voters voting in the national territory and another for voters voting abroad. Each of these registers shall contain the list of voters registered in the Electoral Register who meet the necessary requirements to exercise their right to vote in accordance with the information known to the Electoral Service, inside or outside Chile, and in accordance with the provisions of the following article, as applicable. Each voter may appear on one Electoral Register and only once on that register.

Article 34

The Electoral Service shall determine two electoral rolls, one for voters who vote within the country and another for those who vote abroad, with definitive character, sixty days before an election or plebiscite. These shall correspond to the audited electoral rolls, which have been modified as a result of any accepted complaints, if any, in accordance with the provisions of the following title.

Together with each register, and within the same period, the Electoral Service shall draw up two definitive lists of disqualified persons, one for voters who cannot vote in the national territory and another for voters who cannot vote abroad, modifying the previous ones in accordance with the accepted complaints.

The Electoral Service shall publish on its website, at least sixty days prior to the date on which an election or plebiscite is to be held, the final electoral registers containing the lists of voters entitled to vote in the respective election or plebiscite, whether they exercise that right inside or outside Chile, as applicable, and the final lists of disqualified voters.

The provisions contained in the third, fifth and sixth paragraphs of Article 32 shall apply to the aforementioned registers and lists. However, the publication referred to in the previous paragraph shall not contain information relating to the national identification number, sex or electoral address of voters.

Article 37 bis.- Once voters have been assigned to polling stations, the Electoral Service shall determine, at least thirty days prior to the election, the polling station registers to be used in the respective election or plebiscite. Each polling station, in Chile or abroad, shall have its own polling station register.

Each polling station register shall contain an alphabetical list of the persons eligible to vote at the respective polling station. The polling station registers shall contain the first and last names of each voter and their national identification number. Each voter may appear on only one polling station register and only once.

Article 51

Electoral districts are the basic territorial electoral unit, consisting of all or part of the municipal territory in the case of districts within the national territory, or all or part of the territory of a country or countries in the case of districts abroad. In each electoral district, polling stations shall be determined to operate within the jurisdictional territory of the district.

The Electoral Service, by reasoned resolution, may create electoral districts when circumstances such as population size, difficulties in communicating with the municipal or consular headquarters, excessive distances, or the existence of several important population centres make it advisable.

The resolution shall determine the jurisdictional territory of the new constituencies and shall be published within five days on the Electoral Service's website. Notwithstanding the foregoing, notices may be disseminated through other media when circumstances so require or in the case of constituencies abroad.

The Electoral Service may, by reasoned resolution, cancel an electoral district when circumstances such as population size or voting difficulties make it advisable. In this case, it shall assign the voters to the nearest electoral district, giving the notice referred to in the first paragraph

of Article 7. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Electoral Service may not cancel a constituency abroad if it is the only one existing in the respective country.

c) Law no. 18,700, Constitutional Organic Law on Popular Votes and Counting of Votes (last modified 23.10.2025 Law 21779)

TITLE XIII Voting Abroad

Paragraph 1

General Provisions

Article 106

Any elector may request the rectification of vote counts when, in his or her opinion, there have been omissions, erroneous qualification of valid, marked, objected, null or blank votes by the polling station, errors in the vote-count records, in their sums and totals, discrepancies between the records or between them and the vote-count certificates delivered to the agents, results wrongly imputed by the counting boards, or arithmetic errors.

Requests for rectification of vote counts and claims of nullity of elections or plebiscites shall be filed with the Regional Electoral Tribunal corresponding to the territory in which the events serving as the basis for the claim occurred, within six days following the date of the election or plebiscite, and the supporting evidence must be submitted at the same time. If the Electoral Service has not made known the results of any counting board before the sixth day following the election, the deadline for filing claims and rectifications relating to the polling stations of that counting board shall be extended until the day following the date on which the Electoral Service provides the missing information. Requests for rectification of vote counts and claims of nullity of elections or plebiscites filed by electors who are within national territory regarding electoral acts held abroad shall be brought before the Electoral Qualification Tribunal within the deadline set forth in Article 222 of this law.

No attorney sponsorship shall be required to file a request for rectification or a claim of nullity.

Article 169

Candidates for President of the Republic, parties participating in an election, and independent candidates may appoint an agent with the right to speak but without the right to vote, to attend the proceedings established by this law of the respective electoral boards, polling stations, counting boards, electoral offices operating at voting premises, Regional Electoral Tribunals, and the Electoral Qualification Tribunal. The same right shall be held by political parties and independent members of parliament in national plebiscites. In the case of municipal plebiscites, this right shall correspond only to community organizations and relevant activities of the respective municipality or group of municipalities.

A general agent, one principal and one alternate, may also be appointed for each precinct or voting premises in which polling stations operate, for the assistance of polling-station agents.

A simple power of attorney granted by the electoral officers referred to in Article 10 shall serve as sufficient authorization for general agents of the premises, whether principal or alternate, as well as for agents before electoral boards, counting boards, Regional Electoral Tribunals, and the Electoral Qualification Tribunal. In the case of polling-station agents and agents before the electoral office of the voting premises, a simple power of attorney granted by a general agent, whether principal or alternate, who is present at the voting premises shall serve as sufficient authorization.

In the case of voting conducted abroad, in accordance with the provisions of Title XIII, a simple power of attorney granted by the electoral officers referred to in Article 10 shall serve as sufficient authorization for general agents of the premises, whether principal or alternate, and for agents before the electoral boards. Likewise, a simple power of attorney granted by a general agent, whether principal or alternate, who is present at the voting premises shall serve as sufficient

authorization for polling-station agents and agents before the electoral office of the voting premises.

The appointment shall state the full name and national identity card number of the agent, the candidate or party represented, and the board, polling station, premises, counting board, electoral office, or tribunal before which he or she is accredited. The omission of any of these particulars shall invalidate the appointment.

In plebiscites, the appointments of agents corresponding to the electoral officers of Article 10 shall be made by the president and the secretary of the regional collegiate intermediate body of the party, or by the independent member of parliament, as the case may be.

TITLE XIII Voting Abroad

Paragraph 1

General Provisions

Article 199

This title regulates the exercise of the right to vote of Chileans who are abroad and are registered on the electoral roll of Chileans abroad for the presidential primary elections, the elections for President of the Republic and national referendums.

Article 200

The provisions contained in Titles I, II, III and IV shall apply in a supplementary manner to those of this title, in all matters not contrary thereto.

Article 201

For the purposes of this title, consulate shall be understood to mean consular offices, including the consular sections of a diplomatic mission, headed by an official of the foreign service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs appointed to perform consular functions.

Paragraph 2 Preparatory Acts Abroad

Article 202

Voting abroad shall be carried out by means of official ballot papers in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of Title I.

Article 203

The Electoral Service and consulates shall inform the electorate abroad about the characteristics of the ballot papers and how to exercise their right to vote, by sending informative emails, printing posters in the consulate offices, posting information on the Electoral Service website, or by any other suitable means available to voters, with the aim of ensuring the correct and informed exercise of the right to vote abroad.

Article 204

Ambassadors, consuls and all officials of the Foreign Service, secretariat and general administration, attachés and services dependent on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who provide services abroad, as well as local employees of Chilean embassies and consulates, may not, during the election campaign period, organise, carry out or participate in public events or demonstrations aimed at promoting or rejecting any nomination, candidacy or plebiscite position, by any means, whether written, audiovisual, electronic or through images. The foregoing shall

not apply to the dissemination of electoral information provided by the Electoral Service through the instructions it issues.

Violations of this article shall be punished as a serious breach of the principle of administrative probity and shall be heard and resolved by the Comptroller General of the Republic.

Article 205

The purpose of polling stations abroad is to receive the votes cast by voters registered in the register of Chileans abroad, in electoral and plebiscite processes carried out outside Chile, and to perform the other functions specified in this law.

Each polling station abroad shall be composed of three members elected from among those registered in the register of Chileans abroad and in the respective polling station register.

Article 206

The electoral boards abroad, referred to in paragraph 3 of this title, shall designate the names of the members of the polling stations abroad, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 44 et seq., with the exceptions provided for in this article. The value of the voucher established in Article 53 may be converted into foreign currency, and the payment procedure shall be coordinated between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the General Treasury of the Republic.

A list of nine names shall be drawn up, from which three shall be chosen to serve as members, in accordance with the procedure established in Articles 46 and 47.

The secretary of the electoral board shall send the complete list of members appointed for each polling station for the respective election, indicating their surnames and first two names, to the Electoral Service within twenty-four hours of the draw. The Electoral Service shall publish this list on its website on the twenty-second day prior to the election or plebiscite. In addition, a certified copy of this list shall be posted at the consulate, in full view of the public. The same procedure shall apply to the publication referred to in the second paragraph of Article 51.

Within the same period, the Electoral Service shall notify the members of their appointment, by the means indicated in the third paragraph of Article 6 of Law No. 18,556. In this communication, the Electoral Service shall indicate the date, time and place where the polling station will operate, the names of the other members and, if applicable, attendance at the mandatory training referred to in Article 55.

Members selected for a presidential election shall perform their duties in the second round of voting, which shall take place in accordance with the provisions of Article 26 of the Political Constitution of the Republic. In such cases, the publication and notification referred to in the preceding paragraphs shall not be required, except in the case of members who are appointed after the excuse or exclusion of another member has been accepted.

Members may excuse themselves in accordance with Article 49 before the respective electoral board, in which case Article 51 shall apply.

Article 207

The premises in which the polling stations abroad are to be set up shall be defined sixty days prior to the election or plebiscite, by a reasoned decision of the Electoral Service, following a report from the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This report shall be submitted to the Electoral Service at least one hundred and twenty days prior to the election or plebiscite. It shall contain, at a minimum, the number and identification of the consulates eligible to serve as polling stations, with an indication of the infrastructure and personnel available at each one; the geographical areas with the highest concentrations of Chilean population abroad, according to their records, broken down by country, consulate and city; and the particularities of local legislation that may affect the electoral process.

Polling stations should preferably be located in the consulates themselves and be easily accessible.

There shall be at least one polling station for each consulate. For justified reasons and taking into account the report referred to in the first paragraph, the Electoral Service may provide for more than one polling station for each consulate.

The Electoral Service shall publish on its website the list of polling stations abroad on the twenty-second day prior to the election or plebiscite. Likewise, at least fifty days prior to the date of the election or plebiscite, it shall communicate to the respective consul the list of designated polling stations within their jurisdictional territory, so that they may ensure the proper installation of each polling station.

Article 208

An electoral office under the corresponding electoral board shall begin its functions in the respective territory on the day and at the time determined by resolution of the Electoral Service's Governing Council. This office shall be headed by a delegate of the electoral board, who shall act for the entire territory of the corresponding electoral district.

The days and hours of operation of electoral offices abroad shall be determined by resolution of the Electoral Service Steering Committee.

On polling day, the electoral office shall operate at each polling station. Without prejudice to the other tasks set out in this law, the delegate of the electoral board shall be responsible for:

1. Informing voters of the polling station where they should cast their vote. To this end, they shall have the necessary means to assist voters from the entire electoral district, especially in relation to their polling station, their polling table or their status as ineligible to vote, indicating the reason.
2. Ensuring the proper constitution of the polling tables and, where appropriate, appointing replacements for members who have not attended.
3. Deliver the electoral materials to the polling station officials.
4. Once voting has ended, receive the electoral materials used at the polling stations.

The installation of polling stations in the designated locations abroad shall be the responsibility of the delegates of the respective electoral board, who shall provide the tables, chairs, and secret chambers necessary for the conduct of the voting.

Article 209

At least twenty days before each election or plebiscite, the Electoral Service shall make available to the respective consulates, through the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the materials intended for each of the polling stations in the respective country. The consulates shall safeguard and transport such materials.

Paragraph 3 Electoral Boards Abroad

Article 210

In each country where there is a consulate, there shall be at least one electoral board that shall perform the functions entrusted to it by law.

Article 211

Electoral boards abroad shall perform their functions in the territory of the State where the respective consulate is located.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors of the Electoral Service, by means of a well-founded resolution and prior report from the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, may order that more than one electoral board be established within the headquarters of the respective consulate or that an electoral board extend its functions to one or more States contiguous or close to the one in which the consulate has its headquarters, when they do not have Chilean consular representation.

Article 212

Each electoral board abroad shall be chaired by the consul and shall also include another Foreign Service official or, if there is no such official, an official from the secretarial and general administration staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or, failing that, a Chilean employee of the consulate, appointed by the chair of the board, who shall act as secretary. If any of them is unable to serve on the board, they shall be replaced by the Chilean person who replaces them in their duties, or by the person designated for this purpose by the Electoral Service.

If there is more than one electoral board in the territory of the respective consulate, the other electoral boards shall be chaired by another foreign service official or, if there is no such official, by an official from the secretarial and general administration staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or, failing that, by a Chilean employee of the consulate designated by the Electoral Service, following a report from the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Any change in the composition of the board shall be recorded in minutes signed by all its members.

Electoral boards abroad shall hold their meetings at the headquarters of the respective consulates, and their members shall be required to attend, in accordance with the law.

For the purposes of fulfilling their duties as members of the electoral boards, consulate officials shall be subject to the instructions issued by the Electoral Service. The Electoral Service, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, shall establish a training plan for all Ministry officials who perform electoral functions in this process, for which it shall preferably use the web platforms of both services.

Article 213

All official communications and all shipments of materials, whatever their nature, between the Electoral Service and the electoral boards abroad shall be carried out through the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Paragraph 4 The Electoral Act Abroad**Article 214**

Voting abroad shall take place on the same day set for the election or plebiscite in the national territory and within the hours established for each country and city by the Electoral Service's Governing Council, following a report from the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The operation of polling stations abroad shall be governed by the rules set forth in this title, with the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of Title II of this law applying supplementarily and, in all matters, not contrary to this title.

Article 215

If, in the opinion of the polling station, there is a clear and obvious discrepancy between the information in the polling station register and the identity of the voter, the electoral delegate shall be called in to settle the matter.

Paragraph 5 Local Counting Abroad**Article 216**

The counting of votes cast abroad shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of Title II, with the exceptions established in this article.

The counting of votes by polling station abroad shall begin once voting has closed, in the same place where the polling station has operated.

Once the counting of votes per polling station has been completed, the secretary, the commissioner and the president of the polling station receiving the votes shall forward the envelopes referred to in paragraphs five, six and seven of Article 78, containing copies of the minutes, to the delegate of the electoral board, who shall immediately send them to the consul. The consul shall forward them separately to the President of the Electoral Qualifying Tribunal, the corresponding special counting college and the Electoral Service, as soon as possible after the closing of the minutes or the last of them, if there is more than one. In order to keep the public informed of the progress of the election or plebiscite abroad, the Electoral Service shall issue bulletins and post information on its website regarding the establishment of polling stations abroad. With regard to the preliminary results of the count referred to in Article 185, the Electoral Service may only disseminate them from 6 p.m. on the day of the election in Chile, according to the time zone in force in Chile.

On the day of the election, the consul shall inform the Director of the Electoral Service, by telephone, fax or email, of the results of the count at each of the polling stations, attaching an electronic copy of the minutes by any of these means.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, consuls shall prepare three special diplomatic bags. One shall contain the minutes addressed to the President of the Electoral Qualifying Tribunal; another shall contain the minutes addressed to the Electoral Service; and the last shall contain the minutes addressed to the respective special counting station, taking the necessary precautions to ensure that they are dispatched separately. The bags shall be sent to the Directorate General of Consular Affairs and Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs within forty-eight hours of the last receipt. This Directorate shall immediately forward them to the President of the Electoral Qualifying Tribunal, the special counting boards, and the Electoral Service.

Article 217

Once all the votes have been counted, the minutes have been filled out, and the votes have been placed in envelopes, the delegates of the electoral boards shall send a package to the consul, containing the voter rolls for which they were responsible, the envelopes referred to in Article 78, and the other materials used in the voting. Each package shall be sealed and signed by the polling station officials, and the time at which this was done shall be recorded.

Article 218

Within twenty-four hours of the election or plebiscite, the consul shall send all packages, envelopes and materials received by special diplomatic pouch to the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which in turn shall forward them to the Electoral Service. The shipment shall be made in separate packages for each polling station, with an indication on the cover of the consulate to which they correspond and the respective polling station number.

Article 219

There shall be one or more special counting boards, whose purpose shall be to collect the records of the counts carried out at the polling stations abroad, add up the votes recorded therein and perform the other functions assigned to them by this law. They may not deliberate or decide on any matter relating to the validity of the vote.

Each special counting board shall be made up of the members of one of the electoral boards of the Metropolitan Region and a secretary, appointed in accordance with the procedure established in Article 92.

In the resolution referred to in Article 87, the Electoral Service shall determine the number of special counting committees that shall exist, identifying the electoral board that shall constitute them and assigning a specific number of polling stations to each of them. The assignment of

polling stations shall begin with the First Electoral Board of Santiago and shall continue in sequential order. This resolution shall be published on the Electoral Service's website at least twenty days prior to the date on which an election or plebiscite is to be held.

Article 220

The special counting stations shall be constituted at nine o'clock on the Monday following the election or plebiscite, and the provisions of paragraph 2 of Title III shall apply to them.

Paragraph 6 Electoral Complaints Abroad

Article 221

The rules relating to electoral complaints set forth in Title IV shall apply to events and acts occurring in electoral processes carried out abroad that may have vitiated elections and plebiscites.

Article 222

Without prejudice to the provisions of Title IV regarding voters who are in the national territory, requests for rectification of vote counts and claims of nullity made by voters abroad shall be filed with the respective consul within ten days after the end of the election. For these purposes, if the Electoral Service has not released the results of any special counting station before the tenth day following the election, the deadline for filing claims and corrections related to the polling stations of said special counting station shall be extended until the day after the date on which the Electoral Service provides the missing information. The consul shall send certified copies, directly and without further formalities, to the Electoral Qualifying Tribunal, by the most expeditious means available, without prejudice to sending the originals in a special pouch within forty-eight hours of receipt to the Directorate General of Consular and Immigration Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, so that the latter, in turn, may forward them as soon as possible to the said qualifying body.

Paragraph 7 Public Order Abroad

Article 223

In all cases where the law provides for the intervention of the police during the electoral process, the president of the polling station abroad shall limit himself to recording the events that have occurred in the minutes, without prejudice to making the necessary communications for the filing of the corresponding complaints.

Article 224

Consuls, in accordance with their powers, shall take the necessary measures to allow and safeguard free access to the premises where polling stations abroad operate and to prevent crowding. To this end, they shall request support and act in coordination with the local authorities.

Article 225

The presidents of the electoral boards, the delegates of the electoral boards, and the presidents of the polling stations shall ensure the maintenance of order and the freedom of voting abroad, for which purpose they shall take the necessary measures at the place where they operate. Likewise, the delegate of the electoral board shall ensure the maintenance of order and normal functioning within the electoral office under his or her charge.

Article 226

In the event of crowds, demonstrations or serious incidents that prevent the electoral process from taking place, the consul shall request the assistance of the public forces of the respective country, in accordance with the corresponding legal system and the norms of international law.

Article 227

If the board or polling station finds it necessary to suspend the electoral process, it shall communicate this circumstance to the respective consul, who may order the suspension, recording it in the minutes. Likewise, the board or polling station shall restart the electoral process, recording in the minutes the events that led to the suspension.

In the case of a polling station, its president shall suspend voting until the conditions of order and freedom necessary to continue the casting and counting of votes are restored. Suspended voting shall continue on the same day until the time limits indicated in Article 214.

The president of the polling station shall notify the delegate of the respective electoral board of his or her decision.

Paragraph 8 Penalties and Judicial Proceedings Abroad**Article 228**

Without prejudice to the rules established in Title VII, the special rules prescribed in the following articles shall apply to the offences and crimes established in this law committed abroad.

Article 229

In the case of offences against the provisions of this law committed abroad, for which a fine is established for the benefit of the municipality, a fine of equal amount shall be applied for the benefit of the treasury, and the Electoral Service shall hear such cases in accordance with its constitutional organic law.

Article 230

In cases where a Foreign Service official or a member of the secretarial and general administrative staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or a Chilean employee of the Chilean consulate, commits the offences established in Article 142, without prejudice to the penalties provided for therein, the Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs shall order the corresponding administrative investigation.

Article 231

Members of electoral boards and polling stations abroad who become aware of acts that may constitute offences or crimes under this law, occurring in electoral processes taking place abroad, shall record these in the corresponding minutes.

The presidents of the boards and polling stations shall communicate such facts to the Electoral Service, so that it may bring them to the attention of the competent court.

COSTA RICA

a) Constitution

Article 93

Voting is a fundamental and mandatory civic duty and is exercised before the Electoral Boards by direct and secret ballot by citizens registered in the Civil Registry.

Article 94

A Costa Rican citizen by naturalization may not vote until twelve months after obtaining the relevant certificate.

Article 95

The law shall regulate the exercise of the right to vote in accordance with the following principles:

- 1) The autonomy of the electoral process;
- 2) The State's obligation to automatically register citizens in the Civil Registry and to provide them with an identity card to exercise the right to vote;
- 3) Effective guarantees of freedom, order, integrity, and impartiality on the part of government authorities;
- 4) Guarantees that the voting system facilitates the exercise of this right by citizens;
- 5) Identification of voters by means of a photo ID card or other appropriate technical means provided by law for this purpose;
- 6) Guarantees of representation for minorities.
- 7) Guarantees of political pluralism;
- 8) Guarantees for the designation of authorities and candidates of the political parties, according to democratic principles and without discrimination based on gender.

b) ELECTORAL ACT, Law No. 8765, Published in Annex 37 to Official Journal (La Gaceta), No. 171 of September 02, 2009

CHAPTER III VOTING FROM ABROAD

SECTION I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 187

Voting from abroad

Costa Rican citizens can exercise the right to vote from abroad to elect the President and the Vice Presidents of the Republic and to express a view in national popular consultations, according to the norms regulated herein and the regulations to be issued by the TSE to this end.

Article 188

Requirements for voting from abroad

Citizens wanting to vote from abroad must comply with the same requirements and legal formalities stipulated for those voting in-country, without prejudice to anything the TSE may add thereto in an effort to ensure the validity of the vote.

SECTION II POLLING STATIONS

Article 189

Polling stations abroad

The TSE can set up the polling stations it deems necessary to guarantee the participation of citizens abroad. The polling stations can be located in the diplomatic missions that Costa Rica maintains abroad or in a location proposed by the consular authority and authorized by the Tribunal.

The Tribunal must notify the voters of the location of polling stations opportunistically.

Article 190

Application for transfer of election domicile

Citizens who are eager to vote from abroad must apply to the TSE for the transfer of election domicile or in the form stipulated by the latter. If this application is made at a diplomatic mission, it shall be passed on to the Tribunal for final approval. To this end, the same formalities as those stipulated for changes of electoral domicile in-country shall be followed.

Article 191

Duty of cooperation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs must provide the TSE with all the facilities it requires to set up polling stations abroad and shall coordinate the effective application of this chapter with the Tribunal. The Tribunal can appoint the consular authority as its delegate or appoint an election adviser for this purpose. The Tribunal delegate shall receive and safeguard the election materials and shall be responsible for them.

The Tribunal delegate shall be responsible for communicating the result of the voting. Information about the count cannot be transmitted prior to the closing of the polls in Costa Rica.

Article 192

Reference

The Tribunal shall regulate the procedures, method of voting abroad, its preliminary count, the means of transfer and dispatch of the election materials that are essential for the application of this chapter.

c) REGULATIONS FOR EXERCISING THE RIGHT TO VOTE ABROAD, Decree No. 4-2013 and its amendments, published in La Gaceta No. 89 of 10 May 2013.

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

The purpose of these Regulations is to regulate aspects relating to the electoral and consultative processes that take place in the various polling stations established outside the country.

Any Costa Rican citizen residing abroad, either temporarily or permanently, may vote at these centres provided that they are registered at the respective Costa Rican consulate, carry their identity card, and that it is valid, in accordance with the terms of Article 94 of the Organic Law of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and the Civil Registry.

CHAPTER II REGISTRATION TO VOTE ABROAD

Article 2

To vote abroad, the interested party must expressly request to be registered at the respective Costa Rican consulate, either when applying for their identity card for the first time, when renewing it, or when requesting a change of electoral address.

Article 3

The registration process regulated in the previous article of these regulations must be completed within the following time frames:

- a) For electoral processes, within the time frames established in Article 81 of the Organic Law of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and the Civil Registry;
- b) For national referendums, within the time limits established in Article 5 of the Regulations for Referendum Processes, hereinafter RPR.

Article 4

The request for transfer of electoral domicile may be made:

- a) In person, at the TSE facilities, at any of its regional offices or at a Costa Rican consulate, if the interested party is abroad. The interested party must present their valid identity card, in accordance with Article 94 of the Organic Law of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and Civil Registry, and complete and sign the corresponding official form.
- b) Through the electronic registration tools or mechanisms enabled by the TSE for this purpose.

Article 5

Consuls shall endorse the form indicated in subsection a) of the previous article with their signature and official seal. These forms and other registration applications shall be sent to the TSE immediately after the official documentation is sent from the consular headquarters.

Registration procedures submitted in the days prior to the expiry of the deadlines indicated in Article 3 of these regulations must be sent on the working day following that expiry date, for the purposes of analysis and timely resolution.

Article 6

The lists of persons registered to vote abroad shall be published on the TSE website, which shall also send them by email to the respective consulates for publication at the consular headquarters; all of the above shall be done within the deadlines stipulated in Articles 152 and 154 of the Electoral Code or, where applicable, in Article 6 of the RPR.

CHAPTER III FORMATION OF POLLING STATIONS

Article 7

The TSE shall have exclusive responsibility for determining the number of polling stations that will operate abroad, as well as the premises where they will be located. The Electoral Registry, through the Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme, shall be responsible for the logistics related to the formation and installation of polling stations, for which it shall have the collaboration of consular authorities.

Article 8

In the case of electoral processes, polling stations shall be composed of three members appointed in the following order of priority:

- a) Persons proposed for this purpose by political parties or coalitions with candidates registered at the national level.
- b) Consular or diplomatic personnel stationed in each country where polling stations are set up.
- c) Persons who, on a voluntary and honorary basis, wish to be members of polling stations, provided that this is necessary for the station to be constituted in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Code.
- d) The official appointed for this purpose as the representative of the TSE abroad.

Note: Article 8 amended by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to Gazette No. 67 of 4 April 2017.

Article 9

In the case of national consultative processes, the polling stations shall be composed of a delegate from the TSE and an assistant, also appointed by the Tribunal, who, in addition to collaborating with the delegate, may replace him or her, in accordance with Article 7 of the RPR. The TSE may make these appointments from among the persons indicated in paragraphs b) and c) of the previous article.

Note: Article 9 amended by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to Gazette No. 67 of 4 April 2017.

Article 10

To be a member of a polling station, one must be a Costa Rican citizen in good standing, know how to read and write, and not be subject to the regime of impediments and prohibitions established in Articles 7 and 8 of the Electoral Code. Being an active member of the foreign service shall not be considered an impediment.

The persons indicated in paragraphs a) and c) of Article 8 of these regulations must also:

- a) Provide their personal details, residential address, email address, and telephone number.
- b) Attend all training activities provided.
- c) Attend the swearing-in session organised by the Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme.

Note: Article 10 amended by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to Gazette No. 67 of 4 April 2017.

Article 11

Political parties or coalitions with candidates registered at the national level shall, no later than two months before the election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Republic, submit to the Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme the lists of those they propose to serve as full and alternate members of each of the polling stations to be set up outside Costa Rica.

The persons referred to in paragraph c) of Article 8 of these regulations may submit their names to the respective consular authority, which shall be responsible for recruiting them and forwarding the relevant information to the Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme within the same period.

As this is a national consultative process, the composition of the polling stations shall be in accordance with the provisions of Article 23 of the Referendum Regulation Act, hereinafter referred to as LRR, and the RPR.

Note: Article 11 amended by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to Gazette No. 67 of 4 April 2017.

Article 12

Once the deadline established in the previous article has expired, and through the Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme, the TSE shall, within the following three days, rule on the lists proposed by the political groups.

If the political parties and coalitions do not propose members for the polling stations, their lists are insufficient or have been submitted late, the TSE, in order to form each polling station with at least three members, shall appoint the corresponding members following the order of priority set forth in Article 8 of these regulations.

Article 13

The Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme shall notify the consulates of the TSE's decision to declare the polling station committees formed, so that they may proceed with the swearing-in of the appointed members.

Article 14

The consulates shall inform the members of the polling stations, in a timely manner, of the dates and times when they will be trained, sworn in, and accredited.

Article 15

The consular authority of the place where the members of the polling stations will perform their duties shall be responsible for swearing them in. The TSE representative shall also be authorised to carry out the swearing-in ceremony. In both cases, it must be verified that the persons to be sworn in have completed the prior training process.

Article 16

The Electoral Registry, through the Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme, shall be responsible for analysing and resolving any substitutions of members of the polling station committees that may be required for duly justified reasons. This procedure shall comply with the formalities and deadlines set forth in Article 42 of the Electoral Code.

The Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme shall ensure the proper and timely installation of these boards.

Article 17

In the event that the TSE orders a second vote to elect the President and Vice-Presidents of the Republic, the polling station boards shall remain unchanged, and it shall not be necessary to swear in or accredit their members again.

Article 18

If on the day of the vote none of the members of the polling station appear or, for any reason, once the voting process has begun, they leave the premises, the consular or diplomatic official or the TSE official, in that order of priority, shall attend to the respective polling station until one of its regular members returns.

In these same cases and if necessary, the consular authority or TSE official may also swear in, even on the day of the vote, a Costa Rican citizen to assume that task. If this is done, the appointment must be communicated to the TSE as soon as possible.

Note: Article 18 amended by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to Gazette No. 67 of 4 April 2017.

CHAPTER IV VOTING PRECINCTS

Article 19

Polling stations shall preferably be set up in consular or diplomatic premises and, failing that, in premises that meet the following minimum conditions:

- a) The infrastructure of the building must allow easy access for voters.
- b) If, due to the conditions of the building, it is not possible to individually equip each polling station, the location and layout of the voting areas must be such as to guarantee the secrecy of the vote and full control of the electoral material by the members of the respective polling station.
- c) The existence of basic services for the proper performance of the functions of the members of the polling stations and the exercise of suffrage by voters.

Article 20

Three months before the election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Republic, the consular authorities shall propose to the Costa Rican Overseas Voting programme the premises where the polling stations may be set up. Two months before the election, that programme shall decide on the proposal and communicate its decision.

In the case of national referendums, the proposal shall be sent two months and fifteen days before the date set by the TSE for the referendum; its approval by the Vote Abroad programme shall be communicated two months before the date of the referendum.

In exceptional cases, due to force majeure, fortuitous events or other circumstances that prevent the use of the previously defined premises, or because it is difficult, in the opinion of the electoral administration, for people to travel to these premises, registered voters may be transferred from one polling station to the nearest one, in order to guarantee citizens their right to vote.

Note: Final paragraph of Article 20 added by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to Gazette No. 67 of 4 April 2017.

CHAPTER V ELECTORAL OVERSIGHT AND OBSERVATION ABROAD

Article 21

Persons accredited as party representatives or observers abroad shall have the same rights and obligations as those established for such persons in the country.

Article 22

The accreditation of observers shall be processed in accordance with the provisions and procedures set forth in Article 218 of the Electoral Code and the Regulations for the Observation of Electoral and Consultative Processes.

This process shall be submitted, as appropriate, to the electoral programmes for the Accreditation of National Polling Officers and Observers and for the Assistance of International Observers. The consulate indicated as the place of collection shall be responsible for producing and delivering the respective identification card.

Article 23

Political parties and coalitions shall be responsible for managing, before the Electoral Registry, the accreditation of election officials for polling stations set up abroad. Similarly, they shall be responsible for carrying out the necessary procedures to provide them with the badges provided by the General Directorate of that Registry, as well as the cards issued by those political groups.

The accreditation process shall be governed by the provisions of the Regulations for the Supervision of Electoral and Consultative Processes.

The first paragraph of Article 23 was amended by Decree No. 8-2021 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in La Gaceta No. 178 on 16 September 2021.

CHAPTER VI VOTING ABROAD

Article 24

The Electoral Registry, through the Costa Rican Vote Abroad electoral programme, shall send to the polling stations, by the means it deems appropriate, the electoral material and documentation, or the technological devices necessary for voting, as previously defined by the TSE.

Article 25

The consular authority or the TSE representative shall be responsible for safeguarding the material and documentation or devices of each of the polling stations corresponding to the consular jurisdiction where they have been assigned.

In cases where no representative official is appointed, the Electoral Registry shall, prior to the corresponding shipment, entrust a person with the receipt and custody of the material, documentation, or technological devices to be used in the election. These must be in the possession of the person in charge at least eight days before the election or referendum is held. In order to comply with the provisions herein, the Costa Rican Vote Abroad programme shall coordinate the relevant matters with the respective consulates.

The consular authority, the TSE representative official, or the person in charge shall set the date and time when the members of the polling stations will review the corresponding material, documentation, or device. This review shall be carried out even if only the consular authority, the official, or the person in charge is present, who shall immediately communicate the results to the Costa Rican Vote Abroad programme.

Note: Article 25 amended by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to Gazette No. 67 of 4 April 2017.

The first paragraph of Article 23 was amended by Decree No. 8-2021 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Gazette No. 178 of 16 September 2021.

Article 26

The TSE shall establish the voting hours for each consulate, in accordance with the time zones of the respective geographical areas in which polling stations are set up. Irrespective of the schedule so established, voting may not commence once half of the voting day has elapsed, in accordance with Article 166 of the Electoral Code.

CHAPTER VII CLOSURE OF VOTING

Article 27

Upon the close of voting, the provisions set forth in Article 182 of the Electoral Code shall be followed. If technological devices are used to automate the tallying and allocation of votes, the respective certification of results shall be executed directly, and it shall bear the signatures of the persons authorized to remain at the polling stations at the close of voting.

Immediately thereafter, the members of the polling stations shall deliver said certification and the remaining electoral materials and documentation, as well as the technological device, if applicable, to the consular authority, to the official representing the TSE, or to the person in charge, who shall forward them to the TSE as soon as possible.

Note: Article 27 was amended by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to La Gaceta No. 67 of April 4, 2017.

Article 28

The consular authority, the official representing the TSE, or the person in charge shall transmit the provisional results of the voting as soon as the closing process of the respective polling station has been completed, by the means and with the safeguards previously established, regardless of the time zone of the constituency in which it is located. However, the processing and dissemination of the transmitted information may not be carried out before the close of the electoral day in Costa Rica.

Note: Article 28 was amended by Decree No. 4-2017 of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, published in Supplement No. 75 to La Gaceta No. 67 of April 4, 2017.

Article 29

The public disclosure of the preliminary results of the voting is the exclusive prerogative of the TSE. No official who has served as an electoral agent, nor consular and diplomatic personnel in general, may disclose the results of the voting in advance. Non-compliance with this provision shall be deemed a serious breach of official duty and may constitute the offense of disobedience as provided for in Article 284 of the Electoral Code.

CHAPTER VIII

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONSULAR AUTHORITY

Article 30

Consular and diplomatic representatives shall be responsible for:

- a) Ensuring that the electoral and consultative processes convened by the TSE are organised, conducted and concluded in accordance with the electoral legal system.
- b) To collaborate in the registration of voters.
- c) To promptly send any changes to the National Electoral Register.
- d) To obtain the necessary permits or provide the required cooperation with the authorities of the countries where the consulate is located for the proper installation and operation of polling stations.
- e) To arrange with the competent authorities the necessary facilities so that the premises where polling stations are set up and operate are granted the privileges, immunities and inviolabilities that the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations grants to consular offices.
- f) To provide general and statistical information that is useful to the TSE.
- g) Collaborate in the reception and distribution of electoral material.
- h) Provide Costa Rican citizens with the necessary facilities and information so that they can exercise their right to vote.
- i) Collaborate in the dissemination of voting abroad.
- j) Provide, where appropriate, training processes for electoral agents.
- k) Assume, on a temporary or permanent basis, the functions of members of polling stations, as well as any other functions assigned to them by the TSE.
- l) Report to the TSE any events that, in the electoral or consultative processes, they consider contrary to the electoral legal system.
- m) In the event of any disputes or conflicts during the electoral or consultative process, submit the reports requested of them.
- n) All other duties arising from these regulations and the electoral system in general.

**CHAPTER IX
FINAL PROVISIONS****Article 31**

Consular and diplomatic authorities, members of electoral bodies, and all electoral agents performing duties in connection with the voting of Costa Rican citizens abroad shall be subject to the provisions of the national legal system.

Article 32

The provision of free public transport for voters abroad, as set forth in Article 33 of the LRR, shall not apply.

Article 33

Situations not covered by these Regulations, insofar as they are compatible with the elective or consultative nature of the processes, as applicable, shall be governed by the provisions of the Electoral Code or the LRR and their respective regulations.

Article 34

This Regulation shall enter into force upon its publication.

Given in San José, on the second day of April two thousand and thirteen.

Luis Antonio Sobrado González, Presiding Judge; Eugenia María Zamora Chavarría, Judge; Max Alberto Esquivel Faerron, Judge; Marisol Castro Dobles, Judge; Fernando del Castillo Riggioni, Judge.

CROATIA / CROATIE**a) Constitution****Article 45**

All Croatian citizens who have reached the age of eighteen years (voters) shall be entitled to universal and equal suffrage in elections for the Croatian Parliament, the President of the Republic of Croatia and the European Parliament and in decision-making procedures by national referendum, in compliance with law.

In elections for the Croatian Parliament, voters who do not have registered domicile in the Republic of Croatia shall be entitled to elect three representatives in accordance with law.

In elections for the Croatian Parliament, the President of the Republic of Croatia and the European Parliament and in decision-making procedures by national referendum, suffrage shall be exercised in direct elections by secret ballot, wherein voters who do not have registered domicile in the Republic of Croatia shall vote at polling stations in the premises of diplomatic-consular offices of the Republic of Croatia in the foreign countries in which they reside.

In elections for the Croatian Parliament, the President of the Republic of Croatia and the European Parliament and in decision-making procedures by national referendum, the Republic of Croatia shall secure the exercise of suffrage for its citizens with registered domicile in the Republic of Croatia who are outside its borders during elections so that they may vote in diplomatic-consular offices of the Republic of Croatia in the foreign countries in which they are located or in some other manner as specified by law.

b) Law on the Elections of Representatives to the Croatian State Parliament**Article 6**

Elections are held at polling stations on the territory of the Republic of Croatia, and for the House of Representatives in diplomatic consular missions of the Republic of Croatia.

Article 7

Voters with residence in the Republic of Croatia shall vote at polling stations in the territory of the Republic of Croatia designated according to their place of residence.

Voters with residence in the Republic of Croatia, but who are serving in the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia on election day, who are in peace operations and missions on election day, who as members of the crews of maritime and river ships flying the Croatian flag are outside its borders, on floating facilities within interior sea waters or territorial sea of the Republic of Croatia, voters found in social welfare institutions and voters deprived of their freedom, shall vote at special polling stations designated pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

Voters with residence in the Republic of Croatia, but who are outside the borders of the Republic of Croatia on election day, shall vote for representatives of an electoral constituency based on their residence in the territory of the Republic of Croatia at the seat of a diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Croatia, subject to prior registration or confirmation for the purposes of voting outside the place of residence.

Article 8

Voters without residence in the Republic of Croatia shall be entitled to representation in the Parliament and they shall elect three representatives from candidate slates in a special electoral constituency, where the nomination and election of representatives to the Parliament is governed accordingly by the provisions of this Act on preferential voting.

c) Law on the Election of the President of the Republic of Croatia**Article 5**

In the elections for the President of the Republic of Croatia, voters who happen to be outside the borders of the Republic of Croatia during the election are guaranteed the right to vote in diplomatic and consular missions and foreign offices of the Republic of Croatia.

d) Parliamentary Election Constituency Act**Article 12***Constituency XI*

This shall be a separate constituency for the election of Members of the Croatian Parliament by Croatian citizens having residence outside the Republic of Croatia.

CYPRUS / CHYPRE**a) Constitution****Article 31**

Every citizen has, subject to the provisions of this Constitution and any electoral law of the Republic or of the relevant Communal Chamber made thereunder, the right to vote in any election held under this Constitution or any such law.

Article 63

1. Subject to paragraph 2 of this Article every citizen of the Republic who has attained the age of seventeen years and has such residential qualifications as may be prescribed by the Electoral Law shall have the right to be registered as an elector in either the Greek or the Turkish electoral list:

Provided that the members of the Greek Community shall only be registered in the Greek electoral list and the members of the Turkish Community shall only be registered in the Turkish electoral list.

2. No person shall be qualified to be registered as an elector who is disqualified for such registration by virtue of the Electoral Law.

b) Law on the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Laws**Article 7***Exercise of the right*

The right to vote in each electoral district is exercised only by those registered in the electoral roll of that district.

Article 17*Appointment of Election Commissioners*

17. Whenever an order is made under subsection (1) of section 16, the Minister shall, in the case of a general election, appoint a General and an Assistant General Commissioner of Elections for the whole of the Republic and an Election Commissioner for each electoral district, as well as a Commissioner or Commissioners and assistant Commissioners for the polling stations abroad, and assistant Commissioners for each such district as circumstances may require, and, in the case of a by-election, appoints an Ephor of Election and assistant ephors as circumstances require.

It is understood that the Assistant General Superintendent of Elections and the Assistant Superintendents of Elections shall have all the powers and may perform the duties of the General Superintendent of Elections and the Electoral Commissioners, respectively.

Article 27*Pre-voting arrangements*

(1) If on the day of submission of candidacies, more candidacies have been submitted for certain electoral districts or the number of parliamentary seats has been filled, the Commissioner shall postpone further electoral proceedings in order to enable voting under the provisions of this Law.

(2) The Minister, for the purposes of voting, shall, by decree published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, divide each electoral district into electoral divisions and the Commissioner shall ensure that in each division there are operating polling stations to which he shall allocate at least thirty voters of any constituency in such a way that the existing conditions will justify:

It is understood that the Commissioner may, if and when he deems this necessary, based on the existing conditions, put into operation polling stations abroad, in embassies of the Republic or elsewhere, provided that in any city abroad, at least thirty voters from each electoral district who will be abroad on election day express, by a declaration submitted in the context of the supplementary electoral roll of the three months preceding the date of the elections, an interest in exercising their right to vote there:

It is further understood that for electoral contests for which the entire territory of the Republic constitutes a single electoral district, the interest of at least fifty voters is required, regardless of the electoral district.

For this purpose, the Registrar draws up a special electoral roll, based on the submitted declarations, which is valid only for the specific election:

It is further understood that the Superintendent may make any administrative arrangements deemed necessary for the smooth operation of polling stations abroad, including the regulation of voting hours therein, so that voting ends at least at the same time as it ends in the Republic.

(3) The Commissioner shall, by notice published in such newspapers as he may deem appropriate,

circulating within the electoral district at least seven days before the day fixed for the poll and posted in a conspicuous place within the district in which he states the day and time fixed for the poll, announce the names, addresses and occupations of the candidates and of their proposers and seconders, as well as details of any declarations made. combinations, the polling stations and the designated polling stations with details of the voters allocated to each of these.

For this purpose, the Registrar draws up a special electoral roll, based on the submitted declarations, which is valid only for the specific election:

It is further understood that for electoral contests for which the entire territory of the Republic constitutes a single electoral district, the interest of at least fifty voters is required, regardless of the electoral district.

It is understood that the Commissioner may, if and when he deems this necessary, based on the existing conditions, put into operation polling stations abroad, in embassies of the Republic or elsewhere, provided that in any city abroad, at least thirty voters from each electoral district who will be abroad on election day express, by a declaration submitted in the context of the supplementary electoral roll of the three months preceding the date of the elections, an interest in exercising their right to vote there:

It is further understood that the Superintendent may make any administrative arrangements deemed necessary for the smooth operation of polling stations abroad, including the regulation of voting hours therein, so that voting ends at least at the same time as it ends in the Republic.

(4) Each Commissioner shall appoint a presiding officer for each polling station who shall direct and supervise the same and shall give the necessary instructions for the conduct of the poll therein, and the necessary assistance thereto. In such cases, the Commissioner may, if he considers it necessary, preside in person at a polling station, when the provisions of this Law relating to the presiding officer shall apply to him.

(5) The Commissioner shall ensure that the part of the electoral roll containing the voters of one or more polling stations allocated to the centre, a sufficient number of ballot papers and any other items which may be determined and are necessary for the conduct of the vote, is provided to the presiding officer of each polling station.

(6) The hours of voting shall be 7 a.m. to noon and 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. which may be extended by the presiding officer at his absolute discretion, during such times until midnight if circumstances so require.

Special provision regarding the declaration of intent to exercise the right to vote abroad (as amended, 16(I)/2021)

65A. Notwithstanding the provisions of the first proviso of paragraph (2) of Article 27, for the purposes of the election to be held in 2021, voters who wish to exercise their right to vote abroad may submit the declaration provided for in said article up to twenty-one (21) days from the preparation of the supplementary electoral roll for the quarter preceding the date of the elections, that is, by April 23, 2021, in accordance with the provisions of Article 101 of the Population Registry Law.

CZECHIA / TCHÈQUIE**a) Constitution****Article 18**

- (1) Elections to the Chamber of Deputies shall be held by secret ballot on the basis of a universal, equal, and direct right to vote, according to the principle of proportional representation.
- (2) Elections to the Senate shall be held by secret ballot on the basis of a universal, equal, and direct right to vote, according to the principle of majority rule.
- (3) Each citizen of the Czech Republic who has attained the age of eighteen has the right to vote.

b) Act No 247/1995 on the elections to the Parliament of the Czech Republic**§ 1***General provisions*

- (1) This Act regulates the conditions for the exercise of the right to vote, the organisation of elections and the scope of judicial review. [...]
- (5) Elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic are held abroad on 2 days, which are:
 - a. Thursday and Friday, when voting begins at 2:00 p.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m. local time, if voting is held in a place (Section 3, paragraph 2) where the corresponding time of day occurs more than 2 hours later than the time in the Czech Republic,
 - b. Friday, when voting begins at 12:00 p.m. and ends at 10:00 p.m. local time, and Saturday, when voting begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 12:00 p.m. local time, if voting is at a location (Section 3, paragraph 2) where the identically designated time occurs no later than 2 hours compared to the time in the Czech Republic,
 - c. Friday, when voting begins at 2:00 p.m. and ends at 10:00 p.m. local time, and Saturday, when voting begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m. local time, if voting is held in other locations (Section 3, Paragraph 2).
- (6) According to this Act, election day means the first day of elections in the territory of the Czech Republic, unless otherwise provided for in this Act. The deadlines and definitions of election days according to this Act are not affected by the time of voting abroad. [...]

§ 6*Special list*

- (1) A special list is kept by a municipal authority, city authority, municipality, authority of a city district or city district of a territorially divided statutory city and the authority of a city district of the capital city of Prague (hereinafter referred to as the "municipal authority") for voters who are not registered as permanent residents in their territorial district, 5) or who cannot vote in the electoral district in whose permanent list they are registered for the reasons specified in letters b) to d), and who
 - a. performs basic or alternative military service in the municipality, in the capital city of Prague and in territorially divided statutory cities in the district of a city district or city district,
 - b. is in a hospital, maternity hospital, sanatorium, social care institution or similar institution and facility located in a municipality, in the capital city of Prague and in territorially divided statutory cities within the district of a city district or city district,
 - c. is in a police cell, in a place of detention or in a place of imprisonment, 5a) located in a municipality, in the capital city of Prague and in territorially divided statutory cities within the district of a city district or city district,
 - d. votes using a voter ID card (§ 6a).

(7) The special lists pursuant to paragraph 5 letter a) shall be closed by the diplomatic missions 30 days before the election day and shall be forwarded immediately to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which shall notify the diplomatic missions where the voter is registered of any duplications in the records; after the duplications have been removed, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall communicate the final version of these lists to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 20 days before the election day. If a voter, registered on the basis of his own application on the grounds that he resides abroad, in the special list is also listed in the permanent list, the municipal office shall remove such voter from the permanent list based on a notification from the Ministry of the Interior. The diplomatic mission shall inform the voter of the deletion from the permanent list based on a notification from the municipal office. [...]

§ 7

Electoral authorities

(1) The electoral authorities under this Act are: [...]

- a. authorized municipal authority, 5b) in the capital city of Prague, the municipal district authority, the Prague 1 Municipal District Authority for the safekeeping of voting results from abroad, in the cities of Brno, Ostrava and Pilsen, the municipal district authority or municipal district (hereinafter referred to as the "authorized municipal authority"), [...]

§ 8

State Election Commission

(1) The State Election Commission established pursuant to special legal regulation 5c) is a permanent electoral body also in the area of elections to the Parliament of the Czech Republic.

(2) State Election Commission [...] i) determines by lot to which electoral region special electoral districts abroad are subordinate.

§ 10

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- a. organizationally and technically ensures the preparation, course and conduct of elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic abroad, 5e)
- b. submits special lists of voters maintained pursuant to Section 6, paragraph 5, to the Ministry of the Interior on a technical medium,
- c. in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech Statistical Office, ensures the establishment of a telecommunications connection system between embassies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
- d. submits to the Czech Statistical Office the documents for the establishment and updating of lists of special electoral districts,
- e. in cooperation with the Czech Statistical Office, ensures the conditions for the operation of the Czech Statistical Office at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

§ 14d

Embassy

Representative office within its territorial district

- a. ensures the organizational and technical preparation, conduct and implementation of elections to the Chamber of Deputies,
- b. keeps a special list pursuant to Section 6, paragraph 5,
- c. is authorized to verify data for the purposes of maintaining a special list to the extent and under the conditions pursuant to Section 12, paragraphs 5 to 9,
- d. issues voter ID cards pursuant to Section 6a, paragraph 1,
- e. conducts training for members of special district election commissions,

- f. ensures, in accordance with local conditions, that voters are informed about the time and place of the elections, about the possibility of registration in a special list (Section 15, paragraph 3) and about the method of voting, if necessary, also in the relevant foreign language,
- g. in the case of sending ballots by transmission technology, ensures the printing or reproduction of ballots (Section 38, paragraph 5),
- h. provides a polling station, auxiliary resources and necessary manpower for the special district election commission.

§ 19a*Voting method*

(1) After receiving the official envelope or ballots, the voter enters the area designated for editing the ballots.

(2) A voter shall vote by placing the official envelope with the ballot paper in the ballot box before the precinct election commission or special precinct election commission after leaving the area designated for the preparation of ballot papers. Another voter, but not a member of the precinct election commission or special precinct election commission, may do so on behalf of a voter who is unable to place the official envelope with the ballot paper in the ballot box.

(3) The precinct election commission or special precinct election commission shall not allow a voter who has not gone to the area designated for the processing of ballots to vote.

(4) A voter who does not reside in the territory of the Czech Republic shall, upon arrival at the polling station, hand over to the district election commission the voter's card issued by the embassy pursuant to Section 6a, paragraph 1, during elections to the Senate. The district election commission shall attach the voter's card to the extract from the special list.

c) Act No. 275/2012 Act on the Election of the President of the Republic and on Amendments to Certain Acts (Act on the Election of the President of the Republic)

§ 2*Voting time and place*

[...] (5) The day of the presidential election under this Act shall mean the first day of the presidential election in the territory of the Czech Republic, unless otherwise provided for in this Act. The deadlines and definitions of election days under this Act shall not be affected by the time of voting abroad.

§ 6*Electoral system*

(1) The electoral authorities under this Act are:

- a. a representative office and a consular office of the Czech Republic, with the exception of a consular office headed by an honorary consular officer, (hereinafter referred to as the "representative office"), [...]

§ 9*Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Ministry of Foreign Affairs [...]

- k. in cooperation with the Czech Statistical Office, ensures the creation of a unified system of electronic communications for data transfer between embassies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, [...]

§ 16*Embassy*

Representative office within its territorial district

- a. ensures the organizational and technical preparation, conduct and implementation of the presidential election outside the territory of the Czech Republic,
- b. maintains a special list of voters (Section 31),
- c. issues a voter ID card (Section 33),
- d. ensures, in accordance with local conditions, that voters are informed about the time and place of the presidential election, about the possibility of registration in a special voter list maintained by the embassy, about the method of voting and the date of the second round of the presidential election, if necessary, in the relevant foreign language,
- e. conducts training for members of special district election commissions,
- f. ensures the printing or reproduction of ballot papers,
- g. provides a polling station, auxiliary resources and necessary manpower for the special district election commission,
- h. performs other tasks pursuant to this Act.

§ 31*Special voter list maintained by the embassy*

The special list kept by the embassy is kept by the embassy in accordance with another legal regulation.

d) Act 88/2024 on Election Administration (March 6, 2024)**§ 2***Territorial Scope of Elections, Election Day, and Voting Period*

29. Elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as the “Chamber of Deputies”), the election of the President of the Republic, and elections to the European Parliament shall be held within the territory of the Czech Republic and abroad. Other types of elections shall be held only within the territory of the Czech Republic.

30. Abroad, elections are held over two days, namely

- a. Thursday and Friday, when voting begins at 2:00 p.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m. local time, if voting takes place in a location where the same time zone is more than two hours behind the time zone in the Czech Republic,
- b. Friday, when voting begins at 12:00 p.m. and ends at 10:00 p.m. local time, and Saturday, when voting begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 12:00 p.m. local time, in the case of voting at a location where the specified time occurs no more than 2 hours later than the time in the Czech Republic,
- c. Friday, when voting begins at 2:00 p.m. and ends at 10:00 p.m. local time, and Saturday, when voting begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m. local time, in the case of voting at other locations.

§ 4*Electoral Districts*

41. For voting abroad, special electoral districts are established at diplomatic missions pursuant to Section 6(1)(i). The territory of a special electoral district consists of the territorial jurisdiction of the diplomatic mission.

§ 6*Election authorities*

The electoral authorities are:

- a. special district election commission.

§ 11*The Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

- a. manages, ensures, and supervises the organizational and technical preparation, conduct, and implementation of elections abroad,
- b. provides the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech Statistical Office with data on special electoral district

§ 19*Special Precinct Election Commission*

- (1) A special precinct election commission is established for each special precinct for the purpose of voting abroad. A special precinct election commission has at least three members.
- (2) The special precinct election commission is headed by the chairperson of the special precinct election commission. The secretary of the special precinct election commission is also a member of the special precinct election commission.
- (3) The special precinct election commission
 - a. ensures order in the polling place,
 - b. ensures the proper conduct of voting,
 - c. counts the votes, including those cast by mail, and prepares a record of the conduct and results of the voting,
 - d. submits election documents to the representative office,
 - e. performs other duties in accordance with this Act and the relevant election laws.
- (4) A member of the special precinct election commission shall identify himself or herself with a special precinct election commission member ID card issued by the representative office.
- (5) Unless this Act provides otherwise, the provisions of this Act concerning the precinct election commission shall apply *mutatis mutandis*

§ 34*Withdrawal and Revocation of Candidacy and Procedure for the Dissolution or Suspension of a Political Party or Political Movement*

- (1) A candidate may withdraw his or her candidacy in writing up to 48 hours before the start of the election. A representative of the political party may withdraw the candidate's candidacy in the same manner, with the exception of the election of the President of the Republic, where the representative—or the political party, if it has no representative—may notify the registration authority and provide evidence of the candidate's loss of eligibility.
- (4) If a declaration under paragraph 1 is submitted to the registration authority after the candidate list has been registered, the candidate's information remains on the ballot, but votes cast for that candidate are not counted when determining the election results. The registration authority shall ensure, through municipal offices, the posting of the declaration in all polling places within the electoral district; the posting of the declaration in polling places abroad shall be ensured through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At the same time, the registration authority shall ensure that information regarding the withdrawal of a candidacy, its revocation, or the loss of a candidate's eligibility is entered into the information system.
- (7) If a political party or political movement is dissolved or suspended after the registration of a list of candidates, the results of the vote shall not take into account that political party, that

political movement, or the coalition of which such a political party or political movement is a part, nor the candidates nominated by that political party, such political movement, or the coalition of which such a political party or political movement is a part, shall not be taken into account. The Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with the registration authorities, shall ensure, through municipal offices, the publication of information regarding the dissolution or suspension of the activities of a political party or political movement pursuant to the first sentence in all polling stations within the electoral district in which the political party's candidate list was registered, political movement, or coalition pursuant to the first sentence, provided that the dissolution or suspension of activities occurred within 48 hours prior to the commencement of the election; the Ministry of the Interior shall ensure the publication of such information in polling stations abroad through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry of the Interior shall simultaneously forward information regarding the dissolution or suspension of a political party or political movement to the Czech Statistical Office.

§ 35

Printing of Ballots

(6) The diplomatic mission shall arrange for the printing of ballots for the election in the special electoral district and their delivery to the special district election commission based on the ballot previews in the information system no later than 24 hours before the start of the election. The printing of ballots is not arranged by the diplomatic mission to which the ballots are delivered; in such a case, the relevant registration office shall send the ballots to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which shall ensure their delivery to the diplomatic missions no later than 48 hours before the start of the election. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall designate by decree the diplomatic missions to which the ballots are to be delivered.

§ 44

Special Precinct Election Commission

(1) The head of the representative office shall appoint, no later than 30 days before the election date, the chairperson of the special precinct election commission, the secretary of the special precinct election commission, and, if necessary, other members of the special precinct election commission. The provisions of Section 42(3) shall not apply.

(2) An electoral party may delegate one member and one alternate to a special precinct election commission in whose special electoral precinct votes may be cast for its list of candidates. For the election of the President of the Republic, a political party and a political movement represented in the Chamber of Deputies may also delegate one member and one alternate to each special precinct election commission.

(3) If, during the election, the number of members of a special precinct election commission falls below 3, the head of the representative office shall appoint additional members to the special precinct election commission to fill the vacant positions.

(4) The head of the representative office shall convene the first meeting of the special precinct election commission so that it takes place no later than 21 days before election day. A member delegated pursuant to paragraph 2 need not attend the first meeting.

(5) If it is not possible to form a special precinct election commission consisting of at least three members, the head of the representative office and the secretary of the special precinct election commission shall perform the duties of the special precinct election commission.

(6) Unless otherwise provided, the provisions governing the precinct election commission shall apply mutatis mutandis to the special precinct election commission.

§ 56*Conditions for Voting in a Different Electoral District*

(4) A voter residing outside the territory of the Czech Republic may also vote in a special electoral district on the basis of an entry regarding voting in a special electoral district made in the voter registry by a diplomatic mission. This entry applies only to elections in which voting abroad is permitted and remains valid as long as the voter's right to vote continues, or until the diplomatic mission or municipal office deletes this entry at the voter's request.

§ 57a*Conditions for Absentee Voting*

(1) A voter who is registered in the voter list as voting in a special electoral district pursuant to Section 56(4) may cast a vote by mail in that district within the territory falling within that district, as provided for by implementing regulations.

(2) A voter may submit a request for the issuance of documents for absentee voting from the date of the election announcement at the representative office in whose special electoral district the voter is eligible to vote according to the information in the voter registry.

(3) An application under paragraph 2 may be submitted in person or through a person who presents a power of attorney with the voter's officially certified signature, no later than 2 days before the election, or in writing no later than 35 days before the election.

- i. via the voter's data box or with the voter's officially certified signature, or
- ii. through a public administration portal or information system using a means of electronic identification.

(4) The request under paragraph 2 must include the voter's first and last name, date of birth, and an address located within the territory of the state that falls within the territorial jurisdiction of the diplomatic mission under paragraph 2, to which the documents for voting by mail are to be sent, or, where applicable, a statement that the voter will collect the documents at the diplomatic mission in person or through a person who presents a power of attorney bearing the voter's officially certified signature.

§ 57d*Votes cast by mail*

(1) The special precinct election commission shall open the delivery envelopes after voting has ended and before the counting of votes begins. The special precinct election commission shall consider only the contents of the delivery envelope in accordance with § 57c(2).

(2) The special precinct election commission shall set aside the delivery envelope and its contents if

- a. the delivery envelope does not contain an identification slip issued by the relevant diplomatic mission or an official envelope,
- b. the identification card is not signed by the voter,
- c. the delivery envelope contains more than one official envelope or more than one identification slip,
- d. the voter was issued a voter ID card and the voter ID card is not in the delivery envelope, or
- e. there is a record in the voter registry indicating that the voter has cast a ballot.

(3) The special precinct election commission shall not further consider the contents of the set-aside return envelopes. These return envelopes shall be set aside with the election documentation, and the special precinct election commission shall mark the reason for the set-aside on the return envelopes and seal the official envelopes to ensure the secrecy of the vote.

(4) For each voter whose delivery envelope has not been set aside, the special precinct election commission shall note in the voter list that the voter cast a mail-in ballot and shall place the official envelope in the ballot box.

(5) In the case of a voter who cast a vote by mail but is not listed in the voter registry, the special precinct election commission shall request from the diplomatic mission the information necessary to assess the contents of the mailing envelope and shall add the voter's information to the voter registry. Upon request, the diplomatic mission shall provide the special precinct election commission with information about such a voter from the voter list to the extent necessary to add the voter to the voter list.

(6) The special precinct election commission shall open the ballot box only after completing the procedure set forth in paragraphs 1 through 5 for all delivery envelopes.

§ 58

Procedure of the Diplomatic Mission for Verifying the Possibility of Voting Abroad

(1) The diplomatic mission shall verify by January 31 of each year whether the laws of the states within the diplomatic mission's jurisdiction permit citizens of the Czech Republic to vote in accordance with this Act at the diplomatic mission, or whether a special permit is required to ensure voting at the diplomatic mission; in such a case, it shall request the issuance of such a permit.

(2) If citizens of the Czech Republic are not permitted to vote at a polling place in a special electoral district because the laws of the country within the jurisdiction of the diplomatic mission do not allow it, or if the authorization referred to in paragraph 1 has not been issued, the diplomatic mission shall provide voters with information regarding the option to vote using a voter ID card or, where applicable, the option to vote by mail.

(3) The Government shall, by regulation, designate the territorial districts, or parts of the territorial districts, of diplomatic missions in which voters may use absentee voting; in doing so, it shall take into account the availability and conditions of postal services in the relevant territory, with regard to infrastructure, the domestic political situation, armed conflict, natural disasters, or other similar situations.

§ 79

Authentication of a Signature Abroad

If this Act requires verification of the authenticity of a signature, this requirement is deemed to be met outside the territory of the Czech Republic if such verification is performed by the competent foreign authority or person in the state within the jurisdiction of the diplomatic mission to which the document is submitted. Such verification of the authenticity of a signature is not subject to further verification.

DENMARK / DANEMARK**a) Constitutional Act****§29**

(1) Any Danish subject who is permanently domiciled in the realm, and who has the age qualification for suffrage as provided for in subsection 2 of this section shall have the right to vote at Folketing elections, provided that he has not been declared incapable of conducting his own affairs. It shall be laid down by statute to what extent conviction and public assistance amounting to poor relief within the meaning of the law shall entail disfranchisement.

(2) The age qualification for suffrage shall be as determined by the referendum held under the Act dated March 25th, 1953. Such age qualification for suffrage may be altered at any time by statute. A Bill passed by the Folketing for the purpose of such enactment shall receive the Royal Assent only when the provision for altering the age qualification for suffrage has been submitted to a referendum in accordance with subsection 5 of section 42, which has not resulted in the rejection of the provision.

§31

(1) The members of the Folketing shall be elected by general and direct ballot.

(2) Rules for the exercise of the suffrage shall be laid down by the Election Act, which, to secure equal representation of the various opinions of the electorate, shall prescribe the manner of election and decide whether proportional representation shall be adopted with or without elections in single-member constituencies.

(3) In determining the number of seats to be allotted to each area, account shall be taken of the number of inhabitants, the number of electors and the density of population.

(4) The Election Act shall provide rules governing the election of substitutes and their admission to the Folketing, as well as rules for the procedure to be adopted where a new election is required.

(5) Special rules for the representation of Greenland in the Folketing may be laid down by statute.

b) Folketing (Parliamentary) Elections Act**Part 1****Franchise and Eligibility****1.**

(1) Franchise for the Folketing is held by every person of Danish nationality, who is above 18 years of age, and permanently resides in the realm, provided that such person has not been declared incapable of conducting his or her own affairs. [...]

2.

(1) Persons who are employed by the Danish State and assigned to duty outside the realm shall be considered to be permanently resident in the realm. The same applies to persons employed with the Greenland Self-Government and assigned to duty outside the realm.

(2) The following persons who have taken up temporary residence in foreign countries shall also be considered to be permanently resident in the realm:

- (i) persons being sent out in foreign service as employees of a Danish public agency or any local private undertaking or association;
 - (ii) persons taking up residence in foreign countries as employees of an international organisation of which Denmark is a member;
 - (iii) persons being sent out to do service in foreign countries by a Danish relief organisation;
 - (iv) persons staying abroad for the purpose of education;
 - (v) persons staying abroad for health reasons;
 - (vi) persons staying abroad and who, with respect to affiliation with the realm, must be quite co-equal with the persons specified in paragraphs (i) to (v).
- (3) Persons taking up residence in foreign countries shall also be considered to be permanently resident in the realm if they intend to return to the realm within two years of their departure. [...]

Part 4

Electoral Registers and Poll Cards.

Election Board

15.

- (1) Voters must be included in the electoral register in the municipality where they have their permanent residence but see section 16.

16.

(1) Voters comprised by section 2 who in connection with staying abroad are registered in the Civil Registration System (CPR) as emigrated, shall be included, upon request, in the electoral register in the municipality of their most recent registered residence in Denmark according to the residence register of the Civil Registration System (CPR). The request must be submitted to the local council on a form which has been approved by the Minister for the Interior and Health.

(2) Voters who have stayed abroad for more than four years can only be included in the electoral register provided the Election Board considers the conditions of section 2 fulfilled in each individual case. If there is any doubt, whatsoever, as to whether a voter is comprised by section 2, the voter can be included in the electoral register provided only that the Election Board considers the conditions of section 2 fulfilled in each individual case.

(3) Decisions regarding the inclusion in electoral registers of voters comprised by section 2(1) or (2), or section 2(4), see subsections (1) or (2) are valid for two years from the day of decision. If, prior to the expiry of the term specified in the first sentence, the voter submits a request for renewed inclusion in the electoral register, the term is extended until a decision has been made. A decision regarding the inclusion in the electoral register of a voter comprised by section 2(3) is valid for two years calculated from the day of emigration. A decision regarding the inclusion in the electoral register of a voter comprised by section 2(4), see subsection (3) is valid for two years calculated from the day of emigration for the person comprised by section 2(3) to whom the voter is related as specified in section 2(4).

(4) The Minister for the Interior and Health shall lay down detailed rules for inclusion in the electoral register of voters comprised by section 2.

16a.

- (1) Voters comprised by the first sentence of section 2(1) or by section 2(4), read with the first sentence of section 2(1), who in connection with being assigned to duty outside the realm are registered in the population register on the Faroe Islands or the residence register of the Civil

Registration System (CPR) in Greenland shall be included, upon request, in the electoral register in the Danish municipality of their most recent registered residence in Denmark according to the residence register of the Civil Registration System (CPR). The request must be submitted to the local council on a form which has been approved by the Minister for the Interior and Health and must include a statement to the effect that the applicant will only vote in Denmark in elections and referendums held in the entire realm.

(2) In case of any doubt as to whether a voter falls within the scope of subsection (1), the voter can only be included in the electoral register if the Election Board deems in each case that the conditions under subsection (1) are satisfied.

(3) A decision on inclusion in the electoral register of a voter falling within the scope of subsection (1) will apply for two years as from the date of the decision. If, before the expiry of the period mentioned in the first sentence, the voter submits a request for re-inclusion in the electoral register, the period will be extended until a decision has been made. [...]

Advance Voting in the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Foreign Countries

57.

(1) Voters who are staying in the Faroe Islands or Greenland may vote in advance at the Faroese or Greenland national registration offices or with a vote receiver appointed by the Minister for the Interior and Health.

(2) Voters who are staying abroad may cast their vote in advance with a Danish diplomatic or consular representation or with a vote receiver appointed by the Minister for the Interior and Health.

(3) Advance votes cast more than three months prior to election day shall not be considered.

(4) Once a general election has been called, the Minister for the Interior and Health shall see to it that the Danish representations and other vote receivers abroad are notified accordingly.

Advance Voting On Board Danish Ships in Foreign Trade and Danish Off-shore Installations

58.

(1) Danish sailors and passengers on board Danish ships in foreign trade and persons employed at Danish off-shore installations may vote in advance on board the ship or at the off-shore installation. The ship's master or the person appointed by the ship's master, or the chief of the off-shore installation or the person appointed by the chief, shall act as vote receiver.

(2) Advance votes cast more than three months prior to election day shall not be considered, but see subsections (3) and (4).

(3) Sailors in Danish ships in foreign trade, and their accompanying spouses may vote in advance on board the ship from the day following a general election, their votes being valid for the next general election.

(4) At Danish off-shore installations in Danish territory, advance voting can take place in the period from the day the election is called until and including the third-to-last working day, including Saturdays, prior to election day.

59.

(1) Once a general election has been called, the Minister for the Interior and Health shall see to it that ship's masters of Danish ships in foreign trade and chiefs at Danish off-shore installations are notified accordingly.

(2) As soon as the ship's master of a Danish ship in foreign trade is informed that a general election has been called, the ship's master shall see to it that advance voting on board takes place without delay. Advance voting procedures may, however, be dispensed with, if, even using the fastest way of dispatch, the advance votes cannot be expected to reach their destination before polling starts on election day, or if compelling and urgent business so prevents. Similar rules shall apply to Danish off-shore installations.

ESTONIA / ESTONIE**a) Constitution:****§ 60.**

The *Riigikogu* comprises one hundred and one members. Members of the *Riigikogu* are elected in free elections according to the principle of proportional representation. Elections are general, uniform and direct. Voting is secret.

Any citizen of Estonia who has attained twenty-one years of age and is eligible to vote may stand in an election of the *Riigikogu*.

Regular elections of the *Riigikogu* are held on the first Sunday of March of the fourth year counting from the year of the preceding election of the *Riigikogu*.

Extraordinary elections of the *Riigikogu* are held in the cases prescribed in §§ 89, 97, 105 and 119 of the Constitution, not earlier than twenty and not later than forty days after the election was called.

The procedure for elections of the *Riigikogu* is provided in the *Riigikogu* Election Act.

b) Riigikogu Election Act**§ 13.***Elections managers*

(1) Riigikogu elections are managed by:

- a) the State Electoral Office;
- b) rural municipality and city secretaries;
- c) voting district committees;
- d) vote counting committees.

(2) The procedure for appointment to office and substitution of rural municipality and city secretaries is provided in the Local Government Organisation Act.

(3) The functions of a rural municipality or city vote counting committee during the Riigikogu elections are performed by a rural municipality or city electoral committee formed pursuant to the procedure provided in the Municipal Council Election Act.

(4) A person managing elections and a person who provides assistance to them may not simultaneously be an authorised representative of a political party or independent candidate, or a candidate.

(5) A person managing elections must have the right to vote pursuant to subsections 1–3 of § 4 of this Act and be proficient in Estonian.

(6) A person managing elections and a person who provides assistance to them must be independent in the performance of their duties and may not campaign for or against political parties or candidates.

(7) A person managing elections, a rural municipality or city government official or employee, or another person is entitled to receive remuneration for the performance of duties related to the organisation of elections.

§ 14.*State Electoral Office*

(1) The State Electoral Office is a structural unit of the Chancellery of the Riigikogu, which is independent in the performance of the functions arising from this Act, the European Parliament Election Act, the Municipal Council Election Act and the Referendum Act.

(2) The State Electoral Office is headed by the Head of the State Electoral Office. The Head and the Deputy Head of the State Electoral Office are appointed to office by the Secretary General of the Riigikogu upon approval of the National Electoral Committee.

(3) The officials of the State Electoral Office are appointed to office and the employment contract with the employees are entered into by the Secretary General of the Riigikogu on the proposal of the Head of the State Electoral Office.

(4) The budget for the preparation and holding of the elections means a separate part of the budget of the Chancellery of the Riigikogu and includes the investments and operating expenses necessary for the performance of the functions of the State Electoral Office arising from this Act, the European Parliament Election Act, the Municipal Council Election Act and the Referendum Act. The Head of the State Electoral Office is liable for the purposeful use of the funds prescribed for the preparation and holding of the elections and the implementation of the budget. The State Electoral Office submits to the National Electoral Committee a report on the implementation of the budget for the previous calendar year during the first quarter of the following year.

(5) The National Electoral Committee exercises supervision over the performance of the functions provided in subsection 1 of this section.

§ 37.

Ballot paper

(3) After the receipt of ballot papers, a voting district committee puts an impression of the seal of the voting district committee on the ballot papers. The State Electoral Office puts an impression of the seal on the ballot papers used for voting in foreign states.

§ 47.

Voting in Estonia by voters residing in foreign states

(1) A voter permanently residing in a foreign state who has not voted pursuant to the procedure provided in Chapter 8 of this Act may vote during advance voting in any voting district designated pursuant to the rules provided in § 41³ of this Act.

(2) In order to receive a ballot paper, a voter presents an identity document to the voting district committee.

(3) A member of the voting district committee checks from the list of voters that the voter has the right to vote, and the electoral district of the voter.

(4) Where it turns out as a result of the checking that the voter has the right to vote, the member of the voting district committee makes a notation in the list of voters concerning the issue of a ballot paper. The voter signs against the receipt of the ballot paper.

(5) The member of the voting district committee issues to the voter a ballot paper, two envelopes and the consolidated list of candidates in the electoral district of the voter.

(6) The voter completes the ballot paper pursuant to the provisions of subsections 5–8 and 11⁴ of § 39 of this Act.

(7) The voter places the ballot paper in one of the envelopes given by the member of the voting district committee. The voter places the envelope in the other envelope given by the member of

³ § 41. Special rules for advance voting held outside electoral district of residence

At the time specified in clause 1 of subsection 2 of § 38 of this Act, voters may vote outside the electoral district of their residence in a voting district designated by the rural municipality or city government. The rural municipality or city government may designate a voting district committee to organise voting only at the location of a voter (§ 43), in penal institutions, hospitals and 24-hour social welfare institutions (§ 45).

⁴ (5) The voter completes the ballot paper in a voting booth.

(6) The voter writes the registration number of the candidate in the electoral district of the voter's residence for whom the voter wishes to vote in the designated space on the ballot paper.

(7) The voter completes the ballot paper on their own. Where they are unable to complete the ballot paper on their own due to a physical disability, another voter, but not a candidate in the electoral district of the voter's residence, may do so at their request and in their presence.

(8) The voter may not take the ballot paper out of the polling place. Where the voter spoils the ballot paper, they have the right to receive another ballot paper from the voting district committee. The voter must return the spoiled or unused ballot paper to the voting district committee.

(11) Where the voter returns the ballot paper and abstains from voting, the member of the voting district committee removes the notation concerning the issue of the ballot paper to the voter from the list of voters.

the voting district committee. The voting district committee writes the data pertaining to the voter on the outer envelope. The voter deposits the envelope in the ballot box prescribed for the ballot papers of voters who vote outside the electoral district of their residence.

(8) Upon the ascertaining of the voting results, votes cast pursuant to the procedure prescribed in subsection 1 of this section are taken into account pursuant to the provisions of subsection 1 of § 48 and subsections 3–5 of § 55 of this Act.

Chapter 8 VOTING IN FOREIGN STATE

§ 49.

Preparation for voting

(1) Voting in a foreign state for voters permanently residing in the foreign state and voters temporarily staying there is held by the foreign missions of Estonia.

(2) A consular authority led by an honorary consul who is an Estonian citizen may be designated to hold voting by an order of the Government of the Republic. In such case, the consular authority led by the honorary consul performs the acts prescribed in this Chapter.

(3) Voting is organised by the head of a foreign mission or an official designated by them. In the event prescribed in subsection 2 of this section, voting is organised by the honorary consul or a person designated by them. The person organising the voting must be a person who has the right to vote pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 of § 4 of this Act.

(4) An election information sheet is sent electronically to voters permanently residing in the foreign state and voters temporarily staying there pursuant to the data of the population register, to their email address registered in the data portal of Estonia or entered in the population register, not later than on the 60th day before the election day.

(5) The following is entered in the election information sheet:

- 1) information concerning the conditions of the right to vote;
- 2) number and description of the electoral district pursuant to § 6 of this Act;
- 3) address of the foreign mission;
- 4) procedure for submitting an application to vote by post, voting by post and voting at the foreign mission;
- 5) due date for receipt by the foreign mission of applications to vote by post;
- 6) due date for receipt by the foreign mission of ballot papers sent by post;
- 7) time of voting at the foreign mission;
- 8) time of electronic voting;
- 9) other information concerning voting.

§ 50.

Submission of applications to vote

(1) Where a voter wishes to vote by post, they send a corresponding application to the Estonian foreign mission in the country of their habitual residence. Where Estonia does not have a foreign mission in the country of habitual residence of a voter, the voter sends the application to the closest foreign mission of Estonia.

(2) A voter who has been entered in the list of voters:

- 1) appends a copy of the page of their identity document containing personal data to the application;
- 2) indicates in the application their residential address in the foreign state.

(3) A voter who has not been entered in the list of voters:

- 1) appends copies of documents which certify their identity and that they have the right to vote pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 of § 4 of this Act to the application;
- 2) indicates their residential address in the foreign state;
- 3) indicates their last residence in Estonia (the county, the city district in Tallinn, or the city of Tartu). Where a voter permanently residing in a foreign state has not had a residence in Estonia, they indicate the last residence of their parents or grandparents in Estonia.

(4) A voter temporarily staying in a foreign state indicates their residential address in Estonia in the application in addition to the information prescribed in clauses 1 and 2 of subsection 2 of this section.

(5) Applications are to be received by the foreign mission not later than on the 30th day before the election day.

§ 51.

Sending of election documents to voter

(1) At the earliest possible opportunity, a foreign mission sends the following to voters who sent their applications in due time and who comply with the requirements of this Act:

- 1) a ballot paper;
- 2) the consolidated list of candidates in the electoral district pursuant to the information in the list of voters or in accordance with clause 3 of subsection 3 of § 50 of this Act;
- 3) two envelopes.

(2) Where a voter permanently residing in a foreign state has indicated Tallinn as their last residence or the last residence of their parents or grandparents but has not specified the city district, the consolidated list of candidates in electoral district No 1 is sent to the voter.

(3) Where a voter permanently residing in a foreign state has indicated Petseri County as their last residence or the last residence of their parents or grandparents, the consolidated list of candidates in electoral district No 11 is sent to the voter.

§ 52.

Voting by post

(1) A voter completes a ballot paper pursuant to the requirements of this Act. The voter places the completed ballot paper in one of the envelopes sent by the foreign mission. The voter places this envelope in the other envelope sent by the foreign mission. The data pertaining to the voter are written on the outer envelope. Thereafter the voter sends the ballot paper to the foreign mission.

(2) Ballot papers sent by post are to be received by the foreign mission on the day determined by the foreign mission, which is to be determined in such manner that the State Electoral Office will receive the ballot papers not later than on the fourth day before the election day.

(3) The foreign mission makes a notation concerning the voting in the list of voters based on the ballot paper received by the due date provided in subsection 2 of this section.

(4) In the event of voting by post, the expenses relating to the acts specified in subsection 1 of § 50 of this Act and subsection 1 of this section are covered by the voter.

§ 53.

Electronic voting in foreign states⁵

[Repealed]

⁵ Out-of-country voting in internet does not have any specific rules and thus, of-country electronic voting takes place based on the same rules as in Estonia (mainly see §§ 9, 15, 181, 38, 482-4812 and 601 of Riigikogu Elections Act).

§ 54.*Voting at foreign missions*

- (1) Where a voter does not submit an application to vote by post within the term prescribed in subsection 5 of § 50 of this Act or does not send a ballot paper to the foreign mission by the due date prescribed in subsection 2 of § 52, the voter may vote at the foreign mission at the time determined by the foreign mission.
- (2) A foreign mission must allow voting at the mission at least on two days during the period from the 15th day to the 10th day before the election day.
- (3) The person managing the voting checks from the list of voters that the voter has the right to vote and in which electoral district the residence of the voter is.
- (4) Where it turns out as a result of the checking that the voter has the right to vote, the person managing the voting makes a notation in the list of voters concerning the issue of a ballot paper. The voter signs against the receipt of the ballot paper.
- (5) At a foreign mission, a voter completes a ballot paper pursuant to the provisions of this Act. Thereafter the voter places the completed ballot paper in an envelope. The voter places the envelope in another envelope. The person managing the voting writes the information pertaining to the voter on the outer envelope.

§ 55.*Taking ballot papers into account upon ascertaining of voting results*

- (1) A foreign mission sends the received envelopes with ballot papers to the State Electoral Office. Where according to the information in the list of voters, the voter has already voted or has voted several times, the foreign mission does not take into account any of the ballot papers of the voter and the envelopes with the ballot papers are not sent to the State Electoral Office.
- (2) The ballot papers received by a foreign mission are taken into account in the ascertaining of the voting results if they are received by the State Electoral Office not later than on the fourth day before the election day.
- (3) The voting results of voters permanently residing in a foreign state are ascertained by Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee.
- (4) The State Electoral Office forwards the ballot papers of voters permanently residing in a foreign state to the vote counting committee specified in subsection 3 of this section not later than on the second day before the election day.
- (5) Envelopes with the ballot papers of voters permanently residing in a foreign state are opened on the election day in order to ascertain the voting results.
- (6) Not later than on the day before the election day, the State Electoral Office forwards the envelopes with the ballot papers of voters temporarily staying in a foreign state to the vote counting committee specified in subsection 2 of § 48 of this Act, where the ballot papers are to be taken into account upon ascertaining the voting results pursuant to the provisions of subsections 4–6 of § 48 of this Act.

§ 59.*Ascertaining of voting results of voters permanently residing in foreign state*

- (1) Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee organises the counting of the votes and decides on the validity of ballot papers.
- (2) The vote counting committee begins counting the votes cast by voters permanently residing in a foreign state at 20:00 on the election day. At least three members of the vote counting committee must be present at the opening of the envelopes.
- (3) The inner envelopes which contain the ballot papers of voters permanently residing in a foreign state are opened and an impression of the seal is put on the outside of the ballot papers.
- (4) On the basis of the ballot papers, the vote counting committee verifies for each electoral district the number of voters permanently residing in a foreign state who participated in the voting, the number of invalid ballot papers and the number of votes cast for candidates and political

parties. Ballot papers are declared invalid in accordance with the provisions of subsections 7 and 8 of § 57 of this Act.

(5) [Repealed]

(6) A record signed by the chair of Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee is prepared for each electoral district with regard to ascertaining the voting results of voters permanently residing in a foreign state. The date and time of preparation of the record are indicated therein.

(7) The voting results of voters permanently residing in a foreign state are ascertained publicly. Persons who are present at the counting of votes must follow the oral orders given by members of the vote counting committee.

§ 61.

Ascertaining of voting results in National Electoral Committee

(1) On the basis of the records concerning the voting results of voters in rural municipalities and cities which are received from all the rural municipality or city secretaries and on the basis of the records concerning the voting results of voters who voted outside the electoral district of their residence, records concerning the voting results of voters permanently residing in a foreign state, voting results of the voters who voted using electronic means, and list of voters, the National Electoral Committee verifies, for each electoral district, the number of voters entered in the lists of voters, the number of voters who were given a ballot paper, the number of voters who participated in voting, the number of invalid ballot papers and the number of votes cast for candidates and political parties.

(2) The National Electoral Committee prepares a record concerning the voting results which is signed by the chair of the Committee. The date and time of preparation of the record are indicated therein.

(3) [Repealed]

(4) The ascertaining of the voting results in the National Electoral Committee is public.

§ 62.

Ascertaining of election results

(9) Where a resolution to register a candidate of a political party is revoked (subsection 5 of § 32), the votes cast for the candidate in a foreign state are retained by that political party. The votes of a candidate who dies after the start of the advance voting are also retained by the political party. Where the resolution to register an independent candidate is revoked or an independent candidate dies, the votes cast in favour of the candidate are not taken into account in the ascertaining of the election results.

§ 64.

Expenditure for organisation of elections

(5) Expenditure relating to the organisation of voting in a foreign state is covered from the state budget out of the funds available therefor in the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

c) Referendum Act

§ 30.

Ballot paper

(4) After the receipt of ballot papers, a voting district committee puts an impression of the seal of the voting district committee on the ballot papers. The State Electoral Office puts an impression of the seal on the ballot papers used for voting in foreign states.

§ 40.*Voting in Estonia by voters residing in foreign states*

A voter permanently residing in a foreign state who is entered in the list of voters and who has not voted pursuant to the procedure provided in Chapter 8 of this Act may vote pursuant to the general procedure at the time prescribed in § 31 of this Act.

Chapter 8 VOTING IN FOREIGN STATE**§ 42.***Preparation for voting*

(1) Voting in a foreign state for voters permanently residing in the foreign state and voters temporarily staying there is held by the foreign missions of Estonia.

(2) A consular authority led by an honorary consul who is an Estonian citizen may be designated to hold voting by an order of the Government of the Republic. In such case, the consular authority led by the honorary consul performs the acts prescribed in this Chapter.

(3) Voting is organised by the head of a foreign mission or an official designated by them. In the event prescribed in subsection 2 of this section, voting is organised by the honorary consul or a person designated by them. The person organising the voting must be a person who has the right to vote pursuant to § 2.

(4) [Repealed]

(5) A referendum information sheet is sent electronically to voters permanently residing in a foreign state and voters temporarily staying there pursuant to the data of the population register, to their email address registered in the data portal of Estonia or entered in the population register, not later than on the 60th day before the referendum day.

(6) The following is entered in the referendum information sheet:

- 1) information concerning the conditions of the right to vote;
- 2) address of the foreign mission;
- 3) procedure for submitting an application to vote by post, voting by post and for voting at the foreign mission;
- 4) due date for receipt by the foreign mission of applications to vote by post;
- 5) due date for receipt by the foreign mission of ballot papers sent by post;
- 6) time of voting at the foreign mission;
- 7) time of electronic voting;
- 8) the referendum issue or the title of the bill submitted to the referendum and a notation concerning publication of the bill in the *Riigi Teataja*;
- 9) other information concerning voting.

§ 43.*Submission of applications to vote*

(1) Where a voter wishes to vote by post, they send a corresponding application to the Estonian foreign mission in the country of their habitual residence. Where Estonia does not have a foreign mission in the country of habitual residence of a voter, the voter sends the application to the closest foreign mission of Estonia.

(2) A voter who has been entered in the list of voters:

- 1) appends a copy of the page of their identity document containing personal data to the application;
- 2) indicates in the application their residential address in the foreign state.

(3) A voter who has not been entered in the list of voters:

- 1) appends copies of documents which certify their identity and that they have the right to vote in accordance with § 2 to the application;
- 2) indicates their residential address in the foreign state;

- 3) indicates their last residence in Estonia (the county, the city district in Tallinn, or the city of Tartu). Where a voter permanently residing in a foreign state has not had a residence in Estonia, they indicate the last residence of their parents or grandparents in Estonia.
- (4) A voter temporarily staying in a foreign state indicates their residential address in Estonia in the application in addition to the information prescribed in clauses 1 and 2 of subsection 2.
- (5) Applications are to be received by the foreign mission not later than on the 30th day before the referendum day.

§ 44.*Sending of voting documents to voters*

On the 30th day before the referendum day, a foreign mission sends the following to voters who sent their applications in due time and who comply with the requirements of this Act:

- 1) a ballot paper;
- 2) two envelopes.

§ 45.*Voting by post*

- (1) A voter completes a ballot paper pursuant to the requirements of this Act. The voter places the completed ballot paper in one of the envelopes sent by the foreign mission. The voter places this envelope in the other envelope sent by the foreign mission. The data pertaining to the voter are written on the outer envelope. Thereafter the voter sends the ballot paper to the foreign mission.
- (2) Ballot papers sent by post are to be received by the foreign mission on the day determined by the foreign mission, which is to be determined in such manner that the State Electoral Office will receive the ballot papers not later than on the fourth day before the referendum day.
- (3) The foreign mission makes a notation concerning the voting in the list of voters based on the ballot paper received by the due date provided in subsection 2 of this section.
- (4) In the event of voting by post, the expenses relating to the acts specified in subsection 1 of § 43 in subsection 1 of this section are covered by the voter.

§ 46.*Electronic voting in foreign states*

[Repealed]

§ 47.*Voting at foreign missions*

- (1) Where a voter does not submit an application to vote by post within the term prescribed in subsection 5 of § 43 of this Act or does not send a ballot paper to the foreign mission by the due date prescribed in subsection 2 of § 45, they may vote at the foreign mission at the time determined by the foreign mission.
- (2) A foreign mission must allow voting at the mission at least on two days during the period from the 15th day to the 10th day before the referendum day.
- (3) The person managing the voting checks from the list of voters that the voter has the right to vote.
- (4) Where it turns out as a result of the checking that the voter has the right to vote, the person managing the voting makes a notation in the list of voters concerning the issue of a ballot paper. The voter signs against the receipt of the ballot paper.
- (5) At a foreign mission, a voter completes a ballot paper pursuant to the provisions of this Act. Thereafter the voter places the completed ballot paper in an envelope. The voter places the envelope with the ballot paper in another envelope. The person managing the voting writes the information pertaining to the voter on the outer envelope.

§ 48.

Taking ballot papers into account upon ascertaining of voting results

- (1) A foreign mission sends the received envelopes with ballot papers to the State Electoral Office. Where according to the information in the list of voters, the voter has already voted or has voted several times, the foreign mission does not take into account any of the ballot papers of the voter and the envelopes with the ballot papers are not sent to the State Electoral Office.
- (2) The ballot papers received by a foreign mission are taken into account in the ascertaining of the voting results if they are received by the State Electoral Office not later than on the fourth day before the referendum day.
- (3) The voting results of voters who voted in a foreign state are ascertained by Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee.
- (4) The State Electoral Office forwards the ballot papers of voters who voted in a foreign state to the vote counting committee specified in subsection 3 of this section not later than on the second day before the referendum day.
- (5) Envelopes with the ballot papers of voters who voted in a foreign state are opened on the referendum day in order to ascertain voting results.

§ 49.

Voting on board ship flying national flag of Estonia and located in international waters or waters of foreign state

[Repealed]

§ 52.

Ascertaining of voting results of voters voting in foreign state

- (1) Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee organises the counting of the votes and decides on the validity of a ballot paper.
- (2) The vote counting committee begins the counting of the votes of voters who voted in a foreign state at 20:00 on the referendum day. At least three members of the vote counting committee must be present at the opening of the envelopes.
- (3) The inner envelopes which contain the ballot papers of voters who voted in a foreign state are opened and an impression of the seal of the voting district committee is put on the outside of the ballot papers.
- (4) On the basis of the ballot papers, the vote counting committee verifies the number of voters who voted in a foreign state, the number of invalid ballot papers and the number of affirmative and negative answers to the issue submitted to the referendum. Ballot papers are declared invalid in accordance with the provisions of subsections 7 and 8 of § 50 of this Act.
- (5) A record signed by the chair of Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee is prepared with regard to ascertaining the voting results of voters who voted in a foreign state. The date and time of preparation of the record are indicated therein.
- (6) Voting results of voters who voted in a foreign state are ascertained publicly. Persons who are present at the counting of votes must follow the oral orders given by members of the vote counting committee.

d) European Parliament Election Act**§ 46.**

Voting in Estonia by voters residing in foreign states

A voter permanently residing in a foreign state who is entered in the list of voters and who has not voted pursuant to the procedure provided in Chapter 8 of this Act may vote pursuant to the general procedure at the time prescribed in § 37 of this Act.

Chapter 8 VOTING IN FOREIGN STATE

§ 48.

Preparation for voting

(1) Voting in a foreign state for voters permanently residing in the foreign state and voters temporarily staying there is held by the foreign missions of Estonia.

(2) A consular authority led by an honorary consul who is an Estonian citizen may be designated to hold voting by an order of the Government of the Republic. In such case, the consular authority led by the honorary consul performs the acts prescribed in this Chapter.

(3) Voting is organised by the head of a foreign mission or an official designated by them. In the event prescribed in subsection 2 of this section, voting is organised by the honorary consul or a person designated by them. The person organising the voting must be a person who has the right to vote pursuant to subsections 1 and 3 of § 4 of this Act.

(4) [Repealed]

(5) An election information sheet is sent electronically to voters permanently residing in the foreign state and voters temporarily staying there pursuant to the data of the population register, to their email address registered in the data portal of Estonia or entered in the population register, not later than on the 60th day before the election day.

(6) The following is entered in the election information sheet:

- 1) information concerning the conditions of the right to vote;
- 2) address of the foreign mission;
- 3) procedure for submitting an application to vote by post, voting by post and voting at the foreign mission;
- 4) due date for receipt by the foreign mission of applications to vote by post;
- 5) due date for receipt by the foreign mission of ballot papers sent by post;
- 6) time of voting at the foreign mission;
- 7) time of electronic voting;
- 8) other information concerning voting.

§ 49.

Submission of applications to vote

(1) Where a voter wishes to vote by post, they send a corresponding application to the Estonian foreign mission in the country of their habitual residence. Where Estonia does not have a foreign mission in the country of habitual residence of a voter, the voter sends the application to the closest foreign mission of Estonia.

(2) A voter who has been entered in the list of voters:

- 1) appends a copy of the page of their identity document containing personal data to the application;
- 2) indicates in the application their residential address in the foreign state.

(3) A voter who has not been entered in the list of voters:

- 1) appends copies of documents which certify their identity and that they have the right to vote pursuant to subsection 1 of § 4 of this Act to the application;
- 2) indicates in the application their residential address in the foreign state;
- 3) indicates their last residence in Estonia (the county, the city district in Tallinn, or the city of Tartu). Where a voter permanently residing in a foreign state has not had a residence in Estonia, they indicate the last residence of their parents or grandparents in Estonia.

(4) A voter temporarily staying in a foreign state indicates their residential address in Estonia in the application in addition to the information prescribed in clauses 1 and 2 of subsection 2 of this section.

(5) Applications are to be received by the foreign mission not later than on the 30th day before the election day.

§ 50.*Sending of election documents to voter*

At the earliest possible opportunity, a foreign mission sends the following to voters who sent their applications in due time and who comply with the requirements of this Act:

- 1) a ballot paper;
- 2) the consolidated list of candidates;
- 3) two envelopes.

§ 51.*Voting by post*

(1) A voter completes a ballot paper pursuant to the requirements of this Act. The voter places the completed ballot paper in one of the envelopes sent by the foreign mission. The voter places this envelope in the other envelope sent by the foreign mission. The data pertaining to the voter are written on the outer envelope. Thereafter the voter sends the ballot paper to the foreign mission.

(2) Ballot papers sent by post are to be received by the foreign mission on the day determined by the foreign mission, which is to be determined in such manner that the State Electoral Office will receive the ballot papers not later than on the fourth day before the election day.

(3) The foreign mission makes a notation concerning the voting in the list of voters based on the ballot paper received by the due date provided in subsection 2 of this section.

(4) In the event of voting by post, the expenses relating to the acts specified in subsection 1 of § 49 of this Act and subsection 1 of this section are covered by the voter.

§ 52.*Electronic voting in foreign states*

[Repealed]

§ 53.*Voting at foreign missions*

(1) Where a voter does not submit an application to vote by post within the term prescribed in subsection 5 of § 49 of this Act or does not send a ballot paper to the foreign mission by the due date prescribed in subsection 2 of § 51, the voter may vote at the foreign mission at the time determined by the foreign mission.

(2) A foreign mission must allow voting at the mission at least on two days during the period from the 15th day to the 10th day before the election day.

(3) The person managing the voting checks from the list of voters that the voter has the right to vote.

(4) Where it turns out as a result of the checking that the voter has the right to vote, the person managing the voting makes a notation in the list of voters concerning the issue of a ballot paper. The voter signs against the receipt of the ballot paper.

(5) At a foreign mission, a voter completes a ballot paper pursuant to the provisions of this Act. Thereafter the voter places the completed ballot paper in an envelope. The voter places the envelope in another envelope. The person managing the voting writes the information pertaining to the voter on the outer envelope.

§ 54.*Taking ballot papers into account upon ascertaining of voting results*

(1) A foreign mission sends the received envelopes with ballot papers to the State Electoral Office. Where according to the information in the list of voters, the voter has already voted or has

voted several times, the foreign mission does not take into account any of the ballot papers of the voter and the envelopes with the ballot papers are not sent to the State Electoral Office.

(2) The ballot papers received by a foreign mission are taken into account in the ascertaining of the voting results if they are received by the State Electoral Office not later than on the fourth day before the election day.

(3) The voting results of voters permanently residing in a foreign state are ascertained by Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee.

(4) The State Electoral Office forwards the ballot papers of voters permanently residing in a foreign state to the vote counting committee specified in subsection 3 of this section not later than on the second day before the election day.

(5) Envelopes with the ballot papers of voters permanently residing in a foreign state are opened on the election day in order to ascertain the voting results.

§ 55.

Voting on board ship flying national flag of Estonia and located in international waters or waters of foreign state

[Repealed]

§ 58.

Ascertaining of voting results of voters voting in foreign state

(1) Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee organises the counting of the votes and decides on the validity of ballot papers.

(2) The vote counting committee begins counting the votes cast by voters who voted in a foreign state at the time prescribed in § 56 of this Act. At least three members of the vote counting committee must be present at the opening of the envelopes.

(3) The inner envelopes which contain the ballot papers of voters who voted in a foreign state are opened and an impression of the seal of the voting district committee is put on the outside of the ballot papers.

(4) On the basis of the ballot papers, the vote counting committee verifies the number of voters who voted in a foreign state, the number of invalid ballot papers and the number of votes cast for candidates and political parties. Ballot papers are declared invalid in accordance with the provisions of subsections 7 and 8 of § 57 of this Act.

(5) A record signed by the chair of Tallinn City Vote Counting Committee is prepared with regard to ascertaining the voting results of voters voting in a foreign state. The date and time of preparation of the record are indicated therein.

(6) Voting results of voters who voted in a foreign state are ascertained publicly. Persons who are present at the counting of votes must follow the oral orders given by members of the vote counting committee.

FINLAND / FINLANDE**a) Constitution****Section 14**

Every Finnish citizen who has reached eighteen years of age has the right to vote in national elections and referendums. Specific provisions in this Constitution shall govern the eligibility to stand for office in national elections.

Every Finnish citizen and every other citizen of the European Union resident in Finland, having attained eighteen years of age, has the right to vote in the European Parliamentary elections, as provided by an Act. (1112/2011, entry into force 1.3.2012).

Every Finnish citizen and every foreigner permanently resident in Finland, having attained eighteen years of age, has the right to vote in municipal elections and municipal referendums, as provided by an Act. Provisions on the right to otherwise participate in municipal government are laid down by an Act.

The public authorities shall promote the opportunities for the individual to participate in societal activity and to influence the decisions that concern him or her.

b) Election Act (714/1998; amended)**Chapter 1 General provisions****Section 4***Conduct of elections*

Elections are conducted by means of advance voting, postal voting, and voting on election day. The municipality is responsible for organizing advance voting and voting on election day in Finland, and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs is responsible for organizing advance voting abroad. The Ministry of Justice is responsible for organizing postal voting.

Section 9*Advance polling stations and polling stations on election day*

Advance polling stations are:

- 1) domestic general advance polling stations, the number and location of which are decided by the municipal council and of which there must be at least one in each municipality, unless there are special reasons to the contrary;
- 2) Finnish diplomatic missions and their offices as specified by Government decree, as well as general advance polling stations for regional and municipal elections in the Province of Åland as specified by Government decree; and
- 3) hospitals, round-the-clock care facilities, and other social welfare units designated by decision of the municipal council, penal institutions, and military units providing conscript training for the Defense Forces and units providing conscript training for the Border Guard (*institution*);
- 4) Finnish ships that are abroad when advance voting takes place.

In addition, advance voting may be arranged at the voter's home (*home voting*) under the conditions set out below.

Each voting district has a *polling station on election day* designated by decision of the municipal board. For special reasons, the polling station may be located outside the electoral district or municipality, provided that this does not cause unreasonable inconvenience to voters.

The municipal council must ensure that the name, visiting address, opening days and daily opening hours of each public advance polling station in the municipality, as well as the name

and visiting address of the polling station on election day and other information specified by the Ministry of Justice, are entered without delay in the *polling station register* maintained by the Digital and Population Data Services Agency in the manner specified by the Digital and Population Data Services Agency. visiting address, opening days and daily opening hours, as well as the name and visiting address of the polling station on election day and other information specified by the Ministry of Justice. The domestic advance polling stations and polling stations on election day that are in the register of polling stations at the end of the day 51 days before election day shall be the polling stations in the election, even if a request for correction of a municipal board decision referred to in this section has not been processed and even if a municipal appeal to the administrative court seeking a change to the decision on the request for correction has not been resolved. An appeal lodged with the municipal board and a municipal appeal lodged against the municipal board's decision shall be processed urgently. No appeal may be lodged against the administrative court's decision on the appeal.

Section 18 (29.11.2019/1132)

Establishment of the register of voters and information

No later than 46 days before election day, the Digital and Population Data Services Agency shall establish a register containing all persons who, according to the population information system, are eligible to vote in the upcoming elections (voting register).

The following information on each person eligible to vote shall be entered in the register of persons eligible to vote as it appears in the population information system at midnight on the 51st day before election day:

[...]

If a person entitled to vote does not have a municipality of residence in Finland on the 51st day before the election day, the municipality of residence in accordance with the Population Register Act shall be entered in the voting rights register instead of the municipality of residence. If this municipality no longer belongs to the territory of Finland, Helsinki shall be entered instead. If a citizen of another country who is eligible to vote in regional and municipal elections or European Parliament elections does not have a municipality of residence in Finland, the municipality of residence shall be entered in the electoral register instead of the municipality of domicile. In such cases, the person entitled to vote shall belong to the voting district designated by the council pursuant to Section 8(1) for those persons entitled to vote who are not registered in the population information system in connection with any property. (29.6.2021/649)

After the establishment of the voting register, the following information shall be entered in the register for each person entitled to vote:

- 1) information on death, if the person entitled to vote has died; [...]

In European Parliament elections in Finland, a citizen of another Member State of the European Union who is eligible to vote shall be entered in the register of persons eligible to vote in European Parliament elections if he or she has notified in writing that he or she wishes to exercise his or her right to vote in European Parliament elections in Finland. In addition, it is required that they have not withdrawn their notification if they have had a permanent municipality of residence in Finland since the notification. The notification and its withdrawal must be submitted to the Digital and Population Data Services Agency no later than 80 days before the election day, before 4 p.m.

Chapter 5 Advance voting

Section 46

Right to advance voting

Every person entitled to vote may vote in advance at public advance polling stations in Finland and at Finnish diplomatic missions abroad.

A person entitled to vote who is being treated in a hospital, in a social welfare unit providing round-the-clock care or in another social welfare unit designated by the municipal board as an advance polling station, or who has been admitted to a penal institution or is performing military service or voluntary military service for women in a unit providing military training for conscripts or a unit providing conscript training for the Border Guard, may vote in advance at the institution in question. A person eligible to vote who is a member of the crew of a Finnish ship may vote in advance on the ship while it is abroad. (22.12.2021/1248) [...]

Section 47

Advance voting period

Advance voting shall commence on the 11th day before election day and shall end on the 8th day before election day abroad and on the 5th day before election day in Finland. However, on Finnish ships, advance voting may begin as early as 18 days before election day, except in the case of the second round of presidential elections.

The general advance polling station in Finland shall be open for advance voting every day during the period referred to in subsection 1, unless the municipal council decides otherwise for special reasons.

At Finnish diplomatic missions and their offices, the advance voting period may, as provided by Government decree, be shorter than that specified in subsection 1.

Section 65

Returning of election stamps

After the advance voting has ended, the election stamps shall be returned from the advance polling stations in the municipality to the municipal central election committee. Election stamps used by election officials at advance polling stations abroad shall be returned to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, which shall forward them to the central election committee of the City of Helsinki.

Chapter 5a Postal voting

Section 66a

Right to postal voting

A person entitled to vote who does not have a municipality of residence in Finland and other persons entitled to vote who live or stay abroad during the entire advance voting period and on election day may vote by mail from abroad (*postal voting*) as provided in this chapter.

Section 66d

Conducting postal voting

Voters may vote by mail in presidential elections no earlier than 38 days before election day and in other elections no earlier than 31 days before election day.

Voters are responsible for ensuring the secrecy and freedom of their vote when voting by mail.

Voters must themselves find out the information on the combined list of candidates for the electoral district or municipality in which they are eligible to vote, as well as the information on the list of candidates for the presidential election and the combined list of candidates for the European Parliament elections.

Voters fill in their ballot papers in accordance with the provisions of Section 58(1) and (2) and enclose them in the postal voting envelope. The voter must then write their full name, Finnish personal identity number or date of birth and address, polling place and date on the cover letter for the postal vote and sign the declaration on the cover letter stating that:

- 1) they are eligible to vote in the elections in question and that they do not have a municipality of residence in Finland or that they live or are staying abroad for the entire advance voting period and election day and therefore do not have the opportunity to vote in Finland; and
- 2) they have completed the ballot paper themselves and sealed it in the ballot envelope, preserving their voting secrecy and freedom.

The voter must ensure that, when submitting their postal vote, two other persons aged 18 or over are present as witnesses to the postal vote. The voter's spouse, child, or parent may not act as a witness, nor may a candidate in the election, his or her spouse, child, sibling, or parent. Both witnesses must sign the declaration in the cover letter accompanying the postal vote, confirming that the voter has voted in secret and that their right to vote has not been violated. Both witnesses shall also write their names, dates of birth, and addresses on the cover letter.

Section 66e

Posting the postal vote envelope

The voter must address the cover letter for postal voting to the central election committee of the municipality that is entered in the electoral register as their home municipality, municipality of voting rights or municipality of population registration in Finland. If necessary, the voter must find out for themselves which municipality this is.

Voters must seal the postal vote envelope and the signed postal vote cover letter inside the postal vote envelope so that the recipient's address indicated on the cover letter is visible through the window of the envelope.

Voters are responsible at their own expense for ensuring that the postal ballot envelope is delivered from abroad to the central election committee of the municipality in question in Finland and that it arrives at the central election committee no later than 7 p.m. on the second day before election day. To this end, the voter must affix a sufficient number of postage stamps to the envelope and hand it over to the postal service of their country of residence or stay for delivery. If they wish, voters may also send the envelope to the central election committee using an international courier service.

Section 4

Conduct of elections

Elections are conducted by means of advance voting, postal voting, and voting on election day. The municipality is responsible for organizing advance voting and voting on election day in Finland, and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs is responsible for organizing advance voting abroad. The Ministry of Justice is responsible for organizing postal voting.

FRANCE

a) Constitution

Article 24

Le Parlement vote la loi. Il contrôle l'action du Gouvernement. Il évalue les politiques publiques. Il comprend l'Assemblée nationale et le Sénat.

Les députés à l'Assemblée nationale, dont le nombre ne peut excéder cinq cent soixante-dix-sept, sont élus au suffrage direct.

Le Sénat, dont le nombre de membres ne peut excéder trois cent quarante-huit, est élu au suffrage indirect. Il assure la représentation des collectivités territoriales de la République.

Les Français établis hors de France sont représentés à l'Assemblée nationale et au Sénat.

b) Code électoral

Article L12

Les Français et les Françaises inscrits au registre des Français établis hors de France de la circonscription consulaire dans laquelle ils ont leur résidence peuvent, sur leur demande, être inscrits sur la liste électorale de l'une des communes suivantes :

- Commune de naissance ;

- Commune de leur dernier domicile ;

- Commune de leur dernière résidence, à condition que cette résidence ait été de six mois au moins ;

- Commune où est né, est inscrit ou a été inscrit sur la liste électorale un de leurs ascendants ;

- Commune sur la liste électorale de laquelle est inscrit ou a été inscrit un de leurs parents jusqu'au quatrième degré.

Article L17

Les listes électorales sont permanentes. Les demandes d'inscription sur les listes électorales, en vue de participer à un scrutin, sont déposées au plus tard le sixième vendredi précédant ce scrutin.

Article L125

Les circonscriptions sont déterminées conformément aux tableaux n° 1 pour les départements, n° 1 bis pour la Nouvelle-Calédonie et les collectivités d'outre-mer régies par l'article 74 de la Constitution et n° 1 ter pour les Français établis hors de France annexés au présent code.

Article LO328

Les dispositions ayant valeur organique du titre II du livre Ier sont applicables à l'élection des députés par les Français établis hors de France, à l'exception de l'article LO. 132.

Article LO329

Les chefs de mission diplomatique et les chefs de poste consulaire ne peuvent pas faire acte de candidature à l'élection des députés par les Français établis hors de France dans toute circonscription incluant le ressort dans lequel ils exercent ou ont exercé leurs fonctions depuis moins de trois ans à la date du scrutin.

En outre, ne peuvent être élus dans toute circonscription incluant le ressort dans lequel ils exercent ou ont exercé leurs fonctions depuis moins d'un an à la date du scrutin :

- 1° Les adjoints des chefs de mission diplomatique et des chefs de poste consulaire ;
- 2° Les chefs de missions militaires et des services civils placés auprès d'eux, ainsi que leurs adjoints ;
- 3° Les fonctionnaires consulaires honoraires, au sens de la convention de Vienne sur les relations consulaires du 24 avril 1963 ;
- 4° Les officiers exerçant un commandement dans la circonscription.

Article L330

Sont applicables aux députés élus par les Français établis hors de France, sous réserve des dispositions du présent livre, les dispositions ayant valeur de loi ordinaire des titres Ier et II du livre Ier, à l'exception de celles du chapitre II du titre Ier et des articles L. 47, L. 48, L. 51, L. 52, L. 53 et L. 85-1.

Pour l'application de ces dispositions à l'élection des députés par les Français établis hors de France :

- 1° Il y a lieu de lire : " liste électorale consulaire " au lieu de : " liste électorale " et, aux articles L. 71 et L. 72, " circonscription consulaire " au lieu de : " commune " ;
- 2° Un décret en Conseil d'Etat détermine les attributions conférées au préfet et au maire qui sont exercées par le ministre des affaires étrangères, par le ministre de l'intérieur, par l'ambassadeur ou par le chef de poste consulaire.

Article L330-1

La population des Français établis dans chacune des circonscriptions délimitées conformément au tableau n° 1 ter annexé au présent code est estimée chaque année au 1er janvier. Elle est authentifiée par décret.

L'Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques apporte à l'autorité ministérielle compétente son concours technique à la mise en œuvre des dispositions du présent livre.

Section 1 : Liste électorale (Articles L330-2 à L330-4)

Article L330-2

Sont électrices les personnes inscrites sur les listes électorales consulaires dressées en application de la loi organique du 31 janvier 1976 susmentionnée.

Prennent part au vote les électeurs régulièrement inscrits sur une liste électorale consulaire de la circonscription ou autorisés à y participer par une décision en ce sens de l'autorité judiciaire.

Article L330-4

Les candidats ou leurs représentants peuvent prendre communication et copie des listes électorales de la circonscription à l'ambassade, au poste consulaire ou au ministère des affaires étrangères. Il en est de même de tout parti ou groupement politique représenté par un mandataire dûment habilité.

Les députés élus par les Français établis hors de France peuvent prendre communication et copie de l'ensemble des listes électorales consulaires de leur circonscription.

Tout électeur peut prendre communication et copie de la liste électorale consulaire sur laquelle il est inscrit au lieu de son dépôt ou du double de cette liste au ministère des affaires étrangères. Les personnes et les partis ou groupements politiques exerçant la faculté prévue au présent article s'engagent à ne pas faire un usage commercial des listes électorales consulaires et à ne pas les utiliser à des fins de politique intérieure de l'Etat de résidence de l'électeur.

La faculté prévue au présent article peut être restreinte ou refusée si, en raison de circonstances locales, la divulgation des informations relatives à l'adresse ou à la nationalité française des personnes inscrites est de nature à porter atteinte à la sécurité ou à leur sûreté.

Section 2 : Déclaration de candidature (Article L330-5)**Article L330-5**

Par dérogation à l'article L. 157 :

1° (Abrogé) ;

2° Outre le candidat et son remplaçant, un représentant du candidat, spécialement mandaté, peut remettre la déclaration de candidature.

Section 3 : Campagne électorale (Article L330-6)**Article L330-6**

A l'intérieur des locaux des ambassades et des postes consulaires et des bureaux de vote ouverts dans d'autres locaux, des emplacements sont réservés, pendant la durée de la campagne électorale, pour l'apposition des affiches électorales des candidats.

Dans chacun de ces emplacements, une surface égale est attribuée à chaque candidat.

Sous réserve des nécessités de service et de l'article L. 49, l'Etat met ses locaux diplomatiques, consulaires, culturels et scolaires à la disposition des candidats qui en font la demande pour la tenue de réunions électorales.

Les attributions de la commission prévue à l'article L. 166 sont exercées par la commission électorale mentionnée à l'article 14 de la loi organique du 31 janvier 1976 susmentionnée.

Les ambassades et les postes consulaires participent à l'envoi aux électeurs des circulaires et des bulletins de vote des candidats dans des conditions fixées par décret en Conseil d'Etat. Ils les tiennent à disposition des électeurs dans leurs locaux.

La référence à l'article L. 51 figurant à l'article L. 165 s'entend de la référence au présent article.

Section 4 : Financement de la campagne électorale (Articles L330-6-1 à L330-10)**Article L330-6-1**

Par dérogation à l'article L. 52-4, le mandataire peut autoriser par écrit une personne par pays de la circonscription, autre que le candidat ou son suppléant, à régler des dépenses mentionnées dans l'autorisation. Ces dépenses sont remboursées par le mandataire. Les autorisations sont annexées au compte de campagne.

En outre, dans les pays où la monnaie n'est pas convertible, dans ceux où les transferts financiers en France sont impossibles et dans ceux où existe un contrôle des changes faisant obstacle en tout ou partie aux transferts nécessaires aux dépenses électorales, la personne autorisée mentionnée au premier alinéa peut, avec l'accord du mandataire, ouvrir un compte spécial dans le pays concerné pour y déposer les fonds collectés pour la campagne. Dans la limite des fonds disponibles, les dépenses mentionnées dans l'autorisation sont réglées à partir de ce compte spécial.

Toutes les informations relatives à ces comptes et aux justificatifs des mouvements enregistrés sont transmises au mandataire du candidat pour être annexées au compte de campagne.

Un décret en Conseil d'Etat détermine, en tant que de besoin, les modalités d'application du présent article.

Article L330-7

I. - Pour l'application de l'article L. 52-5 :

1° L'association de financement est déclarée à la préfecture de police ;

2° Le compte unique mentionné au deuxième alinéa est ouvert en France.

II. - Pour l'application de l'article L. 52-6 :

1° Le mandataire financier est déclaré à la préfecture de Paris ;

2° Le compte unique mentionné au deuxième alinéa est ouvert en France ;

3° Le préfet mentionné au dernier alinéa est le préfet de Paris.

Article L330-9-1

Par dérogation au II de l'article L. 52-12, le compte de campagne doit être déposé avant dix-huit heures le quinzième vendredi qui suit le tour de scrutin où l'élection a été acquise.

Article L330-10

Les montants en euros fixés par le chapitre V bis du titre Ier du livre Ier sont remplacés par leur contre-valeur exprimée dans la ou les devises qui ont cours dans la circonscription. Le taux de change utilisé pour procéder aux opérations prévues à l'article L. 52-12 est celui en vigueur le dernier jour du mois précédant le paiement de la dépense ou l'encaissement de la recette.

Section 5 : Opérations de vote (Articles L330-11 à L330-13)**Article L330-11**

Par dérogation aux articles L. 55, L. 56 et L. 173, le premier tour de scrutin a lieu le dimanche précédant la date du scrutin en métropole.

Toutefois, dans les ambassades et les postes consulaires d'Amérique, le premier tour de scrutin a lieu le deuxième samedi précédant la date du scrutin en métropole.

Le second tour a lieu le quatorzième jour suivant le premier tour.

Article L330-12

Chaque ambassade pourvue d'une circonscription consulaire et chaque poste consulaire organisent les opérations de vote.

Toutefois, en cas de nécessité, une ambassade ou un poste consulaire peut, par décret, être chargé d'organiser ces opérations pour le compte de plusieurs circonscriptions consulaires.

Article L330-13

Les électeurs votent dans les bureaux ouverts en application de l'article précédent.

Ils peuvent également, par dérogation à l'article L. 54, voter par correspondance, soit sous pli fermé, soit par voie électronique au moyen de matériels et de logiciels permettant de respecter le secret du vote et la sincérité du scrutin. Un décret en Conseil d'Etat fixe les modalités d'application du présent alinéa.

Pour l'application de l'article L. 73, le nombre maximal de procurations dont peut bénéficier le mandataire est de trois. Le mandataire ne peut voter que dans les conditions prévues au premier alinéa.

Section 6 : Recensement des votes (Articles L330-14 à L330-15)**Article L330-14**

Après la clôture du scrutin, les résultats sont immédiatement affichés dans les locaux diplomatiques ou consulaires intéressés.

Ces résultats, ainsi qu'un exemplaire des procès-verbaux, et les documents mentionnés à l'article L. 68 sont transmis à la commission électorale mentionnée à l'article 14 de la loi organique du 31 janvier 1976 susmentionnée. Les transmissions à la préfecture prévues aux premier et dernier alinéas de l'article L. 68 s'entendent des transmissions à cette commission.

c) Loi n° 2013-659 du 22 juillet 2013 relative à la représentation des Français établis hors de France**Article 3**

Après de chaque ambassade pourvue d'une circonscription consulaire et de chaque poste consulaire, un conseil consulaire est chargé de formuler des avis sur les questions consulaires ou d'intérêt général, notamment culturel, éducatif, économique et social, concernant les Français établis dans la circonscription.

Les conseils consulaires peuvent être consultés sur toute question concernant les Français établis dans la circonscription et relative à la protection sociale et à l'action sociale, à l'emploi, à la formation professionnelle et à l'apprentissage, à l'enseignement français à l'étranger et à la sécurité. Ils peuvent également être consultés sur les conditions d'exercice du mandat de conseiller des Français de l'étranger.

Chaque année, l'ambassadeur ou le chef de poste consulaire présente au conseil consulaire un rapport sur la situation de la circonscription consulaire et faisant l'état des lieux des actions menées dans les domaines de compétences du conseil consulaire.

Un conseiller des Français de l'étranger élu par et parmi les membres élus du conseil consulaire en assure la présidence. Il peut désigner pour le remplacer un autre élu de la circonscription. Pour l'application de l'article 8 de la loi organique n° 76-97 du 31 janvier 1976 relative aux listes électorales consulaires et au vote des Français établis hors de France pour l'élection du Président de la République, il tient lieu de vice-président du conseil consulaire.

L'ambassadeur ou le chef de poste consulaire assure les fonctions de rapporteur général du conseil consulaire. Il peut se faire représenter.

Les conseillers des Français de l'étranger sont membres de droit du ou des conseils consulaires constitués dans la circonscription électorale dans le ressort de laquelle ils ont été élus.

Les délibérations des conseils consulaires donnent lieu à l'établissement d'un procès-verbal. Sont annexées au procès-verbal, le cas échéant, les motivations de l'administration, lorsque des décisions de refus en lien avec l'attribution d'un droit ont été prises contre l'avis du conseil consulaire.

Les conseillers des Français de l'étranger ont droit à une formation adaptée à leurs fonctions. Ils ont accès à des formations organisées par le ministère des affaires étrangères.

Ces formations peuvent être organisées à distance ou lors des sessions de l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger.

TITRE II : ÉLECTION DES CONSEILLERS DES FRANÇAIS DE L'ÉTRANGER ET DES CONSEILLERS À L'ASSEMBLÉE DES FRANÇAIS DE L'ÉTRANGER (Articles 14 à 39)

Chapitre Ier : Dispositions communes à l'élection des conseillers des Français de l'étranger et des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger (Articles 14 à 24)

Article 14

Les conseillers des Français de l'étranger et les conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger sont élus pour six ans au suffrage universel.

Les conseillers des Français de l'étranger sont élus au suffrage direct en mai.

Le nombre de mandats consécutifs est limité à trois pour les conseillers des Français de l'étranger et les conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger.

Les conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger sont élus par les conseillers des Français de l'étranger dans le mois suivant leur renouvellement général.

Article 15

I. — Sont applicables à l'élection des conseillers des Français de l'étranger et des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger, sous réserve des dispositions du présent titre, les articles L. 54, L. 58 à L. 62, L. 63 à L. 69, L. 71 à L. 78, L. 118-4 et L. 330-16 du code électoral ainsi que le chapitre VII du titre Ier du livre Ier et le titre Ier du livre VIII du même code.

Pour l'application des dispositions mentionnées au premier alinéa du présent I, il y a lieu de lire : "liste électorale consulaire" au lieu de : "liste électorale" , "ambassadeur ou chef de poste consulaire" au lieu de : "maire".

Pour l'application de l'article L. 73 du même code, le nombre maximal de procurations dont peut disposer le mandataire est de trois et le mandataire ne peut voter que dans les conditions prévues au premier alinéa des I et II de l'article 22 de la présente loi.

II. — Sont applicables à l'élection des seuls conseillers des Français de l'étranger, sous réserve des dispositions du chapitre II du présent titre, les chapitres Ier, III et V du titre Ier du livre Ier du code électoral, à l'exception des articles L. 47, L. 48, L. 51 et L. 52. Sont également applicables les articles L. 62-1, L. 62-2, L. 330-2 et L. 330-4, les trois premiers alinéas de l'article L. 330-6, l'article L. 330-12 et le premier alinéa de l'article L. 330-14 du même code.

Pour l'application des dispositions mentionnées au premier alinéa du présent II, il y a lieu de lire : "liste électorale consulaire" au lieu de : "liste électorale" et "ambassadeur ou chef de poste consulaire" au lieu de : "maire".

Article 16

Sont éligibles au conseil consulaire les électeurs inscrits sur l'une des listes électorales consulaires de la circonscription électorale dans laquelle ils se présentent.

Sont éligibles à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger les conseillers des Français de l'étranger élus en application du chapitre II du présent titre.

Nul ne peut être candidat dans plusieurs circonscriptions.

Article 18

I. — Les électeurs sont convoqués par décret publié :

1° Quatre-vingt-dix jours au moins avant la date du scrutin, pour l'élection des conseillers des Français de l'étranger ;

2° Vingt et un jours au moins avant la date du scrutin, pour l'élection des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger.

II. — Le scrutin a lieu dans chaque circonscription un dimanche ou, dans les ambassades et les postes consulaires situés sur le continent américain, le samedi précédent.

Article 20

I. — Dans les circonscriptions électorales où un unique siège est à pourvoir, les candidatures peuvent être retirées jusqu'à la date limite prévue au I de l'article 19 pour le dépôt des candidatures. Le retrait obéit aux mêmes conditions d'enregistrement que la déclaration de candidature.

Lorsqu'un candidat décède postérieurement à l'expiration du délai prévu pour le dépôt des déclarations de candidature, son remplaçant devient candidat et peut désigner un nouveau remplaçant. Lorsqu'un remplaçant décède pendant la même période, le candidat peut désigner un nouveau remplaçant.

II. — Dans les circonscriptions électorales où plus d'un siège est à pourvoir, les retraits de listes complètes sont admis dans le délai prévu au I de l'article 19, à condition que la déclaration de retrait comporte la signature de la majorité des membres de la liste de candidats. Aucun retrait de membre d'une liste n'est admis après le dépôt de la déclaration de candidature.

En cas de décès de l'un des candidats, les autres membres de la liste doivent le remplacer immédiatement par un nouveau candidat, au rang du candidat décédé. Cette nouvelle candidature fait l'objet d'une déclaration complémentaire soumise aux règles prévues au même article 19. Toutefois, demeurent valables sans modification les listes portant le nom d'un candidat décédé postérieurement au huitième jour précédant le scrutin.

Article 21

I. — Les électeurs sont informés de la date de l'élection, des conditions dans lesquelles ils peuvent voter ainsi que des candidats ou de la liste de candidats, par envoi électronique ou, à défaut, par envoi postal, au plus tard :

1° Cinquante jours avant la date du scrutin, pour l'élection des conseillers des Français de l'étranger ;

2° Onze jours avant la date du scrutin, pour l'élection des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger.

Chaque candidat ou liste de candidats peut transmettre au ministre des affaires étrangères une circulaire électorale afin qu'elle soit mise à disposition et transmise aux électeurs sous une forme dématérialisée.

II. — Les candidats ou listes de candidats remettent leurs bulletins de vote au chef-lieu de leur circonscription électorale.

Dans le respect des dispositions du II de l'article 19 et sous réserve des dispositions du second alinéa du I de l'article 20, le bulletin de vote comporte, dans les circonscriptions électorales où un unique siège est à pourvoir, le nom du candidat et celui de son remplaçant.

Dans le respect des dispositions du III de l'article 19 et sous réserve des dispositions du second alinéa du II de l'article 20, le bulletin de vote comporte, dans les circonscriptions électorales où plus d'un siège est à pourvoir, le titre de la liste et les noms des candidats, dans l'ordre de leur présentation.

III. — L'Etat prend à sa charge les frais d'acheminement de ces bulletins vers les bureaux de vote de la circonscription électorale.

Les candidats ou listes de candidats ayant obtenu au moins 5 % des suffrages exprimés sont remboursés, sur une base forfaitaire, du coût du papier et des frais d'impression des bulletins de vote et, pour la seule élection des conseillers des Français de l'étranger, en application du premier alinéa du II de l'article 15, des affiches électorales.

Article 22

I. — Pour l'élection des conseillers des Français de l'étranger, les électeurs votent dans les bureaux ouverts à l'étranger par les ambassades et les postes consulaires.

Ils peuvent, par dérogation à l'article L. 54 du code électoral, voter par correspondance électronique, au moyen de matériels et de logiciels de nature à respecter le secret du vote et la sincérité du scrutin. Lorsqu'il envisage de ne pas autoriser le vote par correspondance électronique, le Gouvernement consulte préalablement l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger ou, dans l'intervalle des sessions, son bureau.

II. — Pour l'élection des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger, les électeurs votent dans le bureau ouvert au chef-lieu de la circonscription électorale.

Ils peuvent, par dérogation au même article L. 54, voter le deuxième vendredi précédant la date du scrutin, dans les conditions prévues au troisième alinéa de l'article 51 de la présente loi.

Article 23

Le recensement des votes et l'attribution des sièges sont effectués à l'ambassade ou au poste consulaire du chef-lieu de la circonscription électorale, en présence des représentants des candidats ou listes de candidats, par l'ambassadeur ou le chef de poste consulaire, ou son représentant. Les résultats sont proclamés au plus tard le mardi suivant le jour du scrutin à 18 heures.

Pour l'application de l'article L. 68 du code électoral, la transmission à la préfecture s'entend de la transmission à l'ambassade ou au poste consulaire.

Article 25

Les conseillers des Français de l'étranger sont élus dans le cadre de circonscriptions électorales délimitées conformément au tableau annexé à la présente loi. Les chefs-lieux de ces circonscriptions sont fixés par arrêté du ministre des affaires étrangères. Le nombre de conseillers des Français de l'étranger à élire dans chaque circonscription est déterminé conformément au tableau ci-après, en fonction de la part de la population française de chaque circonscription électorale, arrêtée au 1er janvier de l'année de l'élection, dans le total des inscrits au registre des Français établis hors de France, arrêté à la même date en application du premier alinéa de l'article L. 330-1 du code électoral :

CIRCONSCRIPTION ÉLECTORALE dont la population française est : NOMBRE de conseillers des Français de l'étranger Inférieure à la 750e partie du total des inscrits

1 - Egale ou supérieure à la 750e partie du total des inscrits mais inférieure à sa 200e partie

3 - Egale ou supérieure à la 200e partie du total des inscrits mais inférieure à sa 100e partie

- 4 - Egale ou supérieure à la 100e partie du total des inscrits mais inférieure à sa 50e partie
- 5 - Egale ou supérieure à la 50e partie du total des inscrits mais inférieure à sa 30e partie
- 6 - Egale ou supérieure à la 30e partie du total des inscrits mais inférieure à sa 15e partie
- 7 - Egale ou supérieure à la 15e partie du total des inscrits
- 9 - Avant chaque renouvellement général, un arrêté du ministre des affaires étrangères précise le nombre de conseillers à élire dans chaque circonscription en application du présent article. Les limites des circonscriptions consulaires auxquelles se réfère le tableau annexé à la présente loi sont celles qui résultent des dispositions en vigueur à la date de sa promulgation.

Article 26

Dans les circonscriptions électorales où un unique siège est à pourvoir, l'élection a lieu au scrutin uninominal majoritaire à un tour.

Dans les circonscriptions électorales où plusieurs sièges sont à pourvoir, l'élection a lieu au scrutin de liste à un tour, à la représentation proportionnelle suivant la règle de la plus forte moyenne, sans adjonction ni suppression de noms et sans modification de l'ordre de présentation.

Article 27

Dans les circonscriptions où l'élection a lieu au scrutin majoritaire, est élu le candidat ayant recueilli le plus grand nombre de suffrages exprimés. En cas d'égalité de suffrages, le plus jeune des candidats est élu.

Dans les circonscriptions où l'élection a lieu à la représentation proportionnelle, les sièges sont attribués aux candidats d'après l'ordre de présentation. Si plusieurs listes ont la même moyenne pour l'attribution du dernier siège, celui-ci revient à la liste qui a obtenu le plus grand nombre de suffrages. En cas d'égalité de suffrages, le siège est attribué au plus jeune des candidats susceptibles d'être proclamés élus.

Article 28

Dans les circonscriptions où l'élection a eu lieu au scrutin majoritaire, les conseillers des Français de l'étranger dont le siège devient vacant pour quelque cause que ce soit, autre que l'annulation des opérations électorales, sont remplacés, jusqu'au prochain renouvellement général, par les personnes élues en même temps qu'eux à cet effet.

Dans les circonscriptions où l'élection a eu lieu à la représentation proportionnelle, le candidat venant sur une liste immédiatement après le dernier élu est appelé à remplacer, jusqu'au prochain renouvellement général, le conseiller des Français de l'étranger élu sur cette liste dont le siège devient vacant pour quelque cause que ce soit, autre que l'annulation des opérations électorales.

Chapitre III : Dispositions spéciales à l'élection des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger (Articles 32 à 38)

Article 32

Les conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger sont élus dans le cadre de circonscriptions électorales et selon une répartition entre circonscriptions définies au tableau annexé à la présente loi. Les chefs-lieux de circonscription électorale sont fixés par arrêté du ministre des affaires étrangères.

Tout conseiller à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger est déclaré démissionnaire d'office par arrêté du ministre des affaires étrangères, sauf recours devant le Conseil d'Etat formé dans le délai d'un mois à compter de la notification, si, pour quelque cause que ce soit, il vient à perdre son mandat de conseiller des Français de l'étranger.

Article 33

I. — Les conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger sont élus dans chaque circonscription au scrutin de liste à un tour, sans adjonction ni suppression de noms et sans modification de l'ordre de présentation.

II. — L'ensemble des sièges est attribué à la représentation proportionnelle selon la règle de la plus forte moyenne entre les listes ayant obtenu au moins 5 % des suffrages exprimés au sein de la circonscription, selon l'ordre de présentation de la liste.

Si plusieurs listes ont la même moyenne pour l'attribution du dernier siège, celui-ci revient à la liste qui a obtenu le plus grand nombre de suffrages. En cas d'égalité de suffrages, le siège est attribué au plus jeune des candidats susceptibles d'être proclamés élus.

Article 34

Le bureau de vote est présidé par l'ambassadeur ou le chef de poste consulaire du chef-lieu de la circonscription électorale, ou par son représentant.

Pendant toute la durée des opérations électorales, une copie de la liste des électeurs de la circonscription électorale, certifiée par l'ambassadeur ou le chef de poste consulaire du chef-lieu de la circonscription, reste déposée sur la table du bureau de vote. Cette copie constitue la liste d'émargement.

Le vote de chaque électeur est constaté par sa signature apposée à l'encre en face de son nom sur la liste d'émargement. Le vote d'un électeur selon les modalités prévues au second alinéa du II de l'article 22 est constaté par une mention expresse en face de son nom sur la liste d'émargement.

Article 35

Le candidat venant sur une liste immédiatement après le dernier élu est appelé à remplacer, jusqu'au prochain renouvellement général, le conseiller à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger élu sur cette liste dont le siège devient vacant pour quelque cause que ce soit, autre que l'annulation des opérations électorales.

Article 36

En cas d'annulation des opérations électorales d'une circonscription ou lorsque les dispositions de l'article 35 ne peuvent plus être appliquées, il est procédé à des élections partielles dans un délai de quatre mois.

Toutefois, il n'est procédé à aucune élection partielle dans les six mois qui précèdent le renouvellement général des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger.

Les élections partielles obéissent aux mêmes règles que celles prévues, en application du chapitre Ier du présent titre et du présent chapitre, pour les renouvellements généraux. Toutefois, pour les élections où un unique siège est à pourvoir, il est pourvu à la vacance du siège par une élection au scrutin uninominal majoritaire, selon les modalités prévues au premier alinéa de l'article 32, aux I et II de l'article 19, au I de l'article 20 et au premier alinéa de l'article 27.

Le mandat des personnes élues en application du présent article expire à l'occasion du renouvellement général des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger.

Article 37

Les démissions des conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger sont adressées à son président.

La démission est définitive dès sa réception par cette autorité, qui en informe immédiatement le ministre des affaires étrangères.

Article 38

Les conseillers à l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger peuvent prendre communication et copie de l'ensemble des listes électorales consulaires de leur circonscription d'élection, dans les conditions prévues à l'article L. 330-4 du code électoral.

Chapitre II : Mode de scrutin (Articles 44 à 45)**Article 44**

Les sénateurs représentant les Français établis hors de France sont élus par un collège électoral composé :

1° Des députés élus par les Français établis hors de France et des sénateurs représentant les Français établis hors de France ;

2° Des conseillers des Français de l'étranger ;

3° Des délégués consulaires.

Dans le cas où un conseiller des Français de l'étranger ou un délégué consulaire est également député élu par les Français établis hors de France ou sénateur représentant les Français établis hors de France, un remplaçant lui est désigné, sur sa présentation, par le président de l'Assemblée des Français de l'étranger.

Article 45

L'élection a lieu dans les conditions prévues à l'article L. 295 du code électoral.

Chapitre V : Opérations préparatoires au scrutin (Articles 49 à 50)**Article 49**

Les élections ont lieu au jour fixé pour le renouvellement de la série concernée.

Le chapitre VI du titre IV du livre II du code électoral est applicable.

Article 50

Les bulletins de vote et le matériel de vote sont mis à la disposition des membres du collège électoral par les ambassadeurs et les chefs de poste consulaire ainsi que par un fonctionnaire du ministère des affaires étrangères désigné par le ministre des affaires étrangères.

Les bulletins de vote comprennent le titre de la liste et les noms des candidats dans l'ordre de leur présentation.

Chapitre VI : Opérations de vote (Articles 51 à 52)**Article 51**

Le bureau de vote se réunit au ministère des affaires étrangères. Il est présidé par un conseiller à la cour d'appel de Paris, désigné par le premier président de cette juridiction.

Les membres du collège électoral votent au bureau de vote dans les conditions prévues aux articles L. 63 à L. 67, L. 313 et L. 314 et au second alinéa de l'article L. 314-1 du code électoral. Pendant toute la durée des opérations de vote, une copie de la liste des membres du collège électoral, certifiée par le ministre des affaires étrangères, reste déposée sur la table du bureau de vote. Cette copie constitue la liste d'émargement. Pour l'application de l'article L. 65 du même code, les membres du bureau de vote assurent les fonctions de scrutateur.

Les membres du collège électoral peuvent également voter le deuxième samedi précédant le scrutin, dans leur circonscription d'élection, auprès de l'ambassadeur ou du chef de poste consulaire. Après passage dans l'isoloir, l'électeur remet en mains propres à l'ambassadeur ou

au chef de poste consulaire un pli contenant son bulletin de vote dans une enveloppe. L'électeur signe ce pli ainsi que la liste d'émargement, sur laquelle figure le numéro du pli. Il est remis à l'électeur un récépissé sur lequel figurent le nom du votant et le numéro du pli. Les conditions de l'enregistrement, de la conservation et du transfert du pli au bureau de vote, de nature à respecter le secret du vote et la sincérité du scrutin, sont définies par décret en Conseil d'Etat.

Chaque liste peut désigner, auprès du bureau de vote réuni au ministère des affaires étrangères ainsi que dans chaque ambassade ou poste consulaire où le vote a lieu, un délégué chargé de suivre l'ensemble des opérations de vote.

Article 52

Aussitôt après avoir proclamé les résultats du scrutin, le président du bureau de vote les communique au ministre des affaires étrangères. Il lui adresse également les listes d'émargement ainsi que les documents qui y sont annexés.

Chapitre VII : Vote par procuration (Article 53)

Article 53

Pour l'application du deuxième alinéa de l'article 51, les membres du collège électoral peuvent exercer leur droit de vote par procuration lorsque des obligations professionnelles ou familiales ou des raisons de santé dûment établies les empêchent de participer personnellement au scrutin. Le mandataire doit être membre du collège électoral. Il ne peut disposer que d'une procuration. Si cette limite n'a pas été respectée, seule est valable la procuration dressée en premier ; la ou les autres sont nulles de plein droit.

Le vote du mandataire est constaté par l'estampillage de la procuration et par sa signature apposée à l'encre sur la liste d'émargement en face du nom du mandant.

Les articles L. 75 à L. 77 du code électoral sont applicables à ces procurations.

GEORGIA / GEORGIE**a) Constitution****Article 24***Electoral right*

1. Every citizen of Georgia who has attained the age of 18 shall have the right to participate in referendums and elections of the bodies of the state, autonomous republics and local self-governments. The free expression of the will of a voter shall be guaranteed.
2. A citizen who, following a court judgment, is serving a sentence for a particularly serious crime in a penitentiary institution, or who has been recognised by a court decision as a beneficiary of support and admitted to an inpatient care facility, shall not have the right to participate in elections and referendums.

b) Electoral Code**Article 2***Definitions*

For the purposes of this Law, the terms used herein have the following meanings:

- a) Elections – the electoral process held within the borders of Georgia, the purpose and result of which is the election of representative bodies of public authority and public officials;
 - b) referendum – a general public vote held within the borders of Georgia, by secret ballot, for the universal, with equal and direct expression of will, for the final resolution of particularly important state matters;
 - c) Plebiscite – a popular vote held within the borders of Georgia, by secret ballot, to ascertain the opinion of the electorate or a portion of it on particularly important state matters, the results of which are of a recommendatory nature for the bodies of state power;
- (...)

GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE**a) Basic Law****Article 38**

- (1) Members of the German Bundestag shall be elected in general, direct, free, equal and secret elections. They shall be representatives of the whole people, not bound by mandates or instructions, and subject only to their conscience.
- (2) Anyone who has reached the age of eighteen is eligible to vote; anyone who has reached the age of majority is eligible for election.
- (3) Further details shall be determined by federal law.

b) Federal Electoral Act**§ 12***Right to vote*

- (1) All Germans within the meaning of Article 116(1) of the Basic Law who, on election day
- have reached the age of eighteen,
 - have had a residence in the Federal Republic of Germany for at least three months or otherwise habitually reside there,
 - are not excluded from voting under Section 13.
- (2) Germans within the meaning of Article 116(1) of the Basic Law who live outside the Federal Republic of Germany on election day are also eligible to vote if they meet the other requirements, provided that
- have had a residence in the Federal Republic of Germany for at least three months without interruption after reaching the age of fourteen or have otherwise usually resided there, and this residence was not more than 25 years ago, or
 - have acquired personal and direct familiarity with the political conditions in the Federal Republic of Germany for other reasons and are affected by them.
- A former residence or place of habitual residence in the territory referred to in Article 3 of the Unification Treaty shall also be deemed to be a residence or place of habitual residence within the meaning of sentence 1. Upon the return of a person eligible to vote under sentence 1 to the Federal Republic of Germany, the three-month period specified in paragraph 1, no. 2 shall not apply.
- (3) For the purposes of this Act, a residence is any enclosed space used for living or sleeping. However, caravans and houseboats shall only be regarded as residences if they are not moved or are only moved occasionally.
- (4) If they do not or have not had a residence in the Federal Republic of Germany, the following shall be regarded as a residence within the meaning of paragraph 1, no. 2 or paragraph 2, sentence 1
- for seafarers and members of their households, the ship on which they live, if it is entitled to fly the federal flag in accordance with the Flag Law Act, as amended
 - for inland waterway workers and members of their households, the ship on which they live, if it is registered in a ship register in the Federal Republic of Germany
 - for persons serving a court-ordered custodial sentence and for other inmates, the institution or corresponding facility.
- (5) When calculating the three-month period referred to in paragraph 1, no. 2 and paragraph 2, sentence 1, the day on which the person took up residence or lodging shall be included in the period.

§ 14*Exercising the right to vote*

- (1) Only persons who are entered in a register of electors or who have a polling card may vote.
- (2) Persons who are entered in the register of electors may only vote in the electoral district in which they are listed.
- (3) Anyone who has a polling card may participate in the election of the constituency in which the polling card was issued
 - a. by casting their vote in any electoral district of that constituency or
 - b. by postal vote.
- (4) Each eligible voter may exercise their right to vote only once and only in person. It is not permissible for a representative to exercise the right to vote on behalf of the eligible voter.
- (5) An eligible voter who is unable to read or who is prevented from casting their vote due to a disability may enlist the help of another person for this purpose. Such assistance shall be limited to technical assistance in communicating the voting decision made and expressed by the eligible voter themselves. Assistance that is provided through undue influence, that replaces or alters the eligible voter's own decision-making or choice, or where there is a conflict of interest on the part of the person providing assistance, is not permitted.

§ 17*Electoral register and polling card*

- (1) The municipal authorities shall maintain a register of eligible voters for each electoral district. Every eligible voter shall have the right to check the accuracy and completeness of the data entered in the electoral register concerning him or her during normal opening hours on working days from the 20th to the 16th day before the election.

In order to check the accuracy or completeness of the data of other persons entered in the electoral register, persons eligible to vote shall only have the right to inspect the electoral register during the period specified in sentence 2 if they can substantiate facts which may indicate that the electoral register is inaccurate or incomplete. The right to check pursuant to sentence 3 does not apply to the data of eligible voters for whom a blocking note has been entered in the register of residents pursuant to Section 51 (1) of the Federal Registration Act.
- (2) An eligible voter who is entered in the electoral register or who has not been included in the electoral register for reasons beyond their control shall receive a polling card upon request.

§ 36*Postal voting*

- (1) In the case of postal voting, the voter shall send the following in a sealed postal voting envelope to the district returning officer of the constituency in which the polling card was issued
 - a) his or her polling card,
 - b) his or her ballot paper in a special sealed ballot paper envelopein good time so that the postal vote is received by 6 p.m. on election day at the latest. Section 33 subsection (2) shall apply mutatis mutandis.
- (2) On the ballot paper, the voter or the assistant must affirm to the district returning officer that the ballot paper has been marked personally or in accordance with the declared will of the voter. The district returning officer is responsible for accepting such an affirmation; he shall be deemed to be an authority within the meaning of Section 156 of the Criminal Code.
- (3) In the event of an order by the state government or the body designated by it pursuant to Section 8 (3), the district returning officer in paragraph 1, sentence 1, and in paragraph 2 shall be replaced by the municipal authority that issued the ballot paper or the administrative authority of the district in which that municipality is located.
- (4) Postal votes may be delivered free of charge by the senders to a postal company officially announced before the election as letter mail without any special form of dispatch, provided they are in official postal vote envelopes. If a special form of dispatch is used, the sender shall bear

the amount exceeding the applicable fee for letter delivery. The federal government shall bear the costs of free postal ballot delivery.

§ 38

Determination of the Postal Voting Result

The electoral board appointed for postal voting shall determine how many votes cast by postal ballot are attributed to the individual constituency nominations and state lists.

c) Federal Electoral Regulations

§ 16

Registration of Eligible Voters in the Electoral Register

[...]

(2) Upon application, the following eligible voters shall be entered in the electoral register:

1. pursuant to § 12 (1) of the Federal Electoral Act,
 - a) (repealed),
 - b) those who, without having a residence, otherwise habitually reside in the electoral district,
 - c) those who are in a correctional facility or a comparable institution and who are not to be entered ex officio in the electoral register under paragraph 1 no. 4,
2. pursuant to § 12 (2) sentence 1 of the Federal Electoral Act, who are not to be entered ex officio in the electoral register under paragraph 1 no. 1.

[...]

§ 17

Responsibility for Entry in the Electoral Register

(...) (2) Responsibility for entry in the electoral register lies

(...)

5. in the case specified in section 16 subsection (2) number 2, with the municipality in the Federal Republic of Germany in which the eligible voter, according to his or her statement, was last registered before leaving the electoral area, or, if he or she has never been registered in the electoral area, with the municipality he or she declares to have the closest connection with within the meaning of section 12 subsection (2), first sentence, number 2 of the Federal Elections Act.

(...)

§ 20

Notice concerning the Right of Inspection of the Electoral Register and the Issuance of Voting Certificates

[...] (2) The diplomatic missions of the Federal Republic of Germany abroad shall, immediately after the determination of the election date, publicly announce:

1. under which conditions Germans living abroad may take part in the election to the German Bundestag,
2. where, in what form and within what time limit this group of persons must apply for entry into an electoral register in the Federal Republic of Germany in order to be able to participate in the election.

The notice shall be made in accordance with Annex 6 on the websites of the embassies and career consulates and shall be kept available until the close of polling day. The content of the notice shall additionally be published on the website of the Federal Foreign Office. If publication cannot be made in justified individual cases or does not appear warranted, the notice shall instead be displayed on the notice board of the mission and, insofar as possible, the individual known persons concerned shall be informed directly.

§ 66*Postal Voting*

(1) Anyone voting by postal ballot shall personally mark the ballot paper, place it in the official ballot paper envelope and seal it, sign the declaration in lieu of an oath pre-printed on the voting certificate for postal voting indicating the date, place the sealed official ballot paper envelope and the signed voting certificate into the official postal ballot envelope, seal the postal ballot envelope, and send the postal ballot in due time via a postal service provider to the office indicated on the postal ballot envelope as competent under paragraph 2. The postal ballot may also be handed in at that office. Once the postal ballot has been received by the competent office, it may no longer be returned.

(2) The postal ballots must be received by the district election officer of the constituency for which the voting certificate is valid.

If, pursuant to an order under § 8 (3) of the Federal Electoral Act, postal voting boards have been established for individual or several municipalities within a constituency, the postal ballots must be received by the municipal authority that issued the voting certificates. If postal voting boards have been established for individual districts within a constituency, the postal ballots must be received by the administrative authority of the district in which the municipalities that issued the voting certificates are located.

(3) The ballot paper shall be marked without being observed and placed into the ballot paper envelope; § 56 (8) applies accordingly. For voting by voters with disabilities, § 57 applies accordingly. If the voter has had the ballot paper marked by an assistant, the assistant shall confirm by signing the declaration in lieu of an oath for postal voting that they marked the ballot paper in accordance with the declared will of the voter; the assistant must be at least 16 years of age.

(4) In hospitals, nursing homes, retirement homes, care facilities, convalescent homes, socio-therapeutic institutions and correctional facilities, as well as communal accommodations, arrangements must be made to ensure that the ballot paper can be marked without being observed and placed into the ballot paper envelope. The management of the institution shall designate a suitable room, provide the necessary equipment, and inform eligible voters of the time during which the room is available for the exercise of postal voting. § 56 (8) applies accordingly.

(5) The municipal authority shall notify the management of the institutions within its municipality of the provisions of paragraph 4 no later than the 13th day before the election.

GREECE / GRECE**a) Constitution****Article 51**

1. The number of the Members of Parliament shall be specified by statute; it cannot, however, be below two hundred or over three hundred.
2. The Members of Parliament represent the Nation.
3. The Members of Parliament shall be elected through direct, universal and secret ballot by the citizens who have the right to vote, as specified by law. The law cannot abridge the right to vote except in cases where a minimum age has not been attained or in cases of legal incapacity or as a result of irrevocable criminal conviction for certain felonies.
- ** 4. Parliamentary elections shall be held simultaneously throughout the Country. Matters pertaining to the exercise of the right to vote by persons living outside the Country may be specified by statute, adopted by a majority of two thirds of the total number of Members of Parliament. Concerning such persons, the principle of simultaneously holding elections does not impede the exercise of their right to vote by postal vote or by other appropriate means, provided that the counting of votes and the announcement of the results is carried out when this is also carried out across the Country.
- ** 5. The exercise of the right to vote is compulsory.

Article 54

1. The electoral system and constituencies are specified by statute which shall be applicable as of the elections after the immediately following ones, unless an explicit provision, adopted by a majority of two thirds of the total number of Members of Parliament, provides for its immediate application as of the immediately following elections.
4. By virtue of the statute of article 51 paragraph 4, conditions may be set for the exercise of the right to vote in their place of residence by voters living outside the Country, such as a genuine connection with the Country, physical presence in a polling station, time-period of absence from the Country or presence in the Country for a specified time period in the past. The statute of the previous section may stipulate that certain places on the Ballot for Deputies of the State Constituency of each party provided for in paragraph 3 of the present article shall compulsorily be reserved for expatriate Greeks. Statute may provide that the vote of persons voting in polling stations outside the Country is not counted towards a particular constituency but at the national level only. In deviation from paragraph 2 of the present article, the statute of paragraph 1 of the present article may set up one or more constituencies of expatriate Greeks.

b) Law 4648/2019 (Facilitating the Exercise of Electoral Rights of Greek Voters Residing Outside the Country)**Article 1***Scope of application*

1. Voters who, on the day of parliamentary elections, elections for the appointment of members of the European Parliament, and on the day of a national referendum, may exercise their right to vote in accordance with the provisions of this law and subject to Article 2.
2. For the purposes of this provision, "voter outside the country" means any Greek citizen who has the right to vote, is registered on the electoral roll and, on the day of the election, is permanently or temporarily outside Greece.
3. Voting takes place in person at special polling stations abroad, as specified in this law.
4. The date on which voting takes place for the electors of the present, as well as its duration, are determined by presidential decree, issued on the recommendation of the Prime Minister and the Minister of the Interior, at least twenty-five days before the date of the election.

(25) days before the date set for the vote. Voting shall be completed in one (1) day and shall take place between the fourth (4th) and the day before the date set for voting within the Greek territory. Voting may not be in progress in special polling stations abroad once voting within the country has been completed. voting within the country has ended.

5. The counting and announcement of the results of the vote of the voters referred to in the previous paragraph shall take place at the same time as the counting and announcement of the results for the whole of Greece, in accordance with the following articles.

Article 2

Special electoral rolls for overseas voters - as amended by Law no. 5044/2023

1. A prerequisite for eligibility under the provisions of this law is that voters outside the country must be registered on the electoral roll of a municipality of the Hellenic Republic and have the right to vote, in accordance with the provisions of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A'57), as applicable.

2. Furthermore, a prerequisite for registration on the special electoral rolls for overseas voters is that voters must cumulatively meet the following criteria:

a) have resided for a total of two (2) years within the Greek territory during the last thirty five (35) years from the date of submission of the application for registration,

b) have submitted a tax return for the current or previous tax year. Dependent family members families are exempt from the restriction in case b) provided that:

aa) are under thirty (30) years of age and bb) have submitted a tax return for first-degree relatives for the current or previous tax year. A "tax return" means the submission to the Independent Authority for Public Revenue an income tax return for natural persons (Form E1), a detailed declaration of income from property rental (Form E2), a statement of financial data from business activities (Form E3) or a property data return (Form E9), as applicable at the time.

3. Voters who wish to be facilitated in exercising their right to vote in accordance with the provisions of this law shall register, at their own initiative, in the special overseas voter lists. Registration in the special overseas voter rolls may be done at any time upon application by the interested party in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 4. Similarly, changes to the residential address and the suspension or cancellation of the application for registration on the special overseas voter lists are made in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article 4. The acceptance or rejection of the application shall be decided by the Election Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior..

4. Appeals against the decision referred to in paragraph 3 shall be lodged within ten (10) days of notification to the applicant of the rejection of his application, before the Three-Member Administrative Court of First Instance of the region in whose electoral roll in which the appellant is registered.

5. The President of the competent court, after receiving the above objections, shall, by order, set the date and time for the hearing of the relevant cases by the competent court as soon as possible. Specifically for objections submitted up to twenty-two (22) days before the election date, they shall be heard on the day following their submission. The court's decision is final and not subject to any legal remedy, and is sent to the Elections Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior, which makes the relevant changes.

[...]

7. Voters who wish to exercise their right to vote may register on their own initiative in the special electoral rolls abroad.

Registration on the special electoral rolls abroad may be done at any time upon request by the interested party, in accordance with the procedure described in Article 4 hereof.

Similarly, changes to the address of residence and the suspension or cancellation of the application for registration on the special electoral rolls are made using the same procedure as in Article 4.

8. Voters who are registered on the special electoral rolls abroad cannot exercise their right to vote at their place of primary registration. Violation of this provision shall result in the penalties provided for in paragraph 2 of Article 113 of Presidential Decree 26/2012.

9. The Elections Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior compiles and maintains the special electoral rolls abroad.

Article 4

Special application for the registration of Greek voters outside the country - as amended by Law no. 5044/2023

1. The website of the Ministry of the Interior, under the responsibility of the Ministry, operates a special application for the registration, modification of details and deletion or suspension of applications from the special electoral roll abroad of those voters who are covered by the provisions of this law.

3. Greek diplomatic authorities abroad may assist voters in completing their applications.

4. Upon submitting their application, the voter shall provide their personal details and specify the jurisdiction of the diplomatic or consular authority outside the territory of Greece in which they wish to exercise their right to vote.

5. During the application process, the applicant may authorise the Ministry of the Interior to search for supporting documents on its own initiative or to retrieve the required information from the databases of the Greek State. Greek government bodies are obliged to provide full access to the application for the retrieval of all relevant information, provided it is available. The voter's authorisation constitutes consent, in accordance with Article 24 of Law 4624/2019 and Article 9(2)(b) of the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) No 679/2016).

8. The application for registration is finalized by a decision of the Elections Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 2. The application for amendment, suspension, or removal becomes final immediately. Applications for amendment, suspension or removal shall become final immediately.

9. For the development, operation and maintenance of the specific application referred to in this Article, Article 130 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*

Article 7

Electoral districts - Polling stations

1. The voters of each diplomatic district are divided into electoral divisions, which are established and determined by decision of the Minister of the Interior. In each electoral district, the number of voters may not be less than forty (40) or exceed six hundred (600) voters.

2. Subject to the conditions of the previous paragraph, electoral districts shall be established at the seat of each Greek diplomatic authority and, if necessary, taking into account the number of registered voters residing outside the seat, as well as specialists in each diplomatic district, and in other cities in the same district. It is also possible to merge diplomatic districts for the purposes of this law. [...]

Article 15

Duties of Greek diplomatic authorities

1. Immediately after the end of voting in all polling stations in their region, Greek diplomatic authorities shall notify the Ministry of the Interior of the total number of voters who voted, as recorded in the relevant notes from the electoral committees, as well as the date of departure for Greece of the representatives of the judicial authority and election supervisors who are transporting the ballot bags containing the voting data.

2. In the event that the ballot boxes are handed over for transport to Athens to election supervisors, in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article 13 hereof, the competent Greek diplomatic authorities shall provide every assistance to the elections supervisors for the safe temporary storage of the bags and their transport to the departure points for Greece.

Article 17*Participation in the allocation of seats*

At the end of paragraph 1 of Article 99 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57), the following sentence is added: "The above number of valid ballots, as well as the number of ballots received by party combinations and party coalition combinations, includes the votes they received in polling stations abroad."

Article 18*Calculation of votes for each combination in the country*

1. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 100 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 are replaced as follows:
"1. For the allocation of seats in the State, the integer part of the quotient resulting from the division of the total number of valid ballots received in the State by all electoral formations, including those abroad, which participate in the allocation of seats in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 99 by the number of State MPs.
2. The number of MPs elected by the State is determined by the integer part of the quotient obtained by dividing the total number of valid ballots cast in the State by the electoral measure. The sum of valid ballots includes the results of polling stations abroad.
2. The total number of votes received by each party or coalition of parties shall be included in the calculation of the seats corresponding to the territory in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 99 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 and the results of the overseas polling stations.
3. Specifically for the procedure of Article 101(3) of Presidential Decree 26/2012, the general final table drawn up by the supreme electoral committee includes the sum of the votes received by each party or coalition of parties in the overseas electoral districts, as specified in the minutes of paragraph 7 of Article 16 herein.

Article 19*Elections for the appointment of Greek representatives to the European Parliament*

1. For the preparation of the final general table of the results of the vote in the elections for the appointment of Greek representatives in the European Parliament, in accordance with Articles 6(1) and 7 of Law 4255/2014, the supreme electoral committee referred to in Article 101 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 shall add the results of the overseas vote at the end of the table and below the sum of the results obtained from the tables of all the country's courts of first instance, shall add the results of the overseas vote, so that the final table of voting results also includes the results of the overseas vote.
2. Based on the above general final table of voting results, the supreme electoral committee shall allocate the seats of representatives to the European Parliament in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of Law 4255/2014.
3. Since the provisions in force for the election of Greek representatives to the European Parliament require voters to cast a preferential vote, the provisions applicable to those exercising their right to vote within the country.

Article 20*National referendum*

Paragraph 7 of Article 19 of Law 4023/2011 is replaced as follows:

"7. The final general table of results, which includes the corresponding tables from the competent courts of first instance of each electoral district, as well as the results of the overseas polling stations, shall be published by the Minister of the Interior in the Government Gazette."

c) Law 5083/2024**CHAPTER C****EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE BY POSTAL VOTE****Article 6***Scope of application – Amendment of paragraph 1 of Article 1 of Law 4648/2019*

1. The provisions of this Chapter apply to Greek voters who choose to vote by post as the means of exercising their right to vote. This Chapter applies exclusively to elections for the appointment of the country's representatives to the European Parliament, in accordance with Law 4255/2014 (A' 11), as well as for the conduct of a national referendum, in accordance with Law 4023/2011 (A' 220).

2. Paragraph 1 of Article 1 of Law 4648/2019 (A' 205), concerning the scope of application of this law, is amended with regard to the scope of application of Law 4648/2019, which applies only during parliamentary elections, and paragraph 1 is worded as follows:

'1. Voters who are outside the territory of the State on the day of the parliamentary elections may exercise their right to vote in accordance with the provisions of this Act and subject to Article 2.'

3. In the event that parliamentary elections and European elections, or parliamentary elections and a national referendum, are held on the same day, the provisions of this Chapter shall not apply; instead, the provisions of Law 4648/2019 shall apply, on facilitating the exercise of the right to vote by voters residing outside Greek territory and amending the electoral procedure.

Article 7*Special electoral registers for postal voters*

1. The special electoral registers of postal voters that are drawn up are entitled 'Special Electoral Register of Postal Voters' and contain the following information for each voter:

(a) the serial number, (b) the Special Electoral Number, (c) the surname, (d) the first name, (e) the father's name, (f) the mother's name, (g) the spouse's name and the father's surname (in the case of a married woman bearing her husband's surname), (h) the date and time of birth, (i) the basic electoral register (basic electoral district) in which they are registered (regional unit, municipality, electoral district), j) the full residential address, k) the full address at which they wish to receive the special voting pack, l) the email address, and m) contact telephone numbers.

2. Article 23 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57), concerning the provision of copies of electoral registers and publications of an electoral nature, applies mutatis mutandis to the special electoral registers of postal voters.

The items listed in points (ia), (ib) and (ic) of paragraph 1 of this Article are excluded from the provision of copies of electoral registers and publications of an electoral nature to political parties.

3. Following the designation of the electoral constituencies for the sorting of postal ballot papers under Article 10, and specifically for the postal voting procedure, the special electoral registers of postal voters shall be drawn up for each electoral district for the sorting of postal ballot papers.

Article 8*Special application for the registration of voters wishing to exercise their right to vote by postal ballot*

1. The Ministry of the Interior shall create an online application, accessible via the Single Digital Portal of Public Administration (gov.gr) for registration, amendment of details and removal from the special electoral roll for postal voters. Voters wishing to exercise their right to vote by post must register themselves their inclusion in the special electoral registers referred to in Article 7. Registration, amendment and removal from these registers may take place at any time upon application by the person concerned, in accordance with the procedure set out herein. The recording and processing of the personal data of the above natural persons shall be carried out in accordance with Law 4624/2019 (A' 137) and Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free- movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (L 119).
2. The procedure for accessing the dedicated application ensures that voters are properly identified and prevents any misuse of the system. Upon the voter's request, their mobile phone number and email address are retrieved from the National Register of Citizens, where available, and confirmed by the voter; otherwise, they must be provided by the voter, and their validity is verified using a one-time password (OTP). To verify the voter's identity, use is made of the personal codes – credentials – of the General Secretariat for Digital Governance Information Systems (G.S.D.G.I.S.) of the Ministry of Digital Governance (taxisnet). Alternatively, voters can authenticate themselves in the app by using a combination of their passport details and their police ID card. For this authentication, the necessary online services are utilised via the Interoperability Centre of the General Secretariat for Public Administration and e- Governance, in accordance with Article 47 of Law 4623/2019 (A' 134) on public sector data, and Article 84 of Law 4727/2020 (A' 184) on the interoperability of public sector bodies.
3. Voters may submit the applications referred to in paragraph 1 via the Citizens' Service Centres (KEP), as well as through Greek diplomatic missions abroad.
4. Applications for registration, amendment and cancellation take effect immediately.
5. Voters must update their address or contact details as soon as these change. Specifically, for changes to a mobile phone number or email address, the number or email address must be reconfirmed using a one-time password.
6. Applications may be submitted, withdrawn or amended up to forty (40) days before the election takes place.
7. Subject to paragraphs 4 to 6 of Article 21 of this Act, a voter who has declared that they wish to exercise their right to vote by postal ballot may not vote in any manner at any polling station. Similarly, they shall be removed from the lists referred to in paragraphs 2 and 7 of Article 27 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57), concerning the compilation of special electoral rolls. A breach of the first subparagraph shall incur the penalties set out in paragraph 2 of Article 113 of Presidential Decree 26/2012.
8. Any person who, without authorisation, gains access to the special application for voter identification with the intention of misusing it shall be punished with imprisonment of at least two (2) years and a fine of between ten thousand (10,000) to fifty thousand (50,000) euros.
9. For the smooth operation of the electronic application referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the costs of its maintenance, Article 130 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57), concerning the procurement of electoral supplies, shall apply mutatis mutandis.

Article 11*Dispatch of special ballot papers*

1. No later than fifteen (15) days before election day, the Ministry of the Interior shall post the special ballot envelope by registered express post to the address for receiving postal votes specified by each voter.
2. Under the responsibility of the contractor or contractors providing postal or courier services, the envelope may be collected only by the voter or by a person expressly authorised for this purpose, subject to verification of their identity by the delivery agent. For the authorisation referred to in the first subparagraph, the authenticity of the signature must be certified by a public authority or via the 'gov.gr' electronic portal.
3. In the event of a breach of paragraph 2, a penalty of ten thousand (10,000) euros shall be imposed on the contractor or contractors providing postal or courier services for each envelope in respect of which the breach was established.
4. The voter shall be notified by any appropriate means, and in particular by email, of the dispatch of the envelope, which may include a link to track the progress of the delivery.

d) Law no. 5285/2026**Article 3***Electoral Constituency of the Greek Diaspora*

[...] Article 1 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (...) is amended as follows:(...)

3. In addition to paragraphs 1 and 2, an electoral district for the Greek Diaspora is established.

Article 4*Number of Members of Parliament for the Electoral Constituency of the Greek Diaspora*

In paragraph 1 of Article 2 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (...) paragraph 1 is worded as follows: The number of Members of Parliament is set at three hundred (300). Of these, two hundred and eighty-five (285) are elected in the electoral constituencies referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 1, in which the respective parliamentary seats are allocated in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 2 to 6 of this Article. Three (3) Members of Parliament are elected in the electoral constituency of the Greek Diaspora referred to in paragraph 3 of Article 1. The remaining twelve (12) are elected on a unified basis throughout the whole of the country, in accordance with Article 3.

Article 6*Proposal for a national list – Proposal of candidates for the electoral district of the Greek Diaspora - Amendment of Article 34A of Presidential Decree 26/2012*

The following amendments are made to Article 34A of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57), concerning the proposal for a national list: (a) the title of the article is replaced; (b) in paragraph 2, the second subparagraph is deleted; (c) paragraph 5 is added, and Article 34A is worded as follows:

'Article 34A

Proposal for a national list –

Proposal of candidates for the electoral district of the Greek Diaspora

- a. The nomination of candidates for Members of Parliament elected on a unified basis throughout the country shall be submitted by a party or coalition of parties, which shall draw up its own lists, in three-quarters (3/4) of the country's total electoral constituencies, disregarding any fractional part. A person who is a candidate in the same elections in any electoral constituency may not be nominated.

- b. The list of each party or coalition of parties shall comprise a number equal to the number of national seats.
- c. The national list shall be submitted in accordance with Article 34 of this Law.
- d. The notifications of the lists and candidates in all the electoral districts of the country, referred to in Article 39 of this Act, must also include the lists of all parties and coalitions of parties, which were declared in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 35 of this Act.
- e. The list of candidates for the electoral district of the Greek Diaspora referred to in paragraph 3 of Article 1 shall be submitted by a party or a coalition of parties, which shall draw up its own lists, in three-quarters (3/4) of all the electoral constituencies in the country, disregarding any fraction. Candidates for the electoral constituency of the Greek Diaspora must be registered on the electoral roll of the electoral constituency of the Greek Diaspora. The leader of a party or coalition of parties of which he or she is the head is exempt from the restriction in the second paragraph."

PART B

FACILITATION OF THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE BY VOTERS OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY

CHAPTER A

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Article 13

Purpose

The purpose of this Part is to facilitate the exercise of the right to vote by voters who are outside the Greek territory, either by physical presence or by postal vote in parliamentary elections.

Article 14

Subject matter

This Part regulates the exercise of the right to vote by voters residing outside Greek territory. Specifically, it establishes the option to choose the method of voting, either in person or by post; the procedure for exercising the right to vote is adapted accordingly, and more specific provisions are laid down for this. Furthermore, issues concerning the deadlines for sending electoral material to and from the country are resolved, whilst the provisions of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57) regarding the publication of election results are also applied proportionately.

CHAPTER B

FACILITATING THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE BY VOTERS OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY - PROVISIONS FOR CHOOSING THE METHOD OF VOTING, WHETHER IN PERSON OR BY POST

Article 15

Method of exercising the right to vote in parliamentary elections by voters outside the country - Amendment of paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 1 of Law 4648/2019

1. In paragraph 3 of Article 1 of Law 4648/2019 (A' 205), concerning the scope of application and the determination of the time at which the vote is to be held, (a) after the word 'held', the word 'either' and (b) the words ', or by postal vote in accordance with the provisions of Law 5083/2024 (A' 12)' are added, and paragraph 3 is amended as follows:
'3. Voting shall take place either in person at special polling stations abroad, as defined in this Law, or by postal vote in accordance with the provisions of Law 5083/2024 (A' 12).'
2. The first sentence of paragraph 4 of Article 1 of Law 4648/2019 is replaced, and

paragraph 4 is amended as follows:

“4. By the presidential decree referred to in Article 31 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57), concerning the presidential decree calling general parliamentary elections, the date and the period for the conduct of in-person voting for the electors herein shall be determined. Voting shall be completed in one (1) day and shall take place between the fourth (4th) and the day preceding the day of voting within the Greek territory. Voting may not be in progress at special overseas polling stations whilst voting within the territory has concluded.”

Article 16

Choice of method for exercising the right to vote by voters outside the country - Amendment of paragraph 3 and addition of paragraph 3A to Article 2 of Law 4648/2019

1. The following amendments are made to paragraph 3 of Article 2 of Law 4648/2019 (A'205), concerning special electoral rolls abroad: (a) in the second subparagraph, the words ‘, concerning the special application for the registration of Greek voters abroad’ are added; (b) the third and fourth subparagraphs are replaced and paragraph 3 is worded as follows:

‘3. Voters who wish to be facilitated in exercising their right to vote in accordance with the provisions of this Act shall, at their own initiative, register on the special electoral rolls for overseas voters. Registration on the special electoral rolls for overseas voters may be carried out at any time upon application by the interested party in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 4, concerning the special application procedure for the registration of Greek voters abroad. Similarly, the amendment of the application and the cancellation of the application for registration on the special electoral rolls for overseas voters shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 4. The application for registration, amendment or cancellation of registration shall take effect immediately.’

2. In Article 2 of Law 4648/2019, paragraph 3A is added as follows:

‘3A. For the purposes of this provision, when submitting the application referred to in paragraph 3, the voter shall choose exclusively one (1) of the following options:

(a) voting in person; or (b) postal voting; or c) postal voting only if no polling station has been established in the desired city for in-person voting.’

Article 17

Addition of the method of exercising the right to vote to the content of special electoral rolls abroad – Amendment of Article 3 of Law 4648/2019

1. In paragraph 1 of Article 3 of Law 4648/2019 (A' 205), concerning the content of the special electoral registers for overseas voters, the following amendments are made: (a) subparagraphs (m) to (n) are added; (b) new subparagraphs, second and third, are added, and paragraph 1 is worded as follows:

‘1. The special electoral registers for overseas voters that are drawn up shall bear the title “Special Electoral Register for Overseas Voters” and shall contain the following:

- a) the serial number,
- b) the Special Electoral Number,
- c) the surname,
- d) the first name,
- e) the father's first name,
- f) the mother's first name,
- g) the spouse's first name and the father's surname (in the case of a married woman bearing her husband's surname),
- h) the date and time of birth,

- i) the main electoral register (main electoral district) in which they are registered (prefecture, municipality, electoral district),
- j) full residential address,
- k) email address,
- l) contact telephone numbers,
- m) the preferred method of voting,
- n) the preferred country of voting,
- o) the preferred city of voting, and
- p) the full address to which they wish to receive the special voting pack.

Items (n) and (o) are recorded, provided that the voter has chosen to vote in person or by postal vote, only if no polling station is established in the preferred city for in-person voting. Item (p) shall be recorded, provided that the voter has opted for postal voting or postal voting only if no polling station is established in the desired city for in-person voting.

2. In paragraph 2 of Article 3 of Law 4648/2019, the words 'items (k) and (l)' are replaced by the words 'items (k) to (m)' and paragraph 2, following technical amendments, is worded as follows:

'2. The provisions of Article 23 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the special electoral rolls abroad, subject to points (k) to (p) of the preceding paragraph.'

3. In paragraph 3 of Article 3 of Law 4648/2019, the words 'for voters who have opted to vote in person or by postal vote only if no polling station is established in the desired city for in-person voting' are added, and paragraph 3 is worded as follows:

'3. Following the designation of special polling stations and specifically for the forthcoming electoral process, electoral rolls shall be drawn up for each special polling station for voters who have opted to vote in person or by postal vote only if no polling station is established in the desired city for in-person voting.'

Article 18

Upgrade of the special application for the registration of Greek voters abroad

– Replacement of Article 4 of Law 4648/2019

Article 4 of Law 4648/2019 (A' 205), concerning the special application for the registration of Greek voters abroad, is replaced as follows:

'Article 4

Special application for the registration of Greek voters abroad

1. The Ministry of the Interior operates an electronic application, accessible via the Single Digital Portal of Public Administration (gov.gr), for the registration, amendment of details and removal from the special electoral roll of voters abroad. The recording and processing of the personal data of the above natural persons are carried out in accordance with Law 4624/2019 (A' 137) and Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (L 119).

2. The procedure for accessing the application ensures the identification of the voter and prevents its misuse. Upon the voter's request, their mobile phone number and email address are retrieved from the National Communications Register, where available, and confirmed by the voter; otherwise, they must be provided by the voter, and their validity is confirmed by a one-time password (OTP). To verify the voter's identity, use is made of the personal authentication codes of the General Secretariat for Digital Governance Information Systems (G.S.D.G.I.S.) of the Ministry of Digital Governance (taxisnet).

Alternatively, the voter may authenticate themselves in the application by using a combination of their passport details and their police ID card. For this authentication, the necessary online services are utilised via the Interoperability Centre of the General Secretariat for Digital Governance (G.S.D.G.), in accordance with Article 47 of Law 4623/2019 (A' 134) on public

sector data, and Article 84 of Law 4727/2020 (A' 184) on the interoperability of public sector bodies.

3. When submitting their application, voters who choose to vote in person or by post only if no polling station has been established in the desired city for in-person voting, shall select the desired city and country of voting from the list set out in the joint decision of paragraph 11.

4. Voters may also submit the applications referred to herein through the Greek diplomatic authorities.

5. Voters must update their address or contact details immediately should these change. In particular, in the event of a change to a mobile phone number or email address, the number or email address must be reconfirmed using a one-time password.

6. The submission of an application, cancellation or amendment thereof is permitted until the day following the issuance of the presidential decree referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 31 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57), concerning the presidential decree calling general parliamentary elections.

7. Subject to paragraphs 4 to 6 of Article 21 of Law 5083/2024 (A' 12), concerning the completion of the collection of postal ballot return envelopes, a voter who exercises their right to vote by postal ballot may not vote in any manner at any polling station. Violation of the first subparagraph shall incur the penalties provided for in paragraph 2 of Article 113 of Presidential Decree 26/2012, concerning the violation of the secrecy of the ballot and the falsification of elections.

8. Any person who, without authorisation, gains access to the special application for voter identification with the intention of misusing it shall be punished with imprisonment of at least two (2) years and a fine of between ten thousand (10,000) to fifty thousand (50,000) euros.

9. By joint decision of the Ministers of the Interior and Digital Governance, the procedure for submitting an application for registration on the special electoral rolls for overseas voters, and for amending or cancelling such registration, shall be determined, as shall the method of voter verification, the possible procedure for the electronic submission of supporting documents, matters relating to the protection of personal data, and any other necessary technical details for the implementation of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.

10. The procedure for the submission of the application referred to in paragraph 4 on behalf of voters by the competent diplomatic authorities shall be determined by joint decision of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Interior.

11. By joint decision of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Interior, the cities and countries in which polling stations are established, provided that the conditions of Article 7 are met and which may be selected by voters as their preferred places to vote in person."

Article 19

Deadline for submitting an application for registration on the special electoral roll for overseas voters – Amendment of paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 5 of Law 4648/2019

1. Paragraph 2 of Article 5 of Law 4648/2019 (A' 205), concerning the incorporation of applications and other changes into the main electoral roll, is replaced as follows:

'2. In the main electoral registers, a special mark shall be placed next to those voters who have been registered in the special overseas electoral registers referred to in Article 3.'

2. Paragraph 4 of Article 5 of Law 4648/2019 is replaced as follows:

"4. Registrations, amendments or cancellations of applications taking place two (2) days after the announcement of the elections shall be recorded in the special electoral rolls for overseas voters after the elections have been held."

Article 20

Polling stations – Polling centres – Amendment to Article 7 of Law 4648/2019

The following amendments are made to Article 7 of Law 4648/2019 (A' 205) on polling stations and polling centres: (a) in paragraph 1, (aa) in the first subparagraph, the words 'diplomatic

district' are replaced by the words 'city referred to in paragraph 11 of Article 4 which have chosen one of the options set out in points (a) or (c) of paragraph 3A of Article 2', (ab) in the second subparagraph, the words 'forty (40)' are replaced by the words 'thirty (30)', (b) paragraph 2 is repealed; (c) in paragraph 5, the words 'The decisions of the Minister of the Interior, by which the electoral divisions and polling stations are designated' are replaced by the words 'The decision of the Minister of the Interior, which defines the electoral divisions per polling station', (d) paragraph 6 is added and, following technical amendments, Article 7 is worded as follows:

Article 7

Polling districts – Polling stations

1. Voters in each town referred to in paragraph 11 of Article 4 who have chosen one of the options set out in subparagraphs (a) or (c) of paragraph 3A of Article 2 shall be allocated to electoral divisions, which shall be established and determined by decision of the Minister of the Interior. In each polling station, the number of voters may not be fewer than thirty (30) or exceed six hundred (600) voters.
2. Repealed.
3. Polling stations shall be designated by joint decision of the Ministers of the Interior and Foreign Affairs. Buildings belonging to the Greek authorities or foreign services, independent offices of churches of the Greek Orthodox Church, and buildings or premises of Greek communities, associations or other Greek organisations shall be used as polling stations. If these buildings are insufficient or unsuitable, buildings or premises of the State in which the voting is to take place may be used, provided by the competent authorities of that State upon request by the head of the relevant Greek diplomatic mission.
4. Under the responsibility of the relevant Greek diplomatic authority, the polling station shall be prepared in accordance with Article 57 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 on the preparation of polling stations.
5. The decision of the Minister of the Interior, specifying the electoral divisions per polling station and the voters who will vote in them, shall be issued at least ten (10) days before day of the vote and shall be notified immediately to the Supreme Court and the competent Greek diplomatic authorities. The Greek diplomatic authorities are required to display the above decisions in prominent places within the embassy or consulate and to notify the voters in their constituency by any other appropriate means. Greek diplomatic authorities are obliged to inform the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the Interior immediately of the above actions.
6. If the minimum number of voters specified in paragraph 1 is not met in a city, then:
 - a) Voters who have chosen to exercise their right to vote in person shall be assigned to the nearest polling station established by the decision referred to in paragraph 1; and
 - b) those voters who have chosen to vote by post, provided that no polling station has been established in the desired city for in-person voting, shall exercise their right to vote in accordance with Law 5083/2024 (A' 12), as applied to parliamentary elections."

CHAPTER C

**ADAPTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF LAW 5083/2024
REGARDING THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE BY
POST IN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS**

Article 21

Exercise of the right to vote by postal ballot in parliamentary elections by voters outside the country

1. For the purposes of this Chapter, 'voters outside the country' means those voters who are registered in the special electoral rolls for overseas voters referred to in Article 3 of Law 4648/2019 (A' 205), concerning the content of special electoral registers for overseas voters, and
 - a) have chosen to exercise their right to vote by postal ballot or fall within the scope of (b) of paragraph 6 of Article 7 of Law 4648/2019, concerning the option to vote by post only if no polling station is established in the desired city for in-person voting, and

b) have provided a postal address for the postal ballot outside the Greek territory. The voters referred to herein constitute the special electoral roll of postal voters under Article 7 of Law 5083/2024 (A' 12).

2. In the event that one (1) or more electoral constituencies are not designated for the Greek Diaspora in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 54 of the Constitution, postal ballot papers shall not include the special space for the selection of candidates provided for in paragraph 2 of Article 12 of Law 5083/2024, concerning the contents of the special ballot envelopes.

Article 22

Adjustment of deadlines - Restriction on sending postal votes only to voters outside the country

1. Specifically for the conduct of elections falling within the scope of this Chapter:
 - a) The deadline set out in paragraph 1 of Article 11 of Law 5083/2024 (A' 12), concerning the dispatch of special voting packs, is set at twelve (12) days.
 - b) Sub-paragraph (bd) of paragraph (b) of Article 12(1) of Law 5083/2024, concerning the contents of the special ballot papers, may omit the list of candidates. In this case, the list of candidates by electoral alliance in alphabetical order and with separate sequential numbering for each alliance, as they have been announced, shall be published on the day of the announcement on the website of the Ministry of the Interior.
2. The dispatch of the files in accordance with Article 11 of Law 5083/2024 shall be carried out only to the electors referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 21 of this Law.

Article 23

Postal ballot paper for parliamentary elections and publication of election results

(8) For the exercise of the right to vote by postal ballot in accordance with this Chapter, the ballot paper for parliamentary elections shall be printed as described in paragraph 2 of Article 12 of Law 5083/2024 (A' 12), concerning the contents of special ballot envelopes, including a specific space for the selection of candidates for the electoral district of the Greek Diaspora, subject to paragraph 2 of Article 21. The votes of electors outside the territory are counted as part of the result of the electoral district of the Greek Diaspora, provided that it has been established, and in terms of the strength of each electoral alliance for the procedures of paragraph 1 of Article 99, concerning participation in the allocation of seats and the determination of the seats of each electoral grouping within the country, and paragraphs 1 to 3 of Article 100 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 (A' 57), concerning the allocation of national seats and the allocation of seats in the electoral districts. To this end, the Supreme Electoral Commission referred to in Article 101 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 shall include the table of results referred to in Article 27 of Law 5083/2024, concerning the collation of postal vote results, in the electoral strength of each list.

(9) Where Articles 99 and 100 of Presidential Decree 26/2012 refer to 'overseas polling stations', this includes the polling stations referred to in Article 10 of Law 5083/2024, concerning polling stations for the sorting of postal ballot papers.

HUNGARY / HONGRIE

a) Fundamental Law of Hungary

Article XXIII

(1) Every adult Hungarian citizen shall have the right to vote and to be voted for in elections of Members of the National Assembly, of local government representatives and mayors and of Members of the European Parliament.

(2) Every adult citizen of another Member State of the European Union with domicile in Hungary shall have the right to vote and to be voted for in elections of local government representatives and mayors and of Members of the European Parliament.

(3) Every adult person recognised as a refugee, immigrant or resident in Hungary shall have the right to vote in elections of local government representatives and mayors.

(4) A cardinal Act may provide that only persons with domicile in Hungary may be granted the right or the full right to vote and to be voted for and may specify further requirements for the eligibility to be voted for.

(5) In elections of local government representatives and mayors, voters may vote at their place of domicile or registered place of residence. Voters may exercise their right to cast their vote at their place of domicile or registered place of residence.

(6) Those disenfranchised by a court for a criminal offence or limited mental capacity shall not have the right to vote and to be voted for. Citizens of another Member State of the European Union with domicile in Hungary shall not have the right to be voted for if they have been excluded from the exercise of this right in their country pursuant to the law, a court decision or an authority decision of their State of citizenship.

(7) Everyone having the right to vote in elections of Members of the National Assembly shall have the right to participate in national referendums. Everyone having the right to vote in elections of local government representatives and mayors shall have the right to participate in local referendums.

(8) Every Hungarian citizen shall have the right to hold public office according to his or her aptitude, qualifications and professional competence. Public offices that may not be held by members or officials of political parties shall be specified in an Act.

b) Act XXXVI of 2013 on election procedure

Section 1

This Act shall apply in Hungary and outside the territory of Hungary to the following:

1. election of the Members of the National Assembly,
2. election of the local government representatives and mayors,
3. election of the national minority self-government representatives,
4. election of the Members of the European Parliament,
5. any process to which this Act applies under an Act (the terms referred to in points a) to e) hereinafter jointly the "election"). [...]

3. Interpretative provisions

Section 3

(1) For the purposes of this Act, [...]

5. address in Hungary means the address of a registered domicile in Hungary; for a person with no registered domicile in Hungary or abroad, the address of a registered place of residence in Hungary, [...]

Section 83

(1) The central electoral register shall contain the data of voters set out in Annex 2. [...] (3) The data of the central electoral register referred to in Annex 2 under point i) ib), point j) ja) and jb), points k), l) and o), and, for a voter with no address in Hungary who lives abroad and whose foreign domicile stated by him is different from the foreign domicile recorded in the register of personal data and addresses or in respect of whom the register of personal data and addresses contains no foreign domicile data, point c) shall be recorded in the central electoral register by the National Election Office at the request of the voter.

Section 84

(1) A voter with no address in Hungary who is eligible voter at an election covered by this Act may request his registration, renewal of registration and modification of the data relating to him in the central electoral register.

(2) A citizen who is not yet adult may request his registration in the electoral register after having attained the age of seventeen years. When submitting the request to that effect, the citizen may make a juridical act independently.

(3) A voter with no address in Hungary who lives abroad may request his deregistration from the central electoral register.

Section 84/A

A foreign domicile stated by a voter with no address in Hungary who lives abroad shall be considered the foreign domicile of that voter; where a foreign domicile has not been stated by him, the foreign domicile entered in the register of personal data and addresses shall be considered the foreign domicile of that voter.

Section 97

(1) The National Election Office shall deregister from the central electoral register a citizen with no address in Hungary who lives abroad and has been registered upon request

1. if he requests his deregistration,
2. if ten years have passed since his registration; the time limit shall be interrupted when the voter modifies his data in the electoral register, requests the renewal of registration or submits voting documents. [...]

(3) The National Election Office shall deregister from the central electoral register a voter registered as a person having an address in Hungary if his address in Hungary has been invalidated or he left the territory of Hungary with the intention of settling abroad. This deregistration shall be without prejudice to his mandate as a representative. [...]

118. The foreign mission electoral register

Section 259

(1) Requests for registration in the foreign mission electoral register may be submitted by voters recorded in the polling district electoral register who stay abroad on voting day.

(2) Requests for registration in the foreign mission electoral register shall arrive not later than the ninth day before voting day.

(3) The request shall specify the foreign mission in which the requesting person wishes to exercise his right to vote.

Section 260

- (1) On the basis of the request, the National Election Office shall register the voter in the foreign mission electoral register without delay and, at the same time, indicate in the polling district electoral register that the voter is recorded in the foreign mission electoral register.
- (2) The foreign mission electoral register shall contain the data set out in Annex 7.

Section 261

- (1) Voters recorded in the foreign mission electoral register may modify the data set out in section 259 (3) not later than the ninth day before the voting day in Hungary.
- (2) Voters recorded in the foreign mission electoral register may request to be deregistered from the foreign mission electoral register not later than the fourth day before the voting day in Hungary.

Section 262

- (1) Persons who are deregistered from the polling district electoral register shall also be deregistered from the foreign mission electoral register.
- (2) Changes to an address that occur after the seventh day before voting day need not be recorded in the foreign mission electoral register.

Section 263

The National Election Office shall transfer to foreign missions the data in the foreign mission electoral register in a manner that only the foreign mission election office can access that data. The foreign mission election office shall print and certify the foreign mission electoral register.

119. The postal voter electoral register**Section 266**

- (1) The National Election Office shall register in the postal voter electoral register voters with no address in Hungary who are recorded in the central electoral register on the basis of a request submitted not later than the twenty-fifth day before voting day. The National Election Office shall indicate in the central electoral register that the voter is recorded in the postal voter electoral register.
- (2) In the postal voter electoral register only those requests for change may be recorded that are received on the twenty-fifth day before voting at the latest.

Section 267

The following shall be deregistered from the postal voter electoral register:

1. voters who established an address in Hungary not later than the seventh day before election day,
2. voters with no address in Hungary who are deregistered from the central electoral register.

Section 267/A

The National Election Office shall, by the sixteenth day before voting day, make available to the competent election office the part of postal voter electoral register that contains those voters who requested the receipt in person of the postal voting package.

Section 268

(1) A voter recorded in the postal voter electoral register may request, in person, information at the foreign mission about data recorded under point c) to cf) of Annex 8.

120. Voting at a foreign mission**Section 269**

- (1) Voting at foreign missions shall be possible if the host state does not object to it.
- (2) Votes may be cast at foreign missions on the voting day in Hungary between 6.00 and 19.00 local time. At foreign missions where the time difference is -1 or -2 hours compared to Central European Time, votes may be cast between 6.00 local time and 19.00 CET. At foreign missions established on the American continent, votes may be cast on the day before the voting day in Hungary between 6.00 and 19.00 local time.
- (3) With the exception of vote counting, the foreign mission election office shall carry out the tasks set out for the polling station commission. The head of the foreign mission election office shall decide any disputed matters arising during the voting.
- (4) Voters recorded in the foreign mission electoral register may vote at the foreign mission or, if the building of the foreign mission is not suitable for conducting the voting, at another premises provided by the foreign mission. If necessary, more than one premises shall be provided for voting, and a sufficient number of polling booths and ballot boxes shall be provided to ensure continuous voting for the voters recorded in the foreign mission electoral register.
- (5) From the start of voting to the closing of voting, only members of the foreign mission election office, media content provider representatives, observers at foreign missions and international observers may be present in the polling station.
- (6) The National Election Office shall be informed of the suspension of voting without delay with a view to ensuring the lawful continuation of voting.
- (7) The foreign mission election office shall place a control sheet in the ballot box containing the time and date of the placement of the control sheet and the signatures of the members of the foreign mission election office present and of the voter voting first.

Section 270

The foreign mission election office shall verify the identity of the citizen wishing to vote on the basis of a verification card suitable for verifying identity, and check whether the citizen is recorded in the foreign mission electoral register. Anyone who cannot verify his identity as set forth above or who is not recorded in the foreign mission electoral register shall be refused.

Section 271

- (1) Voters voting at a foreign mission shall vote on the ballot paper of the parliamentary single-member constituency of their address and on the national list ballot paper. A reference to the parliamentary single-member constituency shall be indicated on the ballot paper envelopes.
- (2) The voters shall place the ballot papers in the envelope and seal the envelope.

Section 272

- (1) If no voter votes at a foreign mission by an hour before the voting is closed, also a member of the foreign mission election office may be the voter voting first.
- (2) The voting shall be closed before the time set out under section 269 (2) for closing it if all voters recorded in the foreign mission electoral register have cast their votes.

Section 273

After voting is closed, the foreign mission election office shall place the minutes on the conclusion of voting in the ballot box without opening it and seal the ballot box in a manner that no ballot paper can be put in or taken out of it.

c) Act CCIII of 2011 on the election of the Members of the National Assembly**Section 1**

For the purposes of this Act:

domicile means a domicile within the meaning of the Act on the registration of personal data and address of citizens; for a citizen not having a domicile, it refers to the place of residence;
political party means any organisation established and registered under the Act on the operation and financial management of political parties.

Section 2

- (1) The exercise of suffrage shall be based on a decision freely taken by the voter.
- (2) Voters recorded in the electoral register may exercise their suffrage in the election of the Members of the National Assembly. [...]

Section 12

- (1) A voter with domicile in Hungary may cast a vote for
 - a) one single-member constituency candidate and
 - b) one party list.
- (2) A voter with domicile in Hungary and recorded in the electoral register as national minority voter may cast a vote for
 - a) one single-member constituency candidate and
 - b) the list of his national minority or, in the absence thereof, one party list.
- (3) A voter with no domicile in Hungary may cast a vote for one party list.

ICELAND / ISLANDE**a) Constitution of Iceland (Art. 33–34)****Article 33**

All persons who, on the date of an election, are 18 years of age or older and have Icelandic nationality have the right to vote in elections to Althingi. Permanent domicile in Iceland, on the date of an election, is also a requirement for voting, unless exceptions from this rule are stipulated in the law on elections to Althingi.

Further provisions regarding elections to Althingi shall be laid down in the law on elections.

Article 34

Every national having the right to vote in elections to Althingi and an unblemished reputation is eligible to be elected to Althingi. [...]

b) Act No. 112/2021 on Parliamentary Elections to the Althingi**Article 3**

Eligibility to vote in elections to the Althingi, presidential elections and referendums

All Icelandic citizens who have reached the age of 18 at the time of polling and are domiciled in Iceland are entitled to vote in elections to the Althingi, presidential elections and referendums. Icelandic citizens who have reached the age of 18 and have been domiciled in Iceland are entitled to vote for sixteen years after transferring their domicile from Iceland. After that period, they must apply to Registers Iceland to be added to the electoral register. The application must state the applicant's name, personal identification number (kennitala), at what time he or she moved from Iceland, the last domicile address in Iceland and the address abroad and must include a declaration by the applicant that he or she remains an Icelandic citizen. Registers Iceland issues directions for the receipt of and procedure for applications. These directions may prescribe an electronic application process. A decision to add a person's name to the electoral register shall be valid for four years [at a time]⁶ as of the 1 December immediately following the submission of the application. Denials by Registers Iceland may be appealed to the Election Appeal Committee.

Article 4

Eligibility to vote in municipal elections

The following are entitled to vote in municipal elections:

- a. any Icelandic citizen who has reached the age of 18 at the time of polling and is domiciled in the municipality,
- b. any Danish, Finnish, Norwegian or Swedish citizen, provided that the person meets the criteria of point (a) in other respects,
- c. any foreign national other than specified in point (b) who has been registered as domiciled in Iceland for an uninterrupted three-year period prior to polling day, provided that the person meets the criteria of point (a) in other respects.

A student who has transferred his or her domicile, cf. paragraph 4 of Article 9 of the Act on Legal Domicile and Residence No. 80/2018, from Iceland to Denmark, Finland, the Faroe Islands, Norway or Sweden under the Agreement between the Nordic Countries on Registration of the General Public is not deemed to have lost eligibility to vote in the municipality in which he or she was registered as domiciled upon departure, provided that the person meets in other respects the criteria of point (a) of paragraph 1 and submits an application under paragraph 3 to

⁶ Act No. 62/2023, Art. 1.

exercise the right to vote. The same applies to a spouse, cohabiting partner and their children residing with them in the country in question.

To be eligible to vote under paragraph 2, the application shall be sent to Registers Iceland [no later than 40]1) days prior to election day each time that a municipal election is held. Registers Iceland shall issue directions for the receipt of and procedure for applications to exercise the right to vote under paragraph 2. These directions may prescribe an electronic application process. Denials by Registers Iceland may be appealed to the Election Appeal Committee. 1)Act No. 18/2022, Article 1.

Article 28

Electoral register for parliamentary elections, presidential elections and referendums

The electoral register for each municipality for parliamentary elections, subject to the second paragraph, shall include:

- a. those who meet the requirements of paragraph 1 of Article 3 and were registered with their legal residence in the municipality according to the national register on the reference date, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 27,
- b. those who meet the requirements of 2nd paragraph of Article 3 and who last had their registered place of residence in the municipality.

Those to be entered on the electoral register in Reykjavík pursuant to subsection 1(b) shall be divided between the South and North constituencies in accordance with section 8. In the South constituency shall be those born in the first half of each month, 1–15, and in the North constituency those born in the second half of each month, 16–31.

The same rule shall apply to those who, in accordance with paragraph a of subsection 1, are registered with their legal residence with the Diplomatic Service in Reykjavík or have an unspecified legal residence in Reykjavík.

The electoral roll for use in the election of the President of Iceland and in national referendums shall be compiled in the same way as for parliamentary elections.

Article 63

Receipt of voting materials for early voting

A presiding officer or other representative in Iceland, cf. Article 69, who receives early voting materials shall sign and deliver to the appropriate district commissioner declarations on his or her word of honour stating that voting will proceed in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Special presiding officers as provided for in Article 71 who receive early voting materials shall also sign and deliver the same type of declaration to the ministry with the portfolio for Icelandic embassies, permanent missions and consulates abroad or to the relevant diplomat.

Article 70

Overseas early voting

Early voting outside Iceland shall take place at the office of an Icelandic embassy, the office of an Icelandic consulate or the office of an Icelandic honorary consul, as further decided by the minister with the portfolio for foreign affairs. The same minister may also decide that voting shall take place at other overseas locations.

The minister with the portfolio for foreign affairs shall advertise where and when overseas voting may take place and shall also notify the National Electoral Commission thereof.

Article 71*Overseas presiding officers*

The presiding officers for polling outside Iceland shall be the heads of embassies, career consuls, other diplomats as decided by the relevant head, other embassy and consulate staff, honorary consuls and special presiding officers as decided by the minister with the portfolio for foreign affairs. The same minister shall apprise the National Electoral Commission each time of the identities of the overseas presiding officers.

Registers Iceland shall provide presiding officers with access to its records and systems free of charge to enable them to perform their role.

c) Act on Candidacy and Election of the President of Iceland, No. 36/1945**Article 6**

[Voters who cast pre-election votes shall write on their ballot papers the full names of the candidates for whom they wish to vote. Ballots shall nevertheless not be ruled invalid if a given name is omitted and only a family name is written, as long as it is still clear which candidate is meant.

Voters who vote at polling stations shall mark a cross, in pencil, in front of the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote.

Other aspects of the actual poll and preparations for it, pre-election voting and voting at polling stations shall be subject to the Parliamentary Elections Act, as appropriate.]¹⁾

1) Act No. 6/1984, Art. 2

IRELAND / IRLANDE**a) Constitution (1937), as amended****Article 16.1**

1° Every citizen without distinction of sex who has reached the age of twenty-one years, and who is not placed under disability or incapacity by this Constitution or by law, shall be eligible for membership of Dáil Éireann.

2°:

i. All citizens, and

ii: such other persons in the State as may be determined by law, without distinction of sex who have reached the age of eighteen years who are not disqualified by law and comply with the provisions of the law relating to the election of members of Dáil Éireann, shall have the right to vote at an election for members of Dáil Éireann.

3° No law shall be enacted placing any citizen under disability or incapacity for membership of Dáil Éireann on the ground of sex or disqualifying any citizen or other person from voting at an election for members of Dáil Éireann on that ground.

4° No voter may exercise more than one vote at an election for Dáil Éireann, and the voting shall be by secret ballot.

b) Electoral Act (1992), as amended**PART II Franchise and Registration of Electors [...]****Certain persons deemed to be ordinarily resident in the State.**

12. ((1) In this section—

“appropriate registration authority” means the registration authority for the area in which the premises referred to in subsection (3) (a) are situate;

“Civil partner” has the meaning assigned to it by the Civil Partnership and Certain Rights and Obligations of Cohabitants Act 2010;

“qualified person” means a citizen of Ireland who has reached the age of 18 years and is a civil servant and is a member of a mission and who, for the time being, because of the requirements of his duties, is serving outside the State;

“member of a mission” means a person—

(a) falling within the definition of “members of the mission” contained in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations done at Vienna on the eighteenth day of April, 1961, as set out in the First Schedule to the Diplomatic Relations and Immunities Act, 1967 , or

(b) falling within the definition of “members of the consular post” contained in the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations done at Vienna on the twenty-fourth day of April, 1963, as set out in the Second Schedule to the said Act, or

(c) who is a member of a Permanent Mission of Ireland to an international organisation;

“spouse” means a person who is the spouse of a qualified person and is a citizen of Ireland and has reached the age of 18 years and is residing with the qualified person outside the State.

(2) A person, who satisfies the appropriate registration authority that he is a qualified person, and the spouse or the civil partner of such person shall, for the purposes of this Part be deemed to be ordinarily resident in the premises in the State in which, but for the requirements of his duties, the qualified person would be resident.

(3) A qualified person may, not later than the date specified in section 14, send to the appropriate registration authority a statement in a form directed by the Minister providing the following information:

(a) the address of the premises in the State in which, but for the requirements of his or her duties, he or she would be resident;

- (b) particulars of his or her spouse or civil partner (if any).
- (4) Every statement by a person pursuant to subsection (3) shall be accompanied by a certificate in the form directed by the Minister from the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs certifying that such person is a qualified person.
- (5) A statement by a qualified person as to the premises in the State in which he would be resident shall, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, be accepted as a correct statement, and he and his spouse or civil partner (if any) shall be registered in respect of those premises.
- (6) A person who submits a statement to a registration authority pursuant to subsection (3) shall supply to the registration authority any information which such registration authority may require for the purposes of this section and the provisions of section 133 (1) shall apply to a requirement by a registration authority under this section.

Entry of names in postal voters list.

- 14.** (1) An elector shall be entered in the postal voters list if he is—
- (a) a member of the Garda Síochána who not later than the last day for making applications for registration applies to be so entered, or
 - (b) a whole time member of the Defence Forces (as defined in paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 11), or
 - (c) a person who is deemed by virtue of section 12 to be ordinarily resident in premises in the State, or,
 - (d) a person who is ordinarily resident at his or her residence or at the place where he or she is deemed to be ordinarily resident under section 11(6), and applies to be so entered in the postal voters list and satisfies the registration authority that he or she is unable to go in person to vote at the polling place for his or her polling district by reason of his or her illness or disability, or
 - (e) a person who is an anonymous elector.
- (2) An application to be entered in the postal voters list received on a date that is on or after—
- (a) the third day after the date of dissolution of the Dáil in the case of a general election,
 - (b) the third day after the date of the making of the order appointing polling day in the case of a Dáil bye-election, or
 - (c) the twenty-first day (disregarding any excluded day) before polling day in the case of a presidential, European, local or Limerick mayoral election, or a referendum or plebiscite,
- shall have no effect in relation to that election, referendum or plebiscite, as the case may be.
- (3) Part VI of the Second Schedule shall apply to an application to be entered in the postal voters list.

ISRAEL**a) Basic-Law: The Knesset (1958)****Article 5**

Every Israeli citizen aged eighteen or over, is eligible to vote in elections to the Knesset, unless a court of law has deprived him of this right in accordance with the law. The Elections Law shall determine when a person shall be considered to be eighteen years of age for the purpose of exercising the right to vote in elections to the Knesset.

b) Knesset Elections Law (1969)**Chapter 2: General Provisions****Article 2**

The right to vote in elections to the Knesset is granted only to those who are registered in the electoral register.

Article 6

Voting shall take place only in the land territory of Israel, on Israeli vessels and in the diplomatic and consular missions of Israel; this provision shall not apply to voting under Chapter IX.

Chapter X: Elections in Israel's Diplomatic and Consular Missions**Article 116 Z**

(a) A voter who is a civil servant or an employee of the Jewish Agency, the World Zionist Organisation, the Jewish National Fund, or the United Israel Appeal, and who is abroad due to his work, may vote at a special polling station set up at an Israeli diplomatic or consular mission (hereinafter referred to as "the mission"). The spouse and children under the age of 20 of such an employee who are eligible to vote may also vote at the same polling station. For this purpose, "state employee" includes a soldier as defined in section 19.

(b) The provision of subsection (a) shall not apply to an employee referred to in that subsection whom the Prime Minister or the Minister of Defence has notified the Civil Service Commissioner that, for reasons of national security, he is not permitted to vote.

Article 116 X

(a) Voting at representative offices shall take place on the 35th day before election day.

(b) [Cancelled.]

Article 116 Y

(a) No later than the 21st day before election day, the Minister of Foreign Affairs shall submit to the Central Committee a list of representatives.

(b) No later than the 25th day before election day, the chairperson of the Central Committee shall submit a list of the polling stations to the authorised officials.

(c) [Cancelled.]

(d) No later than the 45th day before election day, the authorised officials shall notify every employee, his spouse and his child of their right to vote at the polling station, and the notice

shall be accompanied by the list of polling stations referred to in subsection (b) and the notice shall specify the days of voting in the representative offices as specified in section 116 X ; the wording and details of the notice shall be determined by regulations.

ITALY / ITALIE**a) Constitution****Article 48**

(3) The law lays down the requirements and modalities for citizens residing abroad to exercise their right to vote and guarantees that this right is effective. To this end, an Overseas constituency is established for the election of the Chambers of Parliament, to which seats are allocated in the number set by constitutional provision and according to criteria determined by law.

Article 56

1. The Chamber of Deputies is elected through universal and direct suffrage.
2. The number of Deputies is four hundred, eight of which are elected in the Overseas Constituency.
3. All voters who have attained the age of twenty-five on the day of elections are eligible to be Deputies.
4. The division of seats among the electoral districts, with the exception of the number of seats assigned to the Overseas Constituency, is obtained by dividing the number of inhabitants of the Republic, as shown by the latest general census of the population, by three hundred and ninety-two and distributing the seats in proportion to the population in every electoral district, on the basis of whole shares and the highest remainders.

Article 57

1. The Senate of the Republic is elected on a regional basis, with the exception of the seats assigned to the Overseas Constituency.
2. The number of Senators to be elected is two hundred, four of which are elected in the Overseas Constituency.
3. No Region may have fewer than three Senators; Molise shall have two, Valle d'Aosta one.
4. The division of seats among the Regions or the Autonomous Provinces, in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, is made in proportion to the population of the Regions, as shown by the latest general census of the population, on the basis of whole shares and the highest remainders

Article 75

- (3) Any citizen entitled to vote for the Chamber of deputies has the right to vote in a referendum.

Article 138

Laws amending the Constitution and other constitutional laws shall be adopted by each House after two successive debates at intervals of not less than three months, and shall be approved by an absolute majority of the members of each House in the second voting.

Said laws are submitted to a popular referendum when, within three months of their publication, such request is made by one-fifth of the members of a House or five hundred thousand voters or five Regional Councils. The law submitted to referendum shall not be promulgated if not approved by a majority of valid votes.

A referendum shall not be held if the law has been approved in the second voting by each of the Houses by a majority of two-thirds of the members.

b) Law 27 December 2001, no. 459/2001 – Provisions for the exercise of the right to vote of Italian citizens living abroad

Article 1

1. Italian citizens residing abroad, registered on the electoral rolls referred to in Article 5, paragraph 1, vote in the Overseas constituency, referred to in Article 48 of the Constitution, for the elections to the Chambers of Parliament and for the referendums provided for by Articles 75 and 138 of the Constitution, within the limits and in the forms established by this law.
2. The voters referred to in paragraph 1 vote by mail.
3. The voters referred to in paragraph 1 may exercise their right to vote in Italy, and in this case, they vote in the constituency of the national territory relating to the electoral section in which they are registered, subject to an option to be exercised for each vote and valid only for that vote.

Article 2

1. Diplomatic and consular representations shall periodically inform the voters referred to in Article 1, paragraph 1, of the provisions of this law, with reference to the procedures for voting by mail and the exercise of the right of option referred to in Article 1, paragraph 3, using all appropriate information tools for this purpose, both in Italian and in the language of the country of residence. [...]

Article 4

1. During each election, voters may exercise the option to vote in Italy referred to in Article 1, paragraph 3, by giving written notice to the diplomatic or consular representation operating in their consular district by December 31 of the year preceding the year scheduled for the natural expiration of the legislative term.
2. In the event of early dissolution of Parliament or the calling of a popular referendum, voters may exercise the option to vote in Italy within ten days of the call for elections.
3. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall promptly communicate to the Ministry of the Interior the names of voters who have exercised the right to vote in Italy, pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2. At least thirty days before the date set for elections in Italy, the Ministry of the Interior shall communicate the names of voters who have exercised the option to vote in Italy to the municipalities of last residence in Italy. The municipalities shall adopt the consequent measures necessary for the exercise of the right to vote in Italy. [...]

Article 4-bis

(Introduced by Law no. 52 of 6 May 2015 that established (with Article 2, paragraph 35) that this article applies to elections to the Chamber of Deputies starting from 1 July 2016)

1. Italian citizens who, for work, study, or medical reasons, are in a foreign country where they are not registered residents pursuant to Law No. 470 of October 27, 1988, may vote by mail in the Overseas constituency, subject to an option valid for that single election. This option is valid for a single election. Family members living with citizens referred to in the first sentence may vote using the same procedures.
2. The option referred to in paragraph 1, drawn up on plain paper, signed by the voter, and accompanied by a copy of a valid identity document, must be received by the municipality where the voter is registered to vote no later than thirty-two days before the election date. The request may be revoked within the same deadline and is valid for a single election. It must include the postal address to which the electoral package should be sent and a declaration certifying possession of the requirements referred to in paragraph 1, made pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of the Consolidated Law of Presidential Decree No. 28 of December 28, 2000. 445. Voters residing abroad must simultaneously revoke any option expressed pursuant to Article 1.

3. Upon receiving the notification of the option referred to in paragraph 2, the municipality shall immediately electronically transmit to the Ministry of the Interior the personal details and overseas addresses of voters who have exercised the option referred to in paragraph 1, noting it on the electoral rolls. By the twenty-eighth day prior to the date of the election, the Ministry of the Interior shall communicate the list of such voters to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for transmission to the competent consular offices, which shall enter the names of the voters in special lists aimed at ensuring the exercise of postal voting in the Overseas constituency in accordance with the procedures established by this law.

4. Ballots cast by mail by voters referred to in this Article shall be counted together with those of voters referred to in Article 1, paragraph 2.

5. For voters belonging to the Armed Forces and Police Forces temporarily abroad on international missions, the technical and organizational procedures for preparing the envelopes, delivering them to voters, and collecting them by the Ministry of Defense shall be defined, taking into account the specific local circumstances and by agreement between the Ministry of Defense and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Interior. These agreements shall regulate the exercise of the right to vote of voters referred to in this paragraph also in the case provided for in Article 20, paragraph 1-bis.

6. In the case provided for in Article 20, paragraph 1-bis, consular offices shall allow the voters referred to in Article 1, paragraph 9, letter b), of Law No. 470 of 27 October 1988 to exercise their right to vote, according to procedures defined in agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Ministry of the Interior.

Article 5

1. The Government, by consolidating data from the register of Italians residing abroad and consular records, shall compile an up-to-date list of Italian citizens residing abroad for the purpose of drawing up electoral rolls, broken down according to the divisions referred to in Article 6, for the elections referred to in Article 1(1).

2. Only citizens residing abroad who have exercised the option referred to in Article 1, paragraph 3, are eligible to cast their vote in Italy.

Article 6

1. The following divisions are identified within the Overseas constituency, comprising states and territories belonging to: a) Europe, including the Asian territories of the Russian Federation and Turkey; b) South America; c) North and Central America; d) Africa, Asia, Oceania, and Antarctica.

2. In each of the constituencies referred to in paragraph 1, one deputy and one senator shall be elected, while the other seats shall be distributed among the same constituencies in proportion to the number of Italian citizens residing there, according to the list referred to in Article 5, paragraph 1, on the basis of whole quotients and the highest remainders.

Article 7

1. Within three days of the date of publication in the Official Journal of the decree convening the elections, the central office for the Overseas Constituency shall be established at the Court of Appeal of Rome. The office shall consist of six magistrates, one of whom shall act as president and one as deputy vice president, chosen by the president of the Court of Appeal. The office shall operate with the presence of at least three members, including the president or vice president.

1-bis. Within the deadline referred to in paragraph 1, decentralized offices for the Overseas constituency shall be established at the Courts of Appeal of Milan, Bologna, Florence, and Naples. Each office shall be composed of three magistrates, one of whom shall act as president, chosen by the President of the Court of Appeal. [...]

1-quater. The polling stations established at the central office for the Overseas constituency and those established at the decentralized offices shall be responsible for counting the votes from the States and territories belonging to the following divisions: a) central office: the States and

territories belonging to the division referred to in Article 6, paragraph 1, letter b); b) decentralized offices in Milan, Bologna, and Florence: the states and territories included in the division referred to in Article 6, paragraph 1, letter a); c) decentralized office in Naples: the states and territories included in the divisions referred to in Article 6, paragraph 1, letters c) and d). [...]

Article 8

1. [...]

(b) Voters residing in Italy may stand as candidates in only one subdivision of the overseas constituency; voters residing abroad may stand as candidates only in the subdivision of the overseas constituency corresponding to their place of residence; [...]

4. Voters residing abroad who have not exercised the option referred to in Article 1, paragraph 3, may not stand as candidates in constituencies within the national territory.

4-bis. Voters who hold or have held, within the five years preceding the date of the elections, government offices or elected political offices at any level, or positions in the judiciary or the armed forces in a foreign state, may not be candidates in the elections for the Chamber of Deputies or the Senate of the Republic in the overseas constituency.

Article 11

1. Seats are allocated among the competing lists on a proportional basis for each electoral district, in accordance with the procedures set forth in Articles 15 and 16. [...]

3. Voters cast their vote by marking the symbol corresponding to their chosen list or the rectangle containing it. Each voter may also cast two preference votes in constituencies where two or more deputies or senators are to be elected, and one preference vote in the others. A preference vote is cast by writing the candidate's last name in the appropriate line next to the symbol for which the voter has voted. A preference vote cast for a candidate included on another list is invalid. A preference vote validly cast for a candidate is considered a vote for that same list if the voter has not marked any other space on the ballot.

Article 12

1. The Ministry of the Interior shall deliver the lists of candidates, and the ballot paper forms to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs no later than the twenty-sixth day before the election date. [...]

3. No later than eighteen days before the date established for voting in Italy, the consular offices shall send, using the most reliable postal system and, where possible, by registered mail, or by another similarly reliable means, to voters admitted to vote by mail pursuant to this law, the package containing the electoral certificate, the ballot paper, and the corresponding envelope, and a stamped envelope bearing the address of the competent consular office. The package also contains a sheet with instructions on how to cast one's vote and the lists of candidates in the division to which the voter belongs, according to Article 6.

4. If there is more than one ballot for each voter, they must be placed in the same package and sent by the voter in a single envelope. A package may not contain the election documents of more than one voter.

5. Voters referred to in this Article who, fourteen days before the date of voting in Italy, have not received the package referred to in paragraph 3 at their home address may request it from the head of the consular office; the latter may issue, after making an entry in a special register, another electoral certificate bearing a special seal and a second ballot paper, which must in any case be sent according to the procedures set out in paragraphs 4 and 6 of this Article.

6. Once the voter has been cast on the ballot paper, he or she places the ballot paper or the ballots in the appropriate envelope, seals the envelope, places it in the stamped envelope along with the coupon detached from the electoral certificate proving the exercise of the right to vote, and mails it no later than ten days before the scheduled voting date in Italy. The ballots and the envelopes containing them must not bear any identifying marks.

7. The heads of the consular offices shall promptly send the envelopes received no later than 4:00 p.m. local time on the Thursday before the scheduled voting date in Italy to the central office for the Overseas constituency, together with the lists of voters eligible to vote by correspondence pursuant to this law. The envelopes shall be sent in a single shipment, by air, and by diplomatic bag.

7-bis. The Central Office for the Overseas constituency shall forward to the decentralized offices referred to in Article 7, after affixing a new seal, the packages originating from the states and territories assigned to each of them, and to this end shall rely on the cooperation of the Ministry of the Interior, Department of Public Security, for the provision of escort services for said packages.

8. The heads of the consular offices shall, after sending the packages to Italy, immediately incinerate any ballots received after the deadline referred to in paragraph 7 and any ballots printed for the cases referred to in paragraph 5 and not used. A specific report of these operations shall be drawn up and forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article 13

1. At the central office for the Overseas Constituency and at each of the decentralized offices, a polling station is established for a minimum of two thousand and a maximum of three thousand voters eligible to vote by mail under this law, with the task of conducting the counting and tabulation of votes cast by voters. Each polling station is responsible for counting the votes from a single division referred to in Article 6, paragraph 1. The envelopes containing the ballots are assigned to the individual polling stations by the Central Office for the Overseas constituency and the individual decentralized offices. [...]

Article 14

1. The vote-counting process, in which list representatives participate, takes place concurrently with the counting of votes cast within the country. [...]

Article 15

01. Once the vote counting is complete, the decentralized offices for the Overseas constituency send the polling station reports to the central office.

1. Once the vote counting is complete and the reports sent by the decentralized offices have been received, the central office for the Overseas constituency, for each of the divisions referred to in Article 6:

- 1) determines the electoral total for each list. The electoral total for the list is the sum of the valid list votes obtained within the division;
- 2) determines the individual electoral total for each candidate. The individual electoral total is the sum of the preference votes received by the candidate in the division;
- 3) proceeds to allocate seats among the lists referred to in subparagraph a). To this end, it divides the sum of the electoral quotas of all lists submitted in the division by the number of seats to be allocated within that division; in performing this division, it disregards any fractional part of the quotient. The result constitutes the electoral quotient of the division. It then divides the electoral figure of each list by this quotient. The whole part of the result of this division represents the number of seats to be allocated to each list. Any remaining seats are assigned to the lists for which the divisions have yielded the largest remainders and, in the event of a tie in remainders, to the list with the highest electoral figure;
- 4) the presiding officer then declares elected, in accordance with the seats allocated to each list, the candidates on that list in the order of their respective electoral figures. In the event of a tie in electoral figures, those who precede in the order of the list are declared elected.

Article 17

1. The conduct of the election campaign is governed by specific cooperation agreements that the Italian State enters into, where possible, with the States in whose territory Italian voters reside.
2. Political parties, political groups, and candidates shall comply with the laws in force in Italy on the basis of the cooperation agreements referred to in paragraph 1.
3. Italian diplomatic and consular missions shall undertake initiatives to promote the widest possible political communication in Italian daily newspapers and periodicals published and distributed abroad, as well as in other Italian-language media or media otherwise directed at Italian communities abroad, in accordance with the principles set forth in the laws in force in Italy regarding equal access and treatment and impartiality with respect to all political entities.

Article 20

- [...] 1-bis. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 5 of Article 4-bis, postal voting is not permitted in States with which Italy does not maintain diplomatic relations, as well as in States in which the political or social situation does not guarantee, even temporarily, that postal voting takes place under conditions of equality, freedom, and secrecy, or that no prejudice may arise to the jobs and individual rights of voters and other Italian citizens as a result of their participation in all the activities provided for by this law.
2. Voters residing in the States referred to in paragraph 1-bis are entitled to a reimbursement of 75 percent of the cost of their travel ticket. To this end, the voter must submit a specific request to the consular office of the district of residence or, in the absence of such an office in the State of residence, to the consular office of one of the neighbouring States, accompanied by the electoral certificate and travel ticket.

Article 23

1. Italian citizens residing abroad as referred to in Article 1, paragraph 1, participate in the request to call the popular referendums provided for in Articles 75 and 138 of the Constitution. [...]

c) Decree of the President of the Republic no. 104/2003 – Regulation implementing Law 27 December 2001, n. 459/2001, bearing provisions for the exercise of the right to vote of Italian citizens living abroad

Article 3

1. Pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 1, of the law (ed: Law no. 459/2001), the consular office shall provide information to Italian citizens residing abroad at least once every two years.

Article 8

1. Failure to establish forms of cooperation for the conduct of the election campaign, as referred to in Article 17, paragraph 1, of the Act, does not preclude the application of the Act's provisions regarding voting by mail.
2. Pursuant to Article 17, paragraph 2, of the law, in conducting the election campaign, parties, political groups, and candidates shall comply with the provisions of Law No. 515 of December 10, 1993 and, where applicable, Law No. 28 of February 22, 2000.
3. The functions assigned to the Regional Electoral Guarantee Board for the obligations set forth in Law No. 515 of December 10, 1993, shall be exercised, with respect to the overseas constituency, by the Regional Electoral Guarantee Board established at the Court of Appeals of Rome.
4. The provisions regarding the limits on election expenses for candidates and for each party, movement, list, or group of candidates, referred to in Article 7, paragraph 1, and Article 10 of Law No. 515 of December 10, 1993, shall be calculated based on the number of citizens residing in

the individual districts where the lists are submitted, as determined by the decree of the Minister of the Interior referred to in Article 7, paragraph 1, of these regulations.

5. The Parliamentary Commission for the General Policy and Supervision of Radio and Television Services and the Communications Regulatory Authority, following consultation between them and each within the scope of its own competence, shall define, no later than the fifth day following the announcement of the elections, the specific criteria with which, until the close of voting, the public broadcaster and private radio and television broadcasters must comply in news programs intended for foreign audiences, in order to ensure equal treatment for all political entities, as well as the objectivity, completeness, and impartiality of the information.

6. The provisions set forth in Law No. 212 of April 4, 1956, No. 212, Law No. 130 of April 24, 1975, and Article 52 of Law No. 352 of May 25, 1970, shall apply during the conduct of the election campaign, in accordance with the terms of any cooperation agreements concluded by the Italian State with the States in whose territory voters of Italian citizenship reside.

7. The consular office shall display the lists of candidates and the referendum question in its premises accessible to the public.

8. Pursuant to Article 17, paragraph 3 of the law, the consular office shall communicate to the main media outlets targeting Italian communities abroad the lists of candidates, the referendum question, and the procedures for voting by mail, and shall invite the publishers of newspapers and periodicals that receive state subsidies to allow candidates and political parties access to space for the dissemination of political messages regarding the election and the referendum on an equal footing.

9. The consular authority, within the scope of the functions of protection of citizens assigned by Article 45 of Presidential Decree No. 18 of January 5, 1967, as amended, shall monitor compliance with the terms of any cooperation agreements that have been concluded.

Article 13

1. List representatives appointed pursuant to Article 25 of the Consolidated Law on the Election of the Chamber of Deputies at the central office for the Overseas constituency and at the polling stations established there must be voters in the Overseas constituency or in constituencies within the national territory. [...]

3. In the event of a referendum held pursuant to Articles 75 and 138 of the Constitution, one regular representative and one alternate representative of the referendum's promoters and of each of the political parties or groups represented in Parliament—chosen from among the voters of the overseas constituency or the national territory—may observe the proceedings at the central office for the overseas constituency and at the polling stations established there. [...]

d) Law Decree no. 408 of 24 June 1994 - Urgent provisions regarding elections to the European Parliament.

Article 3

Voting by Italians in EU Member States

1. Italian voters residing in other EU Member States who do not intend to exercise their right to vote in those countries and who are registered in the special list referred to in Article 4 may vote for the election of Italy's representatives to the European Parliament at polling stations specifically established within the territory of those countries.

2. Such polling stations must be established at Italian consulates, cultural institutes, Italian schools, and other premises made available by EU member states.

If such premises are insufficient, the selection of additional locations for the establishment of polling stations must be made from premises used by the Italian State or other premises suitable for voting operations, ensuring that the polling stations themselves are not located at the headquarters of political parties or trade union organizations, whether Italian or foreign, or in buildings intended for religious worship or industrial and commercial activities.

3. Voters not registered on the list referred to in Article 4 who are in the territory of EU Member States for work or study purposes, as well as family members living with them, may also cast their vote at the aforementioned polling stations. To this end, they must submit, without exception, to the competent consulate, no later than the 80th day prior to the last day of the period set by the Council of the Union pursuant to Article 10 of the Act signed in Brussels on September 20, 1979, a specific application addressed to the mayor of the municipality in whose electoral rolls they are registered, for subsequent forwarding to the Ministry of the Interior. [...]

Article 4

Preliminary requirements

1. The Central Directorate for Electoral Services of the Ministry of the Interior, based on the notifications received from the mayors of the municipalities of last registration, shall be responsible for compiling, reviewing, and maintaining the lists of Italian voters residing abroad.
2. For the purposes referred to in paragraph 1, the municipalities, following the procedures carried out by the district electoral commissions during the revision of the electoral rolls, shall immediately transmit to the Ministry of the Interior the list of changes made.
3. Changes shall no longer be recorded on the lists referred to in paragraph 1 starting from the seventieth day prior to the date set for the elections.
4. The names of voters for whom notification has been received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the submission of an application by which the voter has requested to vote in the Member State of residence shall be removed from the lists referred to in paragraph 1.
5. The Central Directorate for Electoral Services, no later than the tenth day prior to the election date, shall transmit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs—for subsequent forwarding to the individual consular offices—a list of voters casting ballots abroad, broken down by consular office and overseas polling station, based on the information provided for each voter by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In dividing those eligible to vote in each locality into polling stations, the Ministry of the Interior, based on the information provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, shall assign to each polling station a number of voters not exceeding 5,000 and not less than 200.
6. The Central Directorate for Electoral Services shall also, no later than the fifteenth day prior to the date of the vote, send the voter registration certificate to the voters referred to in Article 3, paragraph 1, and to those referred to in paragraph 3 of the same article who have submitted a timely application, informing them of the date and times of the vote, as well as the polling location.
7. The district electoral commission shall be notified of the mailing of the voter registration certificate to the voters referred to in paragraph 3 of Article 3 so that it may make a specific notation on the polling station lists. [...]

KAZAKHSTAN**a) The Constitution, adopted by a national referendum on 15 March 2026⁷****Article 35**

1. Citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan shall have the right to participate in the administration of state affairs directly and through their representatives, to address state bodies and local self-government bodies personally, and to submit individual and collective petitions.
2. Citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan shall have the right to elect and be elected to state bodies and local self-government bodies, and to participate in nationwide referendums. The procedure for conducting a nationwide referendum shall be determined by constitutional law.
3. Citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan whose legal incapacity has been recognized by a court, as well as citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan held in places of deprivation of liberty by a court sentence, shall not have the right to vote or participate in nationwide referendums. Citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan whose legal incapacity has been recognized by a court, citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan with unexpunged or unsuspended convictions, and citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan whose guilt in committing a corruption crime or corruption offense has been recognized by a court in accordance with law, shall not have the right to be elected.
4. Citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan shall have equal access to public service. The requirements for a candidate for a public service position shall relate solely to the official duties of the position in accordance with law.

Article 52

1. The Kurultai of the Republic of Kazakhstan shall be the highest representative body of the Republic exercising legislative power.
2. The powers of the Kurultai shall commence with the opening of its first session and shall terminate with the opening of the first session of the Kurultai of a new convocation.
3. The powers of the Kurultai may be terminated prematurely in the cases and in the manner provided for by the Constitution.
4. The organization and activities of the Kurultai and the legal status of its deputies shall be determined by constitutional law.

Article 53⁸

1. The Kurultai shall consist of one hundred and forty-five deputies elected in accordance with the procedure established by constitutional law under a system of proportional representation within a single nationwide electoral constituency.
2. The term of office of the deputies of the Kurultai shall be five years.

Article 54⁹

1. Elections of deputies of the Kurultai shall be held on the basis of universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot. Regular elections of deputies of the Kurultai shall be held no later than two months before the expiration of the term of office of the current convocation of the Kurultai.
2. Extraordinary elections of deputies of the Kurultai shall be held within two months from the date of early termination of the powers of the Kurultai.

⁷ Came into force on 1st of July 2026

⁸ The Constitutional Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan 'On the Kurultai of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Status of its Deputies' of 5 June 2026 was adopted.

⁹ The Constitutional Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan 'On the Kurultai of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Status of its Deputies' of 5 June 2026 was adopted.

3. A deputy of the Kurultai may be a person who has attained the age of twenty-five years, is a citizen of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and has permanently resided on its territory for the last ten years.
4. Elections of deputies of the Kurultai shall be regulated by constitutional law.
5. Deputies of the Kurultai shall take an oath before the people of Kazakhstan.

b) Constitutional Act on Elections in the Republic of Kazakhstan¹⁰

Article 3

Principles of the right to vote

1. Elections of the President, members of the Kurultai, villages, settlements, rural districts (hereinafter referred to as akims in the text of this Constitutional Act), members of other local self-government bodies of the Republic shall be held based on universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.
3. Participation of citizens of the Republic in elections shall be voluntary. Nobody shall have the right to force a citizen to participate or not to participate in elections, as well as to limit their expression of will.
4. Foreign interference shall not be allowed in the preparation and conduct of elections.

Article 23

Formation of electoral districts

[...] 3. [...] The polling stations formed in the representations of the Republic of Kazakhstan in foreign states shall relate to the constituency in which territory the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic is located.

Article 24

Voter (electors) lists and the procedure for their compilation

[...] 5. The voter list at the place of residence shall be compiled by the relevant local executive body based on the state database of individuals.
Each voter shall have the right to register as a voter in the relevant local executive body from the moment the election is announced or called. [...]

8. Voter lists for polling stations established in holiday homes, health resorts, inpatient care facilities, locations where citizens are situated in remote and inaccessible areas, livestock grazing areas, organisations with continuous production operations, and sites where work is organised on a rotational basis, special institutions providing temporary isolation from society, as well as at the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Kazakhstan in foreign states, on vessels belonging to the Republic of Kazakhstan and at sea on election day, shall be drawn up on the basis of data provided by the heads of the aforementioned institutions, the relevant akims, the heads of the aforementioned diplomatic missions and the captains of the vessels. Voter lists for polling stations established in places of temporary residence (in holiday homes, in sanatorium and resort facilities, in inpatient care, in organisations with continuous production, at locations where work is organised on a rotational basis, in special institutions providing temporary isolation from society, as well as at the representative offices of the Republic of Kazakhstan in foreign states, on vessels belonging to the Republic of Kazakhstan and at sea on election day), must be updated as of the day preceding polling day.

¹⁰ As amended by the Constitutional Law No. 305-VIII of the Republic of Kazakhstan of 11 June 2026 «On Amendments and Additions to Certain Constitutional Laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan to Bring Them into Line with the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan and to Improve the Legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Elections and the Public Prosecutor's Office». To enter into force on the 1st of July 2026

Article 25*Inclusion in voter (elector) lists*

1. To the voter lists:

- 1) citizens of the Republic who have an active suffrage shall be included;
- 2) citizens at the place of residence on the territory of the respective polling stations shall be included. [...]
- 3) at polling stations set up in holiday homes, health resorts, inpatient care facilities, locations where citizens are situated in remote and inaccessible areas, and livestock grazing areas, in organisations with continuous production, in places where work is organised on a shift basis, in special institutions providing temporary isolation from society, on vessels belonging to the Republic of Kazakhstan and at sea on election day, all citizens who, on the day of voting, will be present in the aforementioned institutions and organisations or on board a vessel shall be included..

Article 26*Familiarisation with the voter (elector) lists*

1. Fifteen days before polling day, electoral rolls for polling stations established in accordance with citizens' places of residence shall be made available to voters so that they may inspect the information concerning themselves.

Voters located in polling stations established in military units, on vessels belonging to the Republic of Kazakhstan and at sea on election day, in holiday homes, in health resorts, undergoing inpatient treatment, in locations where citizens are situated in remote and inaccessible areas, in livestock-rearing settlements, in organisations with continuous production, in places where work is organised on a shift basis, in special institutions providing temporary isolation from society, at diplomatic missions of the Republic of Kazakhstan in foreign states, electoral rolls shall be made available for citizens to review their personal details five days before polling day (at polling stations established for the election of members of other local government bodies – seven days before polling day).

2. Every citizen has the right to check their details on the electoral roll and to appeal against non-inclusion, incorrect inclusion or removal from the roll, as well as against any inaccuracies in the voter's details on the roll. Applications for inclusion in the electoral roll, removal from it, or corrections to the electoral roll shall be considered by the relevant electoral commission on the day the application is received by the electoral commission. If the application is rejected, the electoral commission shall immediately issue the applicant with a copy of the reasoned decision rejecting their application. The decision may be appealed to the relevant court in the jurisdiction of the electoral commission, which shall consider the appeal on the day it is received. If the decision is favourable to the applicant, the electoral commission shall immediately make the correction to the electoral roll or add the omitted voter to the roll.

3. The working hours of precinct electoral commissions, with the exception of polling day, shall be determined by the relevant territorial electoral commissions.

Article 38*Time and place of voting*

[...] 3. At polling stations set up on vessels belonging to the Republic of Kazakhstan and at sea on election day, in military units, in remote and inaccessible areas, at livestock grazing stations, in organisations with continuous production operations, in holiday homes, in health resorts, in inpatient care facilities, at shift-based work sites, in special institutions providing temporary isolation from society, as well as at the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Kazakhstan in foreign states, the precinct electoral commission may declare voting closed at any time if all voters included on the electoral roll have cast their votes. The list of such polling stations shall be approved by the relevant electoral commission no later than seven days, and in the case of

elections to local government bodies other than maslikhats, no later than three days before the election.. [...]

c) Constitutional Law on the Republican Referendum (1995)

Article 5

Right to Take Part in the Republican Referendum

1. Citizens of the Republic, who have reached the age of 18 regardless of origin, social, official and property status, gender, race, nationality, language, religion, belief, place of residence and any other conditions shall have the right to take part in the referendum. Citizens who have been declared legally incompetent by a court, as well as those held in places of deprivation of liberty by a court verdict, shall not have the right to participate in a referendum. Any direct or indirect restriction of the rights of other citizens of the Republic to participate in a referendum shall be unacceptable and shall be punishable by law.
2. Citizens shall take part in a referendum on equal basis and each of them shall have one vote or equal number of votes, respectively.
3. Citizens shall take part in referendum directly.

Article 25.

Lists of Citizens Entitled to Participate in the Republican Referendum

Drawing up lists of citizens who have the right to participate in a referendum, including citizens in them, appealing against the facts of non-inclusion in the list, incorrect inclusion in the list or exclusion from the list, inaccuracies made in it, as well as ensuring the right to participate in a referendum of citizens when they change their place of residence shall be carried out in accordance with the rules established by the Constitutional Act of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Elections in the Republic of Kazakhstan."

d) Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Administrative Offences of 5 July 2014

Article 112

Breach of the conditions governing election campaigning via the media and online platforms

5. The publication or broadcast of campaign materials of candidates and political parties participating in the elections by the media or users of online platforms who, no later than five days before the start of the election campaign, have not announced, published or submitted to the electoral commission information regarding the amount of payment, the terms and conditions for the provision of airtime and print space, or the number of publications of campaign materials, - shall result in a fine of twenty monthly calculation indices for natural persons, thirty for officials, and fifty for legal entities.
6. A refusal by a media outlet to allocate airtime or print space to a candidate or a political party that has submitted a party list, where that same media outlet has agreed to allocate airtime or print space to another candidate or a political party that has submitted a party list, shall result in a fine of thirty monthly calculation indices for officials and fifty monthly calculation indices for legal entities.
- 6-1. Where users of online platforms refuse to provide information to one candidate or political party that has submitted a party list, whilst the same user of the online platform has consented to the provision of such information to another candidate or political party that has submitted a party list, shall result in a fine of twenty monthly calculation indices for natural persons, thirty for officials, and fifty for legal entities.
7. Failure to observe the order of appearance in the media of candidates and political parties that have submitted party lists, as determined by the order in which written requests were received

or, where requests were received simultaneously, by drawing lots, shall result in a fine of thirty monthly calculation indices for officials and fifty monthly calculation indices for legal entities.

8. Giving an advantage to a particular candidate or political party that has submitted a party list through the terms of an agreement providing candidates and political parties that have submitted party lists with airtime, print space in the media, or the volume of information displayed by users of online platforms, shall result in a fine of twenty monthly calculation indices for natural persons, thirty for officials, and fifty for legal entities.

Article 116-1

Raising funds or accepting other material assistance, apart from election funds

The raising by candidates and political parties that have submitted party lists of funds from sources other than their election funds for the purpose of covering expenses related to appearances in the media and on online platforms, the holding of public pre-election events, the publication of additional campaign materials, and the coverage of transport and travel expenses, as well as the acceptance by candidates of any goods, works or services from natural or legal persons, used by candidates during the election campaign, which have not been paid for from election funds, and the provision of any assistance by the candidate to such natural or legal persons in return for the provision of these services, shall result in a fine of twenty-five monthly calculation indices for natural persons, and fifty-five monthly calculation indices for legal persons.

Article 125

Misuse of funds allocated from the state budget for the conduct of election campaigning

The misuse by candidates for the deputy or for any other elected office of funds allocated from the state budget for the conduct of election campaigning shall entail a fine of twenty-five monthly calculation indices.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA / REPUBLIQUE DE COREE**a) Constitution of the Republic of Korea (1987, as amended)****Article 24**

All citizens shall have the right to vote under the conditions as prescribed by Act.

b) Public Official Election Act (POEA, 1994, as amended)**Article 4***Basis of Population*

The population constituting a basis of management of election affairs under this Act shall be in accordance with the latest vital statistics of the nation surveyed according to resident registration cards under the Resident Registration Act. In such cases, the number of foreigners who have the right to vote pursuant to Article 15 (2) 3 shall be included in the population for the election of the local council members and the

Article 37*Preparation of Official Lists*

(1) Whenever an election is held, the head of a Gu (including a Gu that is not an autonomous Gu), Si(referring to a Si with no Gu established therein), or Gun (hereinafter referred to as "Gu/Si/Gun")shall survey, for each voting district, persons who have the right to vote (including foreigners under Article 15 (2) 3 in cases of elections of local council members and the heads of local governments; excluding persons enrolled in the official list of overseas eligible voters determined pursuant to Article 218-13 or the official list of overseas absentee voters of another Si/Gun/Gu), and who is registered as a resident in the relevant district pursuant to Article 15, as of 28 days prior to the presidential election and as of 22 days prior to the National Assembly election and the election of local council members and the heads of local governments (hereinafter referred to as "base date for preparation of the official list of eligible voters"), and shall prepare the official list of eligible voters within five days from the base date for preparation of the official list of eligible voters(hereinafter referred to as "period for preparation of the official list of eligible voters"). In such cases, persons enrolled in the official list of overseas absentee voters determined pursuant to Article 218-13 shall be marked with such fact in the column of remarks in the official list of eligible voters. [...]

CHAPTER XIV-2 SPECIAL CASES CONCERNING OVERSEAS ELECTION**Article 218***Establishment and Operation of Overseas Election Commission*

(1) Whenever a presidential election or a National Assembly election is held at the expiration of the term of office, the National Election Commission shall establish and operate an overseas election commission for the fair administration of an overseas election in every mission under Article 2 of the Act on the Establishment of Overseas Diplomatic and Consular Missions of the Republic of Korea (including an office conducting consular affairs in a region where no diplomatic mission is established and a branch mission or a branch office under Article 3 of the aforesaid Act, and excluding a mission not conducting consular affairs or without its consular jurisdiction and a mission where an office of the mission is not established in the consular jurisdiction; hereafter in this Chapter referred to as a "mission") from 180 days before the election day to 30 days after the election day:

Provided, that in cases of an election and a re-election due to a vacancy of the President, the National Election Commission shall establish and operate overseas election commissions within 10 days from the date when a reason for holding the election has been decided.

(2) An overseas election commission shall be comprised of not more than two members appointed by the National Election Commission and members commissioned by the National Election Commission, such as one person each recommended by each party which has organized a negotiation body in the National Assembly, the head of a mission or one person recommended by the head of a mission from among officials of the mission, and a quorum of members shall be an odd number:

Provided, that the number of incumbent members shall be deemed the quorum of members if the number of political parties that have organized a negotiation body in the National Assembly after the overseas election commission is organized.

(3) None of the following persons shall be a member of an overseas election commission:

1. 1.A person who has no right to vote a member of the National Assembly;
2. 2.A person who is a member of a political party;
3. 3.An overseas returning officer.

(4) An overseas election commission shall have one chairperson and one vice chairperson who are elected by the commission from among its members: Provided, That the head of a mission or an official of the mission recommended by him or her shall not be the chairperson.

(5) An overseas election commission may, when necessary for administration of an overseas election, request the head of the relevant mission to cooperate, and the head of the mission requested so shall comply with such request preferentially.(6)The chairperson of an overseas election commission may commission a secretary, a clerk, and personnel to be engaged in election affairs from among the personnel belonging to the relevant mission in consultation with the head of the relevant mission.

(7) The head of a mission shall act for the chairperson of an overseas election commission for calling the first conference of a newly organized overseas election commission.

(8) A district under the jurisdiction of an overseas election commission shall be a consular jurisdiction (where the head of a mission concurrently holds the positions of the head of other embassy, including the consular jurisdiction of the other embassy), and the name thereof shall be denominated with the name of the relevant mission, and an abbreviated name may be used.

(9) During the period where an overseas election commission is operated or within six months after the operation period of an overseas election commission expires, the National Election Commission shall not, if the period for establishment and operation of an overseas election commission for another election begins, establish an overseas election commission for another election, notwithstanding paragraph (1), and shall consider the overseas election commission being operated as the overseas election commission for another election.

(10)The proviso of Article 4 (3), Article 4 (7) through (11), the main clause of Article 4 (12), Articles 5 (3)and (5) and 7, subparagraphs 1 through 4 of Article 9, and Articles 10, 11 (1) and (3), 12 (1) and (3),13 and 14-2 of the Election Commission Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to the establishment and operation of overseas election commissions. In such cases, "related election commission," "subordinate election commission," "each class election commission" and "Gu/Si/Gun election commission" shall be deemed "overseas election commission," respectively; the "beginning date of a period for election (excluding an entrusted election; hereinafter the same shall apply) or the public announcement date of a proposal for a national referendum," "beginning date of a period for election or the public announcement date of a proposal for a national referendum" and "base date for preparation of the official list of eligible voters or the public announcement date of a proposal for a national referendum" shall be deemed the "date of establishment of an overseas polling station," respectively; the "relevant or Eup/Myeon/Dong election commission" shall be deemed the "relevant overseas election commission"; the "chairperson of a Gu/Si/Gun election commission" shall be deemed the "chairperson of an overseas election commission"; "each upper class election commission" shall be deemed the "National Election Commission," "full-time member or the vice chairperson" shall be deemed the "vice chairperson"; the "chairperson ,a full-time member, and the vice chairperson" shall be

deemed the "chairperson and vice chairperson"; the "time when the official counting is completed" shall be deemed the "deadline for overseas voting".

Article 218-2

Appointment of Overseas Returning Officer

(1) In order to conduct affairs concerning an overseas election, each mission shall have an overseas returning officer.

(2) An overseas returning officer shall be the head of the relevant mission:

Provided, that in cases of a mission with both the head of the mission and a consul-general, the head of the relevant mission shall designate the consul-general as an overseas returning officer.

Article 218-3

Duties of Overseas Election Commission and Overseas Returning Officer

(1) An overseas election commission shall conduct the following affairs concerning an overseas election:

1. Decision and public announcement of a place of installation and a period of operation of an overseas polling station;
2. Administration of voting at an overseas polling station;
3. Commission of polling station staff and selection of voting observers at an overseas polling station;
4. Supervision on affairs of election administration conducted by an overseas returning officer;
5. Affairs concerning prevention of and control over election crimes;
6. Other matters referred to an overseas election commission as they are deemed necessary by an overseas returning officer.

(2) An overseas returning officer shall conduct the following affairs:

1. Receipt of applications for the registration of overseas eligible voters and applications for alteration of the registration thereof, and reports of overseas absentees, and the handling of such applications and reports;
2. Publicity and support of matters necessary for exercise of the suffrage of overseas Koreans;
3. Installations of an overseas polling station;
4. Overall administration of affairs of an overseas election (including affairs of overseas absentee voting; hereinafter the same shall apply), such as sending overseas votes home;
5. Support of operation of an overseas election commission.

Article 218-4

Reporting of Overseas Absentees

(1) Whenever a presidential election or a National Assembly election is held at the expiration of the term of office, any eligible voter (excluding a person who falls under Article 6 (1) 3 of the Resident Registration Act and a person who is registered and managed as a Korean national residing abroad under Article 19 (4) of that Act, in an election of constituency members of the National Assembly) who intends to vote overseas because he or she falls under any of the following cases, as a person who is registered as a resident, shall make a report of an overseas absentee to the head of the competent Gu/Si/Gun from 150 days to 60 days before the election day (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as the "period for report of overseas absentees") in writing, by e-mail or through the website of the National Election Commission. In such cases, any person staying or living in a foreign country shall make a report via a mission:

1. 1. Any person who leaves Korea before the commencement date of the period for early voting and is scheduled to return home after the election day;

2. Any person who will not return home until the election day because he or she stays or lives in a foreign country.
- (2) Any person who intends to make a report of an overseas absentee pursuant to paragraph (1) shall write the following matters in the report
 1. Name;
 2. Resident registration number;
 3. Address;
 4. Place of residence (to write in Roman capitals, specific methods shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations; hereafter in Article 218-5 (2) 4, the same shall apply);
 5. Passport number.
- (3) A person who intends to file a report on an overseas absentee by e-mail pursuant to paragraph (1) shall transmit the report on the overseas absentee to the e-mail address publicly announced by the competent official in charge of overseas voting management or the head of the competent Gu/Si/Gun. In such cases, a person may file only his or her own report on an overseas absentee with his or her own e-mail address.
- (4) An official in charge of overseas voting management or the head of a Gu/Si/Gun shall open a separate e-mail account and take other measures necessary to receive reports from overseas absentees by e-mail.
- (5) Where the passport number is omitted from a report of an overseas absentee among the matters referred to in the subparagraphs of paragraph (2), an overseas returning officer or the head of a Gu/Si/Gun shall notify the eligible voter to complement such report by the date of expiration of the period of reporting overseas absentees, and where the relevant eligible voter who is notified to complement the report fails to complement the report, the overseas returning officer or the head of a Gu/Si/Gun shall not receive the report.

Article 218-5

Application for Registration of Overseas Eligible Voters

- (1) Whenever a presidential election or an election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly is held at the expiration of the term of office, an eligible voter who has not been registered as a resident and has not been enrolled in the official list of overseas eligible voters but intends to exercise his or her voting right in a foreign country shall file an application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter with the National Election Commission by any of the following methods no later than 60 days (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as "period for filing an application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter") before the election day of the relevant election:
 1. Filing a written application with a diplomatic or consular mission in person. In such cases, a citizen of the Republic of Korea may file an application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter on behalf of his or her family members (referring to his or her spouse and lineal ascendants and descendants of his or her own and his or her spouse);
 2. Filing a written application in person with a diplomatic or consular mission's employee who travels around its jurisdiction. The latter part of subparagraph 1 shall apply to such cases Mutatis mutandis;
 3. Filing an application by mail or e-mail, or through the web site of the National Election Commission. In such cases, a person who stays or resides in a foreign country shall file a report through a mission.
- (2) Any person who intends to file an application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter (including an application for alteration of the registration thereof under paragraph (3); hereafter in this Chapter, the same shall apply) shall indicate the following matters in the application:
 1. Name;
 2. Passport number, date of birth and gender;

3. Last domestic address (in cases of a person who does not have the last domestic address, the basic place of registration under the Act on the Registration, etc. of Family Relationship);
4. Place of residence;
5. Matters prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations, such as the name of father or mother mentioned in a family relationship certificate under

Article 15 (1) 1 of the Act on the Registration, etc. of Family Relationships.

(3) Where an alteration is made to the matters mentioned of any eligible voter enrolled in the official list of overseas eligible voters, he or she shall file an application for alteration of the registration of an overseas eligible voter no later than 60 days before the election day of the relevant election according to a method falling under any of the subparagraphs of paragraph (1).

(4) An overseas returning officer shall publicly announce the documents required to identify the nationality of an overseas eligible voter, such as a visa, a certificate of permanent residency, a certificate of long stay or a certificate of foreign registration of his or her residing country, by January 31 every year. In such cases, for a country where two or more missions are located, the overseas returning officer of the embassy shall make the public announcement en bloc.

(5) Article 218-4 (3) through (5) shall apply mutatis mutandis to an application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter. In such cases, "report on an overseas absentee" shall be construed as "application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter"; "an official in charge of overseas voting management or the head of a Gu/Si/ Gun" as "official in charge of overseas voting management"; "report on an overseas absentee" as "application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter or application for alteration of the registration of an overseas eligible voter"; "date of expiration of the period of reporting an overseas absentee" as "period for filing an application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter"; and "passport number" as "passport number and the name of father or mother mentioned in a family relationship certificate under Article 15 (1) 1 of the Act on the Registration, etc. of Family Relationships".

Article 218-6

Preparation of Register of Reported Absentees to Mission

(1) Where an overseas returning officer receives a report of an overseas absentee or an application for registration of an overseas eligible voter (including an application for alteration of the registration there of; hereafter in this Chapter, the same shall apply), he or she shall ascertain whether matters entered are appropriate, and whether a report or an application is proper; and prepare a register of reported absentees to a mission for a person falling under any subparagraph of Article 218-4 (1) and a register of applicants for registration of overseas eligible voters for a person falling under Article 218-5 (1) and (3), respectively (including the computerized information and data; hereafter in this Chapter, the same shall apply).

(2) If necessary for ascertainment under paragraph (1), an overseas returning officer may use the computerized information and data on the resident registration under Article 30 of the Resident Registration Act or the computerized information and data on the registration under Article 11 of the Act on the Registration of Family Relationship, and other computerized information and data controlled by the State.

(3) When an overseas returning officer prepares a register of reported absentees to a mission and a register of applicants for registration of overseas eligible voters, he or she prepare them correctly pursuant to the contents of reports or applications.

Article 218-7*Sending of Register of Reported Absentees to Mission*

(1) Where an overseas returning officer has prepared a register of reported absentees to a mission and a register of applicants for registration of overseas eligible voters, he or she shall classify them by Gu/Si/Gun immediately and send them together with a report of overseas absentees and applications for registration of overseas eligible voters to the National Election Commission via the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(2) Where the National Election Commission has received a register of reported absentees to a mission and a report of overseas absentees pursuant to paragraph (1), it shall send them to the head of the relevant Gu/Si/Gun.

(3) Sending of a register of reported absentees to a mission, a register of applicants for registration of overseas eligible voters, a report of overseas absentees, and applications for registration of overseas eligible voters under paragraphs (1) and (2) may be substituted by sending the computerized information and data through the computer system. In such cases, keeping of the original copy of the relevant document and other necessary measures shall be stipulated by the National Election Commission Regulations.

Article 218-8*Preparation of Official Lists of Overseas Eligible Voters*

(1) The National Election Commission shall prepare the official list of overseas eligible voters, according to the official list of overseas eligible voters confirmed at the presidential election or the election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly held at the expiration of the terms of office that is conducted immediately before the relevant election and according to applications for registration of overseas eligible voters sent by overseas returning officers, for 10 days from 49 days to 40 days before the election day, based on the last domestic address or the basic place of registration as of 60 days before the election day of the relevant election. In such cases, where a person is found to file at least two applications for registration of overseas eligible voters, the official list of overseas eligible voters shall be prepared based on the last-accepted application for registration of overseas eligible voters from among such two or more applications.

(2) The National Election Commission shall ascertain whether the eligible voters who are enrolled in the official list of overseas eligible voters finalized at the presidential election held immediately before the relevant election or at the election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly held after the expiration of the terms of office have the right to vote and shall modify the official list of overseas eligible voters no later than 60 days before the election day of the relevant election.

(3) No person who has applied for registration of an overseas eligible voter by deception or no person who is not deemed to have applied for registration of an overseas eligible voter according to his or her own free will shall be enrolled in the official list of overseas eligible voters.

(4) The head of an agency controlling the following information shall take necessary measures so that the National Election Commission may refer to the relevant information through the computer system to the extent necessary for the National Election Commission to prepare the official list of overseas eligible voters and to modify the official list of overseas eligible voters confirmed at the presidential election or the election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly held at the expiration of the terms of office that is conducted immediately before the relevant election, from 150 days before the election day:

2. Information on resident registration under Article 30 of the Resident Registration Act;
3. Information on registration of family relationship under Article 11 of the Act on the Registration of Family Relationship;
4. Information on the persons declared incompetent under Article 18 (1) 1. In such cases, the Minister of the Interior and Safety shall make such information easily available by

construction of database with the data notified by the head of a Gu/Si/Eup/Myeon controlling the relevant information;

5. Information on persons falling under Article 18 (1) 2 through 4.

(5) The National Election Commission may give necessary instructions to the relevant administrative agency in order to ensure whether any person who has applied for registration of an overseas eligible voter is a legitimate applicant.

(6) The State shall take institutional and financial measures for accurate preparation of an official list of overseas eligible voters.

Article 218-9

Preparation of Official Lists of Overseas Absentee Voters

(1) The head of a Gu/Si/Gun shall prepare an official list of overseas absentee voters according to are port of overseas absentees sent by the National Election Commission and a report of overseas absentees which the head of the relevant Gu/Si/Gun has received directly for 10 days from 49 days to 40 days before the election day (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as "period for preparation of the official list of overseas absentee voters"), based on the domestic address as of the expiration date of the reporting period for overseas absentees. In such cases, when one person is found to file two or more reports of overseas absentees, the official list of overseas absentee voters shall be prepared based on the last-accepted report of overseas absentees from among such two or more reports.

(2) Any person who has made a report of an overseas absentee deceitfully or any person who is not deemed that he or she has made a report of an overseas absentee according to his or her own freewill shall not be enrolled in an official list of overseas absentee voters.

(3) Article 39 shall apply mutatis mutandis to supervision, etc. on preparation of an official list of overseas absentee voters. In such cases, "official list of eligible voters" shall be deemed "official list of overseas absentee voters", and "period for preparation of the official list of eligible voters" shall be deemed "period for preparation of the official list of overseas absentee voters".

Article 218-10

Perusal of Official Lists of Overseas Eligible Voters

(1) The National Election Commission and the head of a Gu/Si/Gun (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as "person having the right to prepare the official list") shall offer the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. to perusal for five days (hereafter in this Chapter referred to as "period for perusal of the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc.") from the next day of the expiration date of the period for preparation of the official list of overseas eligible voters and the official list of overseas absentee voters (hereinafter referred to as "official list of overseas eligible voters, etc.") at a place fixed: Provided, that the official list of overseas eligible voters shall be limited to perusal on the website.

(2) Any eligible voter may peruse the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. freely in the period for perusal of the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc.

(3) The person having the right to prepare the official list shall take technical measures so that any person who has made a report of an overseas absentee or a person who has applied for registration of an overseas eligible voter may peruse the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. limited to his or her own information on the website established and operated by the person having the right to prepare the official list in the period for perusal of the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc.

(4) The Minister of the Interior and Safety shall take technical measures to allow an overseas eligible voter or a person reporting his or her overseas absence (hereinafter referred to as "overseas eligible voter, etc.") to check whether he or she is on the official list of overseas eligible voters on the Internet web-site opened and operated by the Ministry of the Interior and Safety during the period for perusal of the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc., with the cooperation of a person having the right to prepare the official list.

(5) An overseas returning officer shall allow an overseas eligible voter, etc. to check whether he or she is on the official list of overseas eligible voters accessing the official list of overseas eligible voters sent by the National Election Commission during the period for perusal of the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc.

(6) A copy of the official list of overseas eligible voters shall not be issued.

Article 218-11

Raising of Objection to and Appeal of Dissatisfaction with Official Lists of Overseas Eligible Voters

(1) When an eligible voter finds that a legitimate eligible voter is omitted or wrong contents are written or an unqualified person is enrolled in the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. in the period for perusal of the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc., he or she may raise an objection to the person having the right to prepare the official list verbally or in writing, and the relevant person having the right to prepare the official list shall examine and decide by the next day of the date when such objection is raised.

(2) Any person raising an objection or any interested person who is dissatisfied with a decision of the head of a Gu/Si/Gun based on an objection under paragraph (1) may appeal dissatisfaction with the competent Gu/Si/Gun election commissions in writing by the next day of the date when he or she has received such notification.

(3) Where a legitimate eligible voter is found to have been omitted in the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. from among the persons who have applied for registration of overseas eligible voters or made a report of overseas absentees by an error of the person having the right to prepare the official list or by other reason from the next day of the expiration date of the period for raising an objection under paragraph (1) to the date prior to the date when the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. are decided upon, the relevant eligible voter may file an application for registration with the person having the right to prepare the official list in writing with explanatory data attached thereto.

(4) If the relationship between a person who filed an application for the registration of an overseas eligible voter by proxy and a person who filed an application for the registration of the overseas eligible voter is not a family as defined in the latter part of Article 218-5 (1) 1, the eligible voter may file an objection pursuant to paragraph (1). In such cases, the National Election Commission shall verify the family relationship with a certificate specified in any subparagraph of Article 15 (1) of the Act on the Registration of Family Relationship and issued by the competent authority and shall delete the person who files the application for the registration from the official list of overseas eligible voters, if it discovers that the person is not a family member as defined in the latter part of Article 218-5 (1) 1.

(5) A notice of the details of a decision upon an objection raised, an appeal of dissatisfaction or an application for registration in the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. may be posted on the website established and being operated by the person having the right to prepare the official list, or transmission of an electronic mail may take the place thereof.

(6) When finding that the same person is on both the official list of overseas eligible voters and the official list of overseas absentee voters by the day preceding the date when the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. becomes final, a person having the right to prepare the official list shall have such person listed on the two lists on either the official list of overseas eligible voters or the official list of overseas absentee voters, according to the last-accepted application for registration of overseas eligible voters or to the last-accepted report of overseas absentees.

Article 218-12

Curtailment of Period in Election to Fill Presidential Vacancy or Presidential Re-election

Where an election to fill a presidential vacancy or a presidential re-election is held, notwithstanding

Articles 218-4 through 218-11, the period for filing an application for registration of overseas eligible voters and the period of reporting of overseas absentees, etc. shall comply with the following. In such cases, the period for perusal of the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. and for raising an objection shall not be set separately:

1. Period for filing an application for registration of overseas electors and period for report of overseas absentees: From the time when a reason of holding an election has been decided to 40 days before the election day;
2. Period for preparing the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc.; From 34 days to 30 days before the election day.

Article 218-13

Decision and Sending of Official Lists of Overseas Eligible Voters

(1) The official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. shall be decided 30 days before the election day and the official list of overseas absentee voters shall be effective to the relevant election only.

(2) The person having the right to prepare the official list shall, if the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. are decided, immediately send an electronic copy of the official list, etc. to the competent Gu/Si/Gun election commissions. In such cases, the head of a Gu/Si/Gun shall send a report of overseas absentees (where the computerized information and data is received pursuant to Article 218-7 (3), including a copy of such computerized information and data) along with the official list, etc.

(3) The National Election Commission shall combine the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. decided pursuant to paragraph (1) into one package, and send it to an overseas election commission; such procedures and methods and other necessary measures shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations.

(4) After an overseas eligible voter, etc. casts a ballot, no person shall raise legal or administrative objection to whether the overseas eligible voter, etc. has the right to vote for the relevant election, on the ground that he or she is not the national of the Republic of Korea.

Article 218-14

Special Cases concerning Methods of Overseas Election Campaign

(1) An election campaign intended for overseas eligible voters (referring to persons who are enrolled in the official list of overseas eligible voters, etc. or who are qualified to be enrolled therein; hereinafter the same shall apply) may be conducted by the following methods:

An election campaign under subparagraph 2 or 3 of Article 59;

1. A broadcasting advertisement under Article 70 which makes use of satellite broadcasting facilities (referring to broadcasting facilities in the Republic of Korea, which are managed and operated by a broadcasting business operator and are able to broadcast overseas under the Broadcasting Act; hereafter in this Chapter, the same shall apply);
2. A broadcasting speech under Article 71 which makes use of satellite broadcasting facilities;
3. Deleted;
4. An Internet advertisement under Article 82-7;
5. Deleted

(2) The number of times of broadcasting advertisements under paragraph (1) 2 shall comply with the following:

1. Presidential election: Within 10 times each by television and radio broadcasting facilities;
2. Election of members of proportional representation for the National Assembly: Within five times each by television and radio broadcasting facilities.

(3) The number of times of broadcasting speeches under paragraph (1) 3 shall comply with the

following:

1. Presidential election: Within five times each by television and radio broadcasting facilities by a candidate and a speaker whom he or she has appointed respectively;
 2. Election of members of proportional representation for the National Assembly:
One time each by television and radio broadcasting facilities by two persons elected by the representative of a party, respectively by party.
- (4) The National Election Commission shall, in order to advise overseas eligible voters, etc. of the information on parties and candidates in a presidential election or an election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly held at the expiration of the terms of office, prepare information and data on parties and candidates as prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations and provide overseas eligible voters, etc. with such information and data by the following methods:
1. Posting a notice on a notice board of a mission;
 2. Posting a notice on website of the National Election Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Overseas Koreans Agency, and a mission;
 3. Transmission of electronic mails (limited to overseas eligible voters, etc. who want to receive electronic mails).
- (5) A person who manages and operates broadcasting facilities may rebroadcast a face-to-face talk and a debate under Article 82-2 (1) and a debate on policies under Article 82-3 at his or her own expense.
- (6) No full-time executive officers, employees and representatives of the following organizations may conduct an election campaign intended for overseas eligible voters:
1. The Korea International Cooperation Agency established under the Korea International Cooperation Agency Act;
 2. The Korea Foundation established under the Korea Foundation Act;
 3. Deleted
- (7) No organization (including its representative, executive officer, employee or member) may conduct an election campaign intended for overseas eligible voters in its name or in the name of its representative, notwithstanding Article 87 (1).

Article 218-15

Special Cases concerning Expenses for Election Campaign

Notwithstanding Article 119 (1), expenses spent overseas for an election campaign targeted to overseas eligible voters shall not be deemed expenses for an election campaign.

Article 218-16

Voting Methods of Overseas Election

- (1) In an overseas election, a ballot shall be cast by the method of marking on a ballot paper pursuant to the main clause of Article 159.
- (2) Overseas votes shall arrive at the competent Gu/Si/Gun election commissions not later than 6 p.m.(referring to 8 p.m. for an election to fill a presidential vacancy or a presidential re-election) on the election day.
- (3) A person who is registered in the official list of overseas eligible voters under Article 218-13 (1) but who returns home without voting at an overseas polling station may cast his or her vote on the election day at the polling station designated by the relevant election commission, after filing a report with the Gu/Si/Gun election commission having jurisdiction over his or her address or last domestic address (in cases of a person who does not have the last domestic address, referring to the basic place of registration) from 8 days before the election to the election day.
- (4) Detailed procedures for filing a report under paragraph (3) and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations

Article 218-17*Establishment and Operation of Overseas Polling Stations*

(1) An overseas election commission shall establish and operate an overseas polling station in a mission with a fixed period of not exceeding six days (hereinafter referred to as "period of overseas voting" in this Chapter) in the period from 14 days to nine days before the election day. In such cases, where an overseas polling station cannot be established in such mission for reasons of the narrowness, etc. of the mission, the overseas polling station may be established in the alternative facility of the mission.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), where any of the following reasons exists, the overseas election commission may establish and operate additional overseas polling stations in facilities, barracks, etc. with a specified period during the period of overseas voting besides the mission or the alternative facility of the mission under paragraph (1):

Provided, that in cases of an overseas polling station additionally established due to a reason under subparagraph 1, where the number of overseas Koreans exceeds 30,000, an overseas polling station may be additionally established and operated for every 30,000 overseas Koreans thereafter; but the total number of additional overseas polling stations shall not exceed three:

1. Where the number of overseas Koreans in a district within the jurisdiction thereof is estimated to be at least 30,000;
2. Where there is a military unit of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Korea to which overseas eligible voters, etc. belong in a district within the jurisdiction of the mission or an area adjacent to a district within the jurisdiction thereof.

(3) An overseas election commission shall publicly announce the name, location, period of operation, etc. of an overseas polling station no later than 20 days before the election day on the website, etc.

(4) An overseas election commission shall have polling station staff at an overseas polling station from among persons who are fair and neutral.

(5) An overseas election commission shall designate one member, who is not a member recommended by a political party, as a responsible member to take charge of voting management in the relevant overseas voting polling station:

Provided, that a member not designated as a responsible member may also participate voluntarily in voting management and may present his or her opinions on voting management to the responsible member.

(6) Notwithstanding paragraph (5), an overseas election commission may require a person in charge of an overseas polling station it designates to conduct the management of voting at an overseas polling station.

(7) An overseas polling station shall open at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. every day during the period of overseas voting, regardless of statutory holidays; provided, the overseas election commission may adjust voting hours in consideration of the number of expected voters, etc., but in consultation with the National Election Commission, in any of the following cases:

1. In cases of an act of God, war, riot or other unavoidable events;
2. In cases of an overseas polling station additionally established and operated pursuant to paragraph (2) 2.

(8) The establishment and operation of an overseas polling station, and the designation of an overseas election commission that establishes and operates an overseas polling station in a military unit of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Korea under paragraph (2), and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations.

(9) Articles 163, 166, 166-2 and 167 (excluding the proviso of paragraph (2)) shall apply Mutatis mutandis to overseas polling stations. In such cases, "Eup/Myeon/Dong election commissions and their upper class election commissions" shall be construed as the "National Election Commission and overseas election commissions", "polling places" shall be construed as "overseas polling stations", "official in charge of voting management" shall be construed as "responsible member of an overseas polling station or a person in charge of an overseas polling station" and "on the election day" shall be construed as "in an overseas polling station".

Article 218-18*Preparation of Ballot Papers*

- (1) The National Election Commission shall direct the responsible member of an overseas polling station or a person in charge of an overseas polling station (hereinafter referred to as "responsible member, etc.") to prepare and deliver ballot papers at the overseas polling station by using a ballot paper printer. In such cases, the latter part of Article 151 (6) shall apply mutatis mutandis to the serial numbers to be printed on the ballot papers.
- (2) In order to prepare ballot papers, the National Election Commission shall send the ballot paper manuscript prepared under Article 151 (1) not later than two days before the commencement date of the period of overseas voting through a computer system.
- (3) The National Election Commission shall take technical measures necessary to prepare ballot papers and send the ballot paper manuscript.
- (4) When a responsible member, etc. of an overseas polling station is unable to prepare and deliver ballot papers due to the malfunction of a ballot paper printer, he or she shall prepare and deliver ballot papers using the ballot paper manuscript sent by the National Election Commission through the computer system. In such cases, votes for members of the National Assembly shall be cast in the manner of writing, in person, the name of a candidate or the name or symbol of a political party on the ballot paper in Korean or Arabic numerals, notwithstanding Article 218-16 (1).
- (5) The methods of preparing ballot papers, a voting guide to overseas eligible voters, etc., and other necessary measures shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations.

Article 218-19*Procedures for Voting of Overseas Election*

- (1) An overseas eligible voter, etc. shall receive a ballot paper after having his or her identity verified by presenting a certificate (referring to a certificate issued by a government office or public institution of the Republic of Korea with his or her photo that could verify his or her identification affixed, such as a passport, resident registration certificate, certificate of public official, or driver's license; or a certificate issued by the government of the country in which he or she sojourns with his or her photo affixed and his or her name and date of birth stated, which could verify his or her identification; hereafter in this Article, the same shall apply) and then imprinting his or her thumbmark or affixing his or her signature electronically: Provided, that an overseas eligible voter shall receive a ballot paper after presenting the original set of the documents publicly announced by an overseas returning officer pursuant to Article 218-5 (4) to have his or her nationality and identity verified; but he or she shall also present an identification certificate if the document presented has no photo that could verify his or her identification.
- (2) The responsible member, etc. of an overseas polling station shall print ballot papers with a ballot paper printer, affix his or her seal or signature (which shows his or her full Korean name) in the column "responsible member," and distribute them together with the envelopes for return, without removing serial numbers.
- (3) An overseas eligible voter, etc. in receipt of an envelope for return shall enter a polling booth, select one candidate (or one political party, in cases of an election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly), mark on the relevant column of the ballot paper, fold the ballot paper on the very spot so that it cannot be seen by any other person, put it in an envelope for return, seal the envelope, and then put the envelope in a ballot box.
- (4) Matters for sealing of ballot paper printers, affixing seals thereto, and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations.

Article 218-20*Observation of Voting at Overseas Polling Stations*

- (1) A responsible member, etc. at an overseas polling station shall arrange so that voting observers may witness the status of voting.
- (2) In cases of a presidential election, a candidate (in cases of a party-nominated candidate, referring to a party which nominated a candidate) and, in cases of a National Assembly election, a party subject to allotment of subsidies pursuant to Article 27 of the Political Funds Act may report two persons from among overseas eligible voters, etc. as voting observers by overseas polling station to an overseas election commission not later than 17 days before the election day.
- (3) A voting observer reported pursuant to paragraph (2) may be changed at any time, and a report of change may be made at the overseas polling station in the period of overseas voting.
- (4) Where voting observers are not selected pursuant to paragraph (2) or voting observers are only selected by one candidate or one party, an overseas election commission shall select two persons from among overseas eligible voters, etc. as voting observers with their consent. In such cases, where the overseas election commission selects voting observers of the overseas polling station under Article 218-17 (2) 2, it shall select persons who are not military personnel first.
- (5) Voting observers selected pursuant to paragraph (4) shall not refuse to witness or resign from the post without good cause.
- (6) If it is necessary for smooth voting process, a responsible member, etc. of an overseas polling station shall make voting observers take turns to witness the voting. In such cases, a half of the number of voting observers for each political party and candidate shall take turns to witness the voting.

Article 218-21*Returning of Overseas Votes*

- (1) A responsible member, etc. at an overseas polling station shall open a ballot box in the presence of voting observers after the close of overseas voting every day and compute the number of voters, and then pack and seal the overseas votes and hand them over to an overseas returning officer:
Provided, that where it is inevitable for an overseas polling station established pursuant to Article 218-17 (2) not to transfer overseas votes every day for reasons, such as the distance from the mission, the overseas polling station may transfer overseas votes en bloc during the period of the operation of the relevant overseas polling station after the period of the operation thereof expires.
- (2) An overseas returning officer shall send out the overseas votes under paragraph (1) to the Republic of Korea without delay after the period of overseas voting ends, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall send the overseas votes out to the National Election Commission after confirming the closing or the sealing of the diplomatic pouch. In such cases, if the number of overseas votes is large, some of them may be sent first in the period of overseas voting.
- (3) The National Election Commission shall send out the overseas votes which it has taken over pursuant to paragraph (2) to the competent Gu/Si/Gun election commissions by registered mail.
- (4) The transfer of overseas votes under the proviso of paragraph (1), methods of returning the overseas votes to the Republic of Korea under paragraph (2) and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations.

Article 218-22*Preparation and Sending of Vote Register of Overseas Polling Station*

- (1) A responsible member, etc. at an overseas polling station shall keep a vote register of an overseas polling station there and record the number of voters every day, transfer of overseas

votes to an overseas returning officer and other matters concerning the vote administration at an overseas polling station.

(2) When the vote at an overseas polling station is closed, a responsible member, etc. at an overseas polling station shall transfer ballot boxes, their keys, vote registers of an overseas polling station and all the other documents concerning the vote at an overseas polling place to an overseas returning officer.

(3) An overseas returning officer shall keep an overseas vote administration record and shall write matters concerning application for registration of overseas eligible voters, receipt and handling of report of overseas absentees, installation and operation of an overseas polling station, and other administration of an overseas election and overseas absentee voting in the overseas vote administration record.

(4) When an overseas returning officer sends the overseas votes out to the National Election Commission pursuant to the former part of Article 218-21 (2), he or she shall send out a vote register of an overseas polling station together.

Article 218-23

Receipt of Overseas Votes

(1) Gu/Si/Gun election commissions shall provide themselves with ballot boxes of overseas absentees and ballot boxes of overseas eligible voters (hereafter in this Article and Article 281-24 referred to as "overseas ballot boxes") respectively for input and custody of the overseas votes from 10 days before the election day.

(2) The overseas votes received by Gu/Si/Gun election commissions shall be put in overseas ballot boxes under the participation of members recommended by parties. In such cases, Article 176 (3) shall apply mutatis mutandis to the retention of ballot boxes.

Article 218-24

Ballot Counting of Overseas Votes

(1) Gu/Si/Gun election commissions shall count the votes of the overseas votes.

(2) Overseas ballot boxes may be moved to a counting center after 6 p.m. (referring to 8 p.m. for an election to fill a presidential vacancy or a presidential re-election) on the election day, and the votes may be counted separately in advance of ballot papers in other ballot boxes, in the presence of counting observers.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the National Election Commission deems that the overseas votes cannot be arrived at Gu/Si/Gun election commissions by 6 p.m. on the election day due to natural disaster, war, uprising, or other extenuating circumstance, the National Election Commission may allow the relevant overseas election commission to keep the overseas votes and then to count the ballots.

(4) When an overseas election commission counts the ballots pursuant to paragraph (3), it shall count the ballots at a mission after 6 p.m. in the presence of voting observers and shall report the result thereof to the National Election Commission; then the National Election Commission shall such result to the competent constituency election commission.

(5) In cases of counting the ballots pursuant to paragraph (3), Article 218-20 (2) through (5) shall apply mutatis mutandis to the selection and report, etc. of voting observers. In such cases, "for each overseas polling station" shall be construed as "for each counting center", "voting observers" shall be construed as "counting observers", "17 days before the election day" shall be construed as "3days before the election day", and "at the overseas polling station in the period of overseas voting" shall be construed as "at the counting center in the period of ballot-counting".

(6) Where an overseas election commission counts the overseas votes, keeping of the overseas votes, proceedings and procedures of ballot-counting, report and notification of ballot-counting result, and other necessary measures shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations.

Article 218-25*Validity of overseas voting*

(1) Article 179 (excluding paragraphs (3) and (4)7 and 10 of that Article) shall apply mutatis mutandis to the effect of overseas voting. In this regard, "early voting or home voting" shall be construed as "overseas voting"; "election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly and election of proportional representation members of local councils" as "election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly"; "home voter or shipboard voter" as "overseas eligible voter, etc."; and "home voting or shipboard voting" as "overseas voting", respectively.

(2) Where votes are cast in the manner prescribed in the latter part of Article 218-18(4), any vote which contains all of a candidate's name and the name or symbol of a political party written in any letters other than Korean or Arabic numerals (if a vote is written in Korean or Arabic numerals together with other letters, it shall be deemed that the vote is written in Korean or Arabic numerals), or any overseas vote on which a candidate's name has been written (including a ballot paper on which the name of a party or its mark has been written together) in an election of proportional representation members of the National Assembly shall be invalid; provided, none of the following overseas votes shall be taken to be invalid:

1. A vote on which the name of the same candidate or the name or symbol of the same political party has been written two or more times;
2. Where it is clear to which candidate or political party the vote has been cast, though the candidate's name or the name or symbol of a political party has been written wrongly in part.

(3) Where one person casts two or more ballots in the same election, the overseas vote cast by the person in the relevant election shall be invalid.

(4) Deleted.

(5) Deleted.

Article 218-26*Prescription of public prosecution for criminal in overseas election*

(1) Notwithstanding the main clause of Article 268(1), the prescription of a public prosecution of a crime prescribed by this Act committed overseas shall expire when five years have passed after the relevant election date.

(2) The Seoul Central District Court shall have the jurisdiction over the first trial on a person who commits a crime overseas as provided for in this Act and the court's jurisdiction over the case of which cannot be specific under the Criminal Procedure Act.

Article 218-27*Duty of securing fairness in overseas election*

(1) The National Election Commission and overseas returning officers shall endeavor to secure the participation of overseas eligible voters in voting and fairness in overseas elections, such as application for registration of overseas eligible voters, methods of overseas voting, publicity of other matters for exercise of the suffrage of overseas eligible voters.

(2) The National Election Commission shall take necessary measures so that overseas eligible voters may know names of parties which nominated candidates, names of candidates, marks, election pledge, etc. through telephone or internet.

(3) The National Election Commission shall conduct investigation and research on elections, political parties, political funds systems and the status of their operation, plans for development of political parties, etc. of foreign countries and make necessary efforts for improvement of the overseas election system and development of politics.

Article 218-28*Support of overseas election affairs*

(1) The National Election Commission, the Ministry of Justice, the National Police Agency, etc. shall support overseas election business which overseas election commissions or overseas returning officers conduct and, if necessary, may dispatch officials belonging to them to missions for prevention of illegal acts, collection of data, etc.

(2) Where an official belonging to the National Election Commission and dispatched to a mission pursuant to paragraph (1) executes investigation under Article 272-2 of this Act or Article 52 of the Political Fund Act, he or she shall be directed and supervised by the National Election Commission, notwithstanding other statutes or regulations; provided, when the official commences such investigation, he or she shall consult with the head of the mission on matters concerning investigation.

Article 218-29*Handling of overseas election affairs in cases of natural disaster*

(1) When the National Election Commission deems that it is unable to conduct overseas voting in the district under the jurisdiction of the relevant mission due to natural disaster, war, uprising, or other extenuating circumstance, the National Election Commission may decide not to establish an overseas election commission under the relevant mission or decide to suspend the overseas election affairs of an overseas election commission established and operated and an overseas returning officer.

(2) No votes shall cast again after the period of overseas voting ends, even where the vote is not complete during the period of overseas voting according to the decision on the suspension of overseas election affairs pursuant to paragraph (1). In such cases, an overseas returning officer shall return the overseas votes already conducted to the Republic of Korea under Article 218-21(2).

(3) When the National Election Commission deems that the overseas voting can be conducted within the period of overseas voting due to changed situation after the decision is made pursuant to paragraph (1), the National Election Commission shall, without delay, establish an overseas election commission or allow the relevant overseas election commission and overseas returning officer whose overseas election affairs were suspended to resume suspended overseas election affairs, and in such cases, the overseas election affairs for which the handling period is overdue shall be deemed to have been handled as provided for in this Act; provided, an overseas election commission shall, without delay, make a public announcement of the name, location and operation period, etc. of an overseas polling station even where the period under Article 218-17 expires.

Article 218-30*Restrictions on issuance of passport to criminal in overseas election*

(1) Upon receipt of a request from the National Election Commission or a public prosecutor, or senior judicial police officer, the Minister of Foreign Affairs shall place restrictions on the issuance or re-issuance of a passport under the Passport Act (referring to "issuance of a passport") to any of the following persons or order any of the following persons to return his or her passport (hereinafter referred to as "restrictions"):

1. A person in whose case there is a reasonable ground to believe that he or she committed a crime punishable by imprisonment for a long term of not less than three years under this Act but it is impossible to close investigations because the person has not respond to the summons of the National Election Commission for investigations or because his or her whereabouts are unknown;
2. A person in whose case prosecution for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a long period of not less than three years and committed by him or her in a foreign country

has been suspended (limited to suspension of investigation on the grounds relating to suspects).

(2) Where the National Election Commission, a prosecutor, or a judicial police officer requests restrictions on the issuance of a passport, etc. pursuant to paragraph (1), such request shall be made in writing, specifying the grounds for the request, the period of restriction, or the period of custody after surrender (hereinafter referred to as the "period of custody").

(3) Where the National Election Commission, a prosecutor, or a judicial police officer deems it necessary to extend the period of restriction or the period of custody under paragraph (2), he or she may request such extension in writing no later than 30 days prior to the expiration of the relevant period.

(4) The period of restriction or the period of custody under paragraphs (2) and (3) shall not exceed five years from the date of the relevant election; provided, even during such period, where the National Election Commission, a prosecutor, or a judicial police officer recognizes that the grounds for the request have ceased to exist, he or she may request the Minister of Foreign Affairs to lift the restrictions on the issuance of a passport, etc.

(5) Upon receipt of a request under paragraph (3) or (4), the Minister of Foreign Affairs shall comply with the request, except in exceptional circumstances.

(6) Except as provided in this Article with respect to restrictions on the issuance of a passport under paragraph (1), the Passport Act shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the procedure for placing restrictions on the issuance of a passport, the invalidation and recovery of a passport when a person does not comply with an order to return it, and other relevant matters.

Article 218-31

Prohibition of entry of foreigners

(1) The Minister of Justice may prohibit a foreigner from entering the Republic of Korea, if he or she has a reasonable ground to believe that the foreigner committed an act prohibited by this Act; provided, this shall not apply to a foreigner who intends to enter the Republic of Korea in response to summons for investigations.

(2) The National Election Commission may notify the Minister of Justice of foreigners who are prohibited from entering the Republic of Korea under paragraph (1).

(3) The period of prohibition of entry under paragraph (1) shall end on the last day of the term of office of the candidate elected from the relevant election.

(4) The Immigration Control Act shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the procedure for the prohibition of entry under paragraph (1).

Article 218-32

Consular investigation of criminals in overseas election

(1) Pursuant to Articles 200 and 221 of the Criminal Procedure Act, a consul may demand a suspect involved in a violation of this act or any person other than suspects to make an appearance in the overseas diplomatic or consular mission to hear statements from the suspect or person at the request of a court or a public prosecutor.

(2) In order for a court or a public prosecutor to request a consul to hear statements, the court or a public prosecutor shall make such request through the Ministry of Justice or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A judicial police officer may file an application with the competent public prosecutor for requesting a consul to hear statements.

(3) When a consul hears statements pursuant to paragraph (1), he or she may prepare the record of details of statements or receive a written statement from the person who makes statements and may record the proceedings with a video recording system; provided, if the person who makes statements is not a suspect, such video recording shall be subject to the person's consent.

(4) Articles 48, 50, and 161-2 through 164 of the Criminal Procedure Act shall apply to the procedure and method applicable to where a consul hears statements at the request of a court.

(5) Articles 241, 242, and 243-2 through 245 of the Criminal Procedure Act shall apply to the procedure and method applicable to where a consul hears statements at the request of a public prosecutor.

(6) A consul shall forward the record prepared pursuant to paragraph (3) and written statements submitted by the person who made statements or video recordings to the competent court or public prosecutor immediately through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of Justice.

Article 218-33

Investigation of criminals in overseas election by internet-based video conferencing

(1) A public prosecutor or judicial police officer may hear statements from a suspect involved in a violation of this Act or any person, other than suspects, who makes an appearance in an overseas diplomatic or consular mission pursuant to Article 200 or 221 of the Criminal Procedure Act by Internet-based video conferencing.

(2) When a public prosecutor or judicial police officer intends to hear statements pursuant to paragraph (1), he or she shall notify the head of the relevant overseas diplomatic or consular mission through the Ministry of Justice or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the case that he or she intends to investigate, and the competent consul shall participate in hearing statements.

(3) A public prosecutor or judicial police officer may prepare the record of statements while hearing statements pursuant to paragraph (1) and shall record the proceedings with a video recording system; provided, if the person who makes statements is not a suspect, such video recording shall be subject to the person's consent.

(4) A public prosecutor or judicial police officer shall forward the record that he or she has prepared to the relevant overseas diplomatic or consular mission, and the consul shall print out the record and hand over it to the person who has made statements for inspection.

(5) Articles 241, 242, and 243-2 through 245 of the Criminal Procedure Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to the procedure and method for hearing statements pursuant to paragraph (1).

(6) A consul shall forward the completed record to the public prosecutor or judicial police officer through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of Justice.

(7) A record prepared pursuant to paragraphs (1) through (6) shall be deemed the same as a record prepared by a public prosecutor or judicial police officer within the Republic of Korea.

Article 218-34

Provisions applicable mutatis mutandis

(1) Except matters prescribed in this Chapter concerning an overseas election, other provisions of this Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to an overseas election within the extent not contrary to its nature.

(2) When computing the period fixed by dates in this Chapter, the Korean standard time shall be followed.

(3) Articles 2 and 3 of the Act on the Direct Use of Revenue, etc. by Overseas Diplomatic and Consular Missions shall apply mutatis mutandis to the remainder of the budget for election management left over after a diplomatic or consular mission uses for expenses for an overseas election. In such cases, the "Minister of Foreign Affairs" shall be construed as the "Secretary General of the National Election Commission", the "head of an overseas diplomatic or consular mission of the Republic of Korea" or the "head of an overseas diplomatic or consular mission" as "official in charge of overseas voting management", and "revenue and expenses for the operation of an office" as "expenses for election management".

Article 218-35

Enforcement rules

Matters necessary for holding an overseas absentee vote and an overseas election shall be prescribed by the National Election Commission Regulations.

KOSOVO

a) Constitution

Article 45

Freedom of Election and Participation

1. Every citizen of the Republic of Kosovo who has reached the age of eighteen, even if on the day of elections, has the right to elect and be elected, unless this right is limited by a court decision.
2. The vote is personal, equal, free and secret.
3. State institutions support the possibility of every person to participate in public activities and everyone's right to democratically influence decisions of public bodies.

Article 63

General Principles, Chapter IV Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo

The Assembly is the legislative institution of the Republic of Kosovo directly elected by the people.

b) Law 08/L-228 on General Elections in the Republic of Kosovo

Article 3

Definitions

- (1) [...] 1.53. Out of Kosovo voter - shall mean a successful out of Kosovo applicant using one of the means of voting outside of the territory of Kosovo, as specified in CEC rules

Article 6

The right to vote

1. All citizens of the Republic of Kosovo who have reached the age of eighteen (18) years old, even on election day, shall have the right to elect and be elected.
2. The vote shall be personal, equal, free and confidential.
3. The right to vote can be limited by court decision.

Article 7

Voting in Kosovo and outside Kosovo

1. All citizens with the right to vote shall have the right to vote in Kosovo on election day and in the municipality where he or she is registered, provided that his/her name appears in the Central Civil Registry.
2. Citizens of the Republic of Kosovo, living abroad, shall have the right to vote in elections after successful registration in line with the procedures and time limits set forth in this law.
3. CEC shall, for the purposes of application and registration of citizens of the Republic of Kosovo mentioned in paragraph 2 of this Article, apply a sufficient and appropriate time limit that is not shorter than fifteen (15) days.
4. CEC shall, for the purposes of application and registration of citizens of the Republic of Kosovo mentioned in paragraph 2 of this Article, take the necessary measures to inform and educate voters, including and without being limited to the method of application and registration, applicable electronic platforms and promoting the highest democratic standards for the provision of voting materials, the confidentiality of the vote, its personalization and inviolability.

Article 8*List of Voters*

1. CEC shall maintain the Voters List and shall ensure that the same is based on the correct, updated and most recent data from the Central Civil Registry with dead persons and persons who have renounced their citizenship being systematically removed from the list. This list shall contain the following:

1.1. the most recent available extract from the Central Civil Registry of all eligible voters who are registered as citizens of Kosovo pursuant to the law on Citizenship; and.

1.2. all citizens with the right to vote outside of Kosovo, who have successfully applied and registered for voting in a diplomatic representation or through mail, as voters outside of Kosovo.

2. The Voters List mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article shall contain the personal information provided for each voter such as: name, surname, date of birth, address and Voting Centre where he/she is assigned to vote.

3. In order to clarify the Voters List and confirm the right to vote, CEC shall be guaranteed access to the database and registers of competent institutions, including but not limited to the registries of: Kosovo Agency of Statistics, Kosovo Cadastral Agency, Civil Registration Agency and Pension Administration.

4. The Voters List shall be accessible as set out by CEC rules.

5. The Voters List shall be public even in non-election years, whereby voters will have the opportunity to be informed regarding voting centres and request the change of voting centres. The Civil Registration Agency shall be obliged to provide the Central Civil Registry extract to CEC at least twice a year.

6. All activities and documents of the state bodies, and all submissions and evidence related to registering citizens in the Voters List shall be exempted from payment of fees and taxes.

7. The personal data of the citizens on the Voters List shall be written in the languages and alphabets in which the original records are kept and in accordance with the Law on the Use of Languages in Kosovo.

8. The competent court shall submit data to the CEC on persons who have been deprived of their legal capacity with a final court decision. Such data shall be delivered as required by the CEC.

9. The Central Civil Registry shall supply the CEC with all relevant information that the CEC requires to maintain the Voters List in accordance with deadlines established by the CEC.

10. CEC shall provide the Municipal Election Commissions (MECs) with an electronic and/or hardcopy of the entire preliminary Voters List for their municipality.

11. The utilization and use of personal data of the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo by CEC or its competent bodies shall be carried out only for the purposes of the election process and in line with the instructions of the agency responsible for information and privacy, as well as in line with the legislation in force for the protection of personal data.

Article 96*General Provisions*

1. An eligible voter who is temporarily absent from Kosovo may vote for elections if he or she has successfully applied and registered for voting Out of Kosovo.

2. The vote through voting outside Kosovo, delivered by mail to the post office box of the CEC in Kosovo, is accepted by the CEC until the day after the election day at 16:00, provided that it has the stamp of delivery before the day of the elections. Meanwhile, the votes sent by mail to the mailbox outside Kosovo opened by the diplomatic representations, upon the authorisation of CEC, are accepted by the teams sent by the CEC, solely those that have arrived in the mailbox at latest until the closing hour of the polling stations in the diplomatic representation.

3. Voting outside Kosovo is organized by the CEC, and voters may vote by individually determining the voting method, at the time of registration through the CEC platform:

3.1. physically, in the diplomatic representation of the Republic of Kosovo or in their premises which shall be turned into voting centres upon the criteria determined by the CEC for adapting into the voting centres. This voting method is not applied in local elections;

- 3.2. by sending the ballots through the mailbox of the CEC, to the post office of Kosovo;
- 3.3. by sending the ballots by mail to one of the mailboxes opened by the CEC, through and with the facilitation of the diplomatic representation, outside Kosovo.
4. Voting in the diplomatic representation is organized one day before the election day in Kosovo. The voting starts at 07:00 and closes at 19:00 according to local time of the respective country. Ballots from voting in diplomatic representations and packages with ballots accepted by diplomatic representations are not opened, counted, or evaluated, but only registered and sent together with other election material to the CEC as diplomatic shipments. These materials are collected by commission, in the presence of interested observers present, locked in safe boxes, sealed in the manner determined by the CEC and sent as diplomatic mail to the CEC in Kosovo. The same procedure is also used for receiving postal deliveries from a post office box outside Kosovo. The CEC issues special procedures for the counting of envelopes, packaging and delivery.
5. Voters who choose to vote by post may send their ballot packages directly to the post office box of the CEC in Kosovo, or to the address of the post office box outside Kosovo opened by the CEC, with the help of the representative office diplomatic office, in the state where the voter votes, or in the nearest state where the post office box is open.
6. The CEC, through sub-legal acts, shall determine the criteria and conditions that must be met by the facilities of diplomatic representations turned into voting spaces, as well as shall determine the maximum number of voters who can vote, for each diplomatic representation.
7. The CEC, through the sub-legal act, regulates the method of registration for voting in diplomatic representation, the method of voting, supervision, observation, distribution, packaging and sending of voting material and all other issues related to voting for citizens abroad.
8. The CEC, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, evaluates the physical spaces for each diplomatic representation and, in accordance with the established criteria, takes a decision on the number of polling stations and on the number of voters for each diplomatic representation. Not later than five (5) days from the day of the announcement of election date, the CEC requires from MFA the list of all diplomatic representations together with the necessary details on the spaces of the premises. Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall be obliged to provide the CEC with all the required information within three (3) days from the day of the receipt of the request. MFA shall adapt the spaces of the premises of the diplomatic representations into polling stations according to the criteria determined by CEC.
9. The CEC removes each voter registered to vote from outside Kosovo from the List of Voters within Kosovo.
10. The CEC covers the expenses of polling station committees and teams that are engaged to organize voting in diplomatic representations and to collect envelopes in mailboxes abroad, including political party commissioners.
11. Teams that are engaged in order to vote abroad, are allocated to the voting list in the diplomatic representation in order not to lose the right to vote.

Article 97

Application for a Ballot

1. An eligible voter may apply to receive an Out of Kosovo ballot by submitting a completed Voter Registration Form through one of these ways:
 - 1.1. through the electronic platform, which guarantees the applicant's verification;
 - 1.2. by mail to one of the CEC P.O. Boxes.
2. Only in exceptional circumstances and in case of objective impossibility for registration, according to the electronic platform from sub-paragraph 1.1 of this Article, the CEC enables registration as a voter outside Kosovo also through personal e-mail, by sending the form and the necessary documents to electronic addresses determined by the CEC.
3. The CEC issues a special act for determining the procedures for application, registration and voting of citizens with the right to vote, living abroad.

Article 98*Confirmation and Appeal Process*

1. The CEC shall notify each applicant whether his/her application has been accepted or denied.
2. Each applicant who has been rejected shall be able to appeal the decision to the ECAC. The CEC establishes a commission within the institution, which will examine the administrative objection submitted against the notification, while in cases of rejection the CEC issues a decision.
3. Every applicant whose administrative objection has been rejected has the right to appeal to the PZAP within forty-eight (48) hours from the acceptance of the decision. PZAP decides on the appeal within ninety-six (96) hours, from its submission.

c) Regulation No. 17/2024 - Registration and Out-Of-Kosovo Voting**Article 2***Scope*

This Regulation is implemented by the Central Election Commission (KQZ) and applies to all citizens of the Republic of Kosovo who register and vote from outside Kosovo.

Article 3*Registration to vote outside Kosovo*

1. A citizen living outside Kosovo can vote in elections based on the procedures defined by this Regulation if they apply and successfully register to vote from abroad within the time period specified by this Regulation.
2. A citizen with the right to vote, living outside Kosovo, can apply as a voter from abroad by submitting a registration request in one of the following methods:
 - 2.1. Through the electronic platform for registering voters from outside Kosovo;
 - 2.2. By mail, to the CEC postal address.
3. The request for registration through the CEC electronic platform is made by completing and attaching:
 - 3.1. The information in electronic registration form (including the email address);
 - 3.2. a copy of one of the identification documents issued by the Republic of Kosovo, such as an ID card, passport, or driver's license;
 - 3.3. double verification of voter's identity;
 - 3.3.1. the applicants upload their photographs; in which they are holding their identity document of Republic of Kosovo;
 - 3.3.2. if the application is made through the state electronic platform E-Kosova, the applicant must have already completed the dual-factor verification of identity.
 - 3.4. In the event that the identification document issued by the Republic of Kosovo has expired, a copy of a valid identification document from the country of residence must also be attached.
4. The request for registration by mail is made by completing and attaching:
 - 4.1. The completed and signed registration form (Appendix I – Registration Application Form);
 - 4.2. a copy of one of the identification documents issued by the Republic of Kosovo, such as ID card, passport, or driver's license;
 - 4.3. if the identification document issued by the Republic of Kosovo has expired, a copy of a valid identification document from the country of residence must also be attached;
 - 4.3.1. the applicant includes a photograph of themselves holding their Republic of Kosovo identity document, fully visible.
5. When applying for registration, the citizen selects one of the following voting methods:
 - 5.1. To vote in person at one of the diplomatic missions of Republic of Kosovo. This option is only applicable for elections to the Assembly of Kosovo;
 - 5.2. by mailing the ballot to the CEC's postal address in Kosovo;
 - 5.3. by mailing the ballot to one of the postal boxes designated by the CEC outside Kosovo.

6. In exceptional circumstances, when it is objectively impossible to register through the CEC electronic platform as specified in paragraph 2.1, the CEC permits voter registration from outside Kosovo via personal email.
7. Based on the assessment of voting capacities at diplomatic missions, the CEC determines the maximum number of voters for each diplomatic mission designated as a voting center.
8. In the event that the maximum number of voters at diplomatic missions is reached, based on the principle of application time, the applicant will be instructed on other methods of voting.
9. The period of registration for voting outside Kosovo begins immediately after the publication of Preliminary Voters List and ends no later than 45 days before election day.
10. The CEC reviews daily voter registration applications from outside Kosovo to verify the applications and supporting documents. Immediately after reviewing the applications, the CEC notifies each applicant outside Kosovo of their application status via email.

Article 4

Receipt and recording of registration requests by mail

1. The applications for registration submitted by mail are received by the voting service official, and records are maintained of the number of envelopes received by date, as outlined in Appendix II – Form for recording postal submissions to the CEC mailbox.
2. The envelope containing the registration form must display the delivery date and the stamp or postmark of the country of origin.

Article 5

Processing of applications received by mail

1. The registration forms with supporting documents, received by mail at the postal box in Kosovo, are entered into the electronic platform by the Voting Service.
2. The Voting Service reviews and approves completed applications according to the criteria specified in Article 3 of this Regulation.
3. Citizens who successfully register will receive a registration confirmation via email, which contains a unique registration code generated as a barcode. This code will be used to identify the voter during the mail-in voting period.
4. All incomplete applications missing supporting documents will be rejected. In these cases, the CEC instructs applicants to reapply by completing the required documents within the registration period or to exercise their right to an administrative appeal.

Article 6

Review of applications received through the electronic platform

1. The Voting Service analyzes and reviews the applications received through the electronic platform according to the criteria specified in Article 3 of this Regulation.
2. Citizens who successfully register will receive a registration confirmation via email, containing a unique registration code generated in a barcode, which will be used to identify the voter during the mail-in voting period.
3. All incomplete applications, which lack supporting documents, will be rejected. In these cases, the CEC will instruct applicants to reapply by submitting the required documents within the registration period or to exercise their right to an administrative appeal.

Article 7

The process of confirming and challenging the list of voters outside Kosovo

1. A person living outside Kosovo who applied for registration and whose request to vote from abroad has been rejected has the right to file an administrative objection with the CEC within twenty-four (24) hours after the registration period ends.

2. The complaint is submitted via email to the official email address of the CEC, created specifically for this purpose.
3. The CEC establishes a commission within the institution to review administrative objections.
4. From the moment the objection is received, the commission is obliged to review the request within 24 (twenty-four) hours. If the objection is approved, the commission immediately notifies the appealing party, and in cases of rejection, the commission presents its recommendation for rejection to the CEC.
5. A person whose administrative objection is rejected has the right of appeal to Election Complaints and Appeals Panel (ECAP) within 48 (forty-eight) hours of receiving the CEC's decision.
6. A registered voter for voting outside Kosovo who wishes to return to the voter list inside Kosovo has time to submit a request up to 24 (twenty-four) hours before the end of the objection period.

Article 8

Opening of postal boxes outside Kosovo

With the assistance of diplomatic missions, the CEC opens postal boxes outside Kosovo in post offices of countries where citizens of the Republic of Kosovo reside. The postal boxes outside Kosovo are used for submitting ballots by citizens who have successfully registered for voting outside Kosovo.

Article 9

Voting by mail

1. A person who has successfully registered as a voter outside Kosovo and has chosen to vote by mail will receive a ballot:
 - 1.1. Via email to the electronic address provided during the registration period, or
 - 1.2. by downloading the ballot from the CEC's website.
2. The mail-in voting period begins once the ballots have been approved.
3. The postal submission must be individual.

Article 10

Collection of mail from postal boxes outside Kosovo

1. The packages containing ballots sent to postal boxes outside Kosovo are collected by teams authorized by the CEC, who retrieve only those packages that have arrived in the postal box by the time polling stations at the diplomatic missions close.
2. The team consists of at least two (2) officials authorized by the CEC.
3. During the mail-in voting period, the packages containing ballots sent to a postal box outside Kosovo are periodically collected according to the assessment of Voting Service and sent to Kosovo as diplomatic mail.
4. After the packages with ballots are collected, they are counted at the post office and placed in a sack, which is sealed with a security strip. The authorized team must record the number of envelopes and the number of the security strip in Appendix III – Form for reporting packages with ballots received by mail at the postal boxes outside Kosovo.
5. The responsible team is required to immediately send the completed form included in Appendix III via email to the responsible officer of the Voting Service.
6. The sealed sack is delivered to the diplomatic mission facility and placed in a secured area monitored by security cameras. The materials will remain in these areas until they are handed over to the operator.
7. According to the assessments of the Voting Service, in coordination with the authorized team, the collected sacks from diplomatic missions, which are sealed with security strips, are packaged together. After packaging, diplomatic strips are placed, and the package is handed over to the operator.

8. After delivering the package to the operator, the authorized team must send a confirmation letter along with the tracking information to the responsible Voting Service officer via email.
9. Packages with ballots received by Saturday before the voting day at the diplomatic missions will be sent to Kosovo as diplomatic mail no later than one (1) day after election day.
10. Any package with ballots that arrives at the diplomatic mission's postal boxes after the specified deadlines will be considered invalid. The CEC regulates their processing with a special procedure.
11. The Voting Service notifies interested observer organizations to monitor the process.

Article 11

Receipt of ballot shipments in Kosovo

1. Packages with ballots sent to the postal box in Kosovo are accepted by the CEC until the day after election day at 16:00, provided they have a postage mark dated before election day.
2. The transport of postal submissions that have arrived in the postal box in Kosovo is conducted under the supervision of Kosovo Police, and observer organizations are informed.
3. Postal submissions received via postal services in Kosovo must be recorded in a report and stored at the Counting and Results Center (CRC) under the supervision of security cameras and Kosovo Police.
4. To implement this article, the CEC signs a cooperation agreement with the Post of Kosovo.
5. Postal submissions that arrive as diplomatic mail and submissions from private postal services are received at the CRC by Voting Service officials.

Article 12

Composition and management of polling stations at diplomatic missions

1. Polling Station Councils (PSC) at diplomatic missions consist of 3 (three) to 5 (five) members.
2. The composition of PSC members is regulated based on Article 74, paragraph 11 of the Law on General Elections.
3. The CEC appoints the manager of the Polling Station at the respective diplomatic mission in accordance with provisions of Article 14 of this Regulation.
4. Immediately after the approval of polling stations at diplomatic missions, the Department of Electoral Operations invites political entities to submit their nominations for PSC members from within the community.
5. Political entities are required to submit their nominations for PSC members no later than 15 days before election day.
6. The CEC, no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the certification of political entities, approves the formula for composition and allocation of seats in the PSC. After approving the formula, the CEC immediately invites all certified political entities to submit nominations for PSC members for the respective diplomatic missions.
7. The PSC members at diplomatic missions are appointed by the CEC no later than five (5) days after the receipt of nominations, and on the same day, the CEC informs the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora (MFAD) of the names of the members.
8. The CEC is responsible for filling vacant seats in the PSC if political entities do not nominate PSC members.

Article 13

Delivery of electoral materials to diplomatic missions

1. No later than three (3) days before the departure of the diplomatic package containing sensitive and non-sensitive electoral materials, the CEC notifies the MFAD with an official letter specifying the following information:
 - 1.1. address of the diplomatic mission where the package is to be sent;
 - 1.2. details and specifications of materials contained in the diplomatic package;

- 1.3. information about the official designated to bring the package to the MFAD for diplomatic validation, including first and last name, official position, and personal number;
- 1.4. information about the official(s) designated to receive the package at the diplomatic mission, including first and last name, official position, and personal number;
- 1.5. the mode of transport: air or ground;
- 1.6. the date and time when the package is planned to be sent.
2. The MFAD, in accordance with the official letter and provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, prepares a Verbal Note for the specific package and informs the CEC about the time the package will be brought to the MFAD for diplomatic validation, which includes the application of diplomatic strips and MFAD seal, a process that should occur on the day of the delivery.
3. Regarding diplomatic deliveries during the election period, the MFAD is the sole official institution responsible for process, which includes applying the diplomatic strip and sealing it with the diplomatic seal.
4. On the day of delivery, after receiving an electronic notification from MFAD, CEC is required to bring the package to the MFAD for sealing and applying the diplomatic strip.
The responsible official must deliver the package to the MFAD, as specified in subparagraph 1.3 of this article.
5. The responsible official at the MFAD performs the validation of package, which is then removed from the MFAD premises by the responsible CEC official, who delivers it to the contracted economic operator.
6. The MFAD is responsible only for the validation and preparation of the Verbal Note for the package containing diplomatic materials. The CEC remains responsible for the receipt, safekeeping, or handover of the package to the contracted economic operator.
7. The information included in the Verbal Note by the MFAD is compiled according to technical specifications outlined in the official letter received from the CEC. The MFAD does not assume responsibility for checking or verifying the package before delivery, as this responsibility lies with the CEC, which submitted the request.
8. The procedure outlined in the provisions of paragraphs 1 to 7 of this article applies to all packages that are planned to be sent to or from diplomatic missions by the CEC.
9. The transport of the package from the CEC to MFAD and its dispatch from the MFAD premises is conducted under the escort of the Kosovo Police, and observer organizations are notified.
10. The CEC ensures that the electoral materials arrive at the diplomatic missions no later than one day before the voting day at diplomatic missions.
11. The election material includes:
 - 11.1. ballot boxes;
 - 11.2. ballots;
 - 11.3. badges for the chairperson and members of the PSC;
 - 11.4. stamps for stamping ballots, which must include the following: the CEC logo, the type and date of elections, and polling station number;
 - 11.5. security seals with serial numbers;
 - 11.6. the electronic form for reporting voter turnout during election day and after the closing of polling station;
 - 11.7. poll book;
 - 11.8. the data matching form.

Article 14

Security of electoral materials

1. The MFAD official nominated by the MFAD and designated by the CEC to manage the polling center at the diplomatic mission is responsible for:
 - 1.1. receiving the diplomatic package containing electoral materials at the diplomatic mission;
 - 1.2. safekeeping the diplomatic package within the diplomatic mission, ensuring it is not opened until the election day;
 - 1.3. overseeing and managing the polling center on election day;

- 1.4. packaging and delivering electoral materials as a diplomatic package to the economic operator, together with the PSC chairperson.
2. The MFAD official designated to manage the polling center at the diplomatic mission exercises their functions within the scope defined for Polling Center managers under the Law on General Elections and Regulation on Establishment of Polling Centers.
3. The MFAD official designated to manage the Polling Center at the diplomatic mission will be compensated according to the fee set by the CEC.
4. When the electoral materials are sent to the diplomatic mission, they are placed in a secured area monitored by security cameras. After the voting process, the electoral materials are returned to the same secured area, which is locked until the moment of handover to the operator.

Article 15

Voting at diplomatic missions

1. Voting at diplomatic missions is organized one day before the election day in Kosovo. Voting begins at 07:00 and ends at 19:00 local time in the respective country. Only individuals who have successfully registered to vote at diplomatic missions are eligible to vote in diplomatic missions.
2. The voting procedures in the polling station at the diplomatic missions are the same as the voting procedures in a polling station in Kosovo, as outlined in Regulation No. 12/2024 on Voting, Counting at Polling Stations, and Polling Station Management
3. During voting at diplomatic missions, voters are identified by an identification document issued by the Republic of Kosovo, such as an ID card, passport, or driver's license.
4. Voter turnout reporting during the election day is conducted according to procedures used for reporting within Kosovo.
5. After voting is completed, the PSC undertakes the following actions:
 - 5.1. Closes the slot (opening) of the ballot box and records the ballot box security seal numbers on the relevant form for polling stations outside Kosovo;
 - 5.2. records the number of voter signatures on the voter list and number of unused ballots on respective form for polling stations outside Kosovo;
 - 5.3. places the voter list, stamp, unused ballots, voting book, forms, and other sensitive materials into a bag, which is sealed with a security seal and recorded on the form before sealing the bag.
6. The packaging process is carried out by the PSC in the presence of observers.
7. Once the electoral process is completed, the ballot box, along with the bag containing sensitive electoral materials, is placed in the designated secured area for storing electoral materials, as outlined in Article 14, where they remain until collected by the economic operator.
8. The PC Manager and at least two PSC members deliver the electoral materials to the contracted economic operator, who, according to the contract, will arrive at the respective diplomatic mission to collect the package with the electoral materials.
9. The teams engaged in organizing voting at diplomatic missions are included in the voter list of the diplomatic mission to ensure they do not lose their right to vote.

Article 16

Receipt and recording of the ballot box and the bag at the CRC

The procedure for receiving and recording materials from polling stations at diplomatic missions is regulated according to Regulation No. 14 on the Counting and Results Center (CRC).

Article 17

Counting of ballots

Ballots sent by mail and ballots cast in the ballot boxes during the voting process at the diplomatic missions are counted at the CRC.

Article 18*Voting by post in local elections*

1. For local elections, voting outside Kosovo is not conducted at the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Kosovo.
2. Voters who have successfully registered for voting outside Kosovo exercise their right to vote by mail, sending their package with ballots to the CEC's postal box at the diplomatic mission or postal box in Kosovo.

Article 19*Second round of elections for mayor*

For the second round of elections for mayor, only voters who are successfully registered as voters outside Kosovo during the application period in the first round will be eligible to vote.

KYRGYZSTAN / KIRGHIZISTAN**a) Constitution****Article 2.**

[...] 3. Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic exercise their power directly at elections and referendums (nationwide voting), as well as through the system of state bodies and local self-government bodies on the basis of the Constitution and laws of the Kyrgyz Republic. 4. Elections and referendums shall be held on the basis of free, universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot. Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic who have reached 18 years of age have the right to vote. [...]

b) Constitutional Law of the Kyrgyz Republic of July 2011, no 68 on Election of President of the Kyrgyz Republic and Deputies of Jogorko Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic**Article 2.***Principles of Citizens' Participation in Elections*

1. Elections in the Kyrgyz Republic are held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

Elections in the Kyrgyz Republic are based on the free and voluntary exercise of electoral rights by the citizens of the Republic. No one shall have the right to exert influence on citizens with the aim of coercing them to participate or not to participate in elections, or to influence the free expression of their will.

2. Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic residing or staying outside the Kyrgyz Republic shall have electoral rights in accordance with this Constitutional Law.

The electoral rights of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic residing or present outside its territory during the election period shall be ensured by the state body responsible for foreign affairs through its diplomatic missions and consular offices.

Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic residing or staying outside its territory shall vote at polling stations established on the proposal of the state body of the Kyrgyz Republic responsible for foreign affairs, in agreement with the relevant authorities of the country of accreditation, as a rule, on the premises of the Kyrgyz Republic's diplomatic missions abroad.

3. Women, on an equal footing with men, shall be guaranteed equal opportunities to exercise the right to elect and be elected to the office of President and as a member of the Jogorku Kenesh. (As amended by Constitutional Laws of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 116 of 8 August 2019 and No. 103 of 26 August 2021)

Article 13-1*Formation of polling stations*

2. For the organization of voting and counting of votes of voters living or staying outside the Kyrgyz Republic, polling stations may be formed on the proposal of the authorized state body in the field of foreign affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic in coordination with the relevant bodies of the country of accreditation, as a rule, on the territory of foreign institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Article 14*Drawing up voter lists*

6. Information on voters residing and staying outside the Kyrgyz Republic, who have entered into consular (temporary consular) registration and who have undergone biometric registration, shall be drawn up by the heads of the relevant diplomatic missions and consular offices, are

transferred through the state body in charge of foreign affairs to the Central Election Commission no later than 85 calendar days before the voting day.

The form, type and procedure for submitting information about voters residing or staying outside the Kyrgyz Republic and who have entered into consular (temporary consular) accounting shall be determined by the Central Election Commission in coordination with the state body in charge of foreign affairs.

(The paragraph has lost its force in accordance with the Constitutional Law KR from June 9, 2025 N 113)

Article 35

Procedure for establishing the results of voting by precinct election commissions

19. The first copy of the protocol on the results of the vote after its signing, together with the electoral documentation, including ballots, voter lists, statements (complaints), decisions taken on them, acts drawn up by the precinct election commission, reports automatically reading the urn, primary and final identification report, are immediately delivered to the district territorial election commission by the chairman of the precinct election commission, accompanied by representatives of candidates, political parties.

The precinct election commissions of polling stations located on the territory of foreign states or in remote areas, the list of which is determined by the Central Election Commission, shall carry out the delivery of the documents specified in this part within the time limits established by the Central Election Commission.

LATVIA / LETTONIE**a) Constitution****Chapter II The Saeima****Article 5**

The Saeima shall be composed of one hundred representatives of the people.

Article 6

The Saeima shall be elected in general, equal and direct elections, and by secret ballot based on proportional representation.

Article 7

In the division of Latvia into separate electoral districts, provision for the number of members of the Saeima to be elected from each district shall be proportional to the number of electors in each district.

Article 8

All citizens of Latvia who enjoy full rights of citizenship and, who on election day have attained eighteen years of age shall be entitled to vote.

Article 9

Any citizen of Latvia, who enjoys full rights of citizenship and, who is more than twenty-one years of age on the first day of elections may be elected to the Saeima

b) Law on the Election of the Saeima**Chapter V****Article 43**

(1) Upon the proposal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Central Election Commission shall establish polling stations in diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Latvia.

(2) In collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Central Election Commission may also establish polling stations in other premises suitable for this purpose.

(3) Voters who during election time are staying abroad may vote on election day in person at one of the established polling stations or by mail in accordance with the procedure set by this Law.

(...)

(5) Voting in foreign countries [...] shall be organised if it is possible to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Law.

Article 44

(1) Voters casting their votes in polling stations which have been established in foreign countries [...] shall receive ballot papers containing the lists of candidates nominated for the constituency of Rīga and their votes shall be added to the other votes cast in the constituency of Rīga.

(2) Voting in polling stations established in foreign countries shall take place in accordance with the procedures laid down in Chapter III of this Law (except for Article 24).

Article 45

(1) A voter may apply to vote by mail by using the electronic service available on the portal of state services (www.latvija.gov.lv) 35 days before the election day but not later than eight days before the election day. If elections take place in accordance with the situation described in Article 48 of the *Satversme*, a voter may apply to vote by mail by 25 days before the election day but not later than eight days before the election day.

(2) *(Deleted pursuant to a law of 12.06.2025).*

(3) *(Deleted pursuant to a law of 12.06.2025).*

(4) *(Deleted pursuant to a law of 12.06.2025).*

(5) *(Deleted pursuant to a law of 12.06.2025).*

(6) *(Deleted pursuant to a law of 12.06.2025).*

(7) If a voter who has applied to vote by mail appears at a polling station on the election day, they may vote at the polling station.

[To enter into force on 1 August 2026: (8) The electronic service mentioned in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be provided by the State Digital Development Agency. The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs shall provide data to the State Digital Development Agency for the purpose of ensuring this service.]

Article 45³

(1) Soldiers and national guardsmen who are performing service duties in international operations may take part in the election in the region of the relevant international operation if it is possible to ensure conformity with the conditions of this Law.

(2) The Central Election Commission shall, not later than four weeks before the election day, hand over the seal of the polling station commission, voter recording devices, registration envelopes, safety seals, forms for the lists of participating voters, ballot papers of all the lists of candidates nominated in the constituency of Rīga, ballot envelopes, and the ballot box to the National Armed Forces for transfer to a person authorised by the Commander of the National Armed Forces.

(3) On the election day, before voting starts, a person authorised by the Commander of the National Armed Forces shall, in the presence of the first voter, ascertain whether the ballot box is empty and shall seal it. The State Digital Development Agency shall ensure that person authorised by the Commander of the National Armed Forces has access to the Electronic Online Electoral Register. The person authorised by the Commander of the National Armed Forces, having previously ascertained in the Electronic Online Electoral Register that the person is a voter and that there is no notation in the electoral register on the participation of this person in the relevant election of the *Saeima*, shall make a notation in the Electronic Online Electoral Register regarding the participation in the relevant election of the *Saeima* and

shall enter the given name, surname, and personal identity number of the voter in the list of participating voters. If there is a notation in the Electronic Online Electoral Register regarding the participation of the voter in the election but they deny that, the person authorised by the Commander of the National Armed Forces shall act in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 48¹(2¹) of this Law. The person authorised by the Commander of the National Armed Forces shall issue to each voter the ballot papers of all the lists of candidates nominated in the constituency of Rīga and a ballot envelope bearing the seal of the relevant polling station commission and the voter shall sign the list of participating voters, thus confirming this fact. The issuing of separate ballot papers is prohibited. Voting shall be organised in the presence of at least three voters. In the case of disruption to the activity of the Electronic Online Electoral Register, the person authorised by the Commander of the National Armed Forces shall act in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 48² of this Law.

(4) Voting in the elections shall be by secret ballot. A separate booth shall be set up for voting in accordance with Article 23(1) of this Law.

(5) A voter shall select a ballot paper corresponding to the list of candidates for which they are voting; if they so wish, they shall make the marks referred to in Article 23(2) and (3) of this Law and place the ballot paper in the ballot envelope and seal the envelope. The voter shall insert the sealed ballot envelope into a sealed ballot box.

(6) The counting of votes shall be performed in accordance with the procedures specified by the Central Election Commission. A commission for the counting of votes in the composition of not less than three persons shall be set up for the counting of votes.

(7) After the counting of votes and the completion of the vote counting report, voter recording devices, registration envelopes, lists of participating voters, all the valid ballot papers, the invalid ballot papers together with the respective ballot envelopes, the unused and invalid ballot envelopes, the election procedure log, and the vote counting report shall be packed, sealed, and delivered immediately to the Joint Headquarters of the National Armed Forces for transfer to the Central Election Commission.

(8) The election procedure in the region of the international operation shall be supervised by a person authorised by the Commander of the National Armed Forces.

(9) A soldier and national guardsman who wish to vote by post shall do so in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 45 of this Law.

Article 47

(1) The polling station commission shall count votes in accordance with the procedure set by Chapter IV of this Law.

(2) The polling station commission shall register and keep unopened the envelopes received by post until the beginning of the counting of votes. The opening and counting of the envelopes received by post shall be commenced only after the time when the voting has ended in all the polling stations situated abroad.

(3) The envelopes received by post shall be counted separately and a separate vote counting record shall be prepared

Article 48

- (1) When starting to count the envelopes received by post, the postal envelopes shall be sorted into valid and invalid postal envelopes without opening them.
- (2) Such postal envelopes shall be deemed invalid which:
- have been sent by voters who have not applied for postal voting;
 - have been sent by voters who have voted at a polling station;
 - do not bear the given name, surname, and sequential number of the voter with which they have been registered in the voter list for postal voting;
 - have been received after the commencement of the counting of votes;
 - have been sent from the Republic of Latvia;
 - have been received from voters who have sent several postal envelopes.
- (3) The valid postal envelopes shall be placed together and a notation shall be made in the voter list for postal voting that a valid postal envelope has been received. The total number of valid postal envelopes shall be recorded in the election procedure log. Invalid postal envelopes shall not be opened but their total number shall be recorded in the election procedure log.
- (4) When opening a valid postal envelope, it shall be verified whether it contains only one ballot envelope. If there are several ballot envelopes in the postal envelope, all of them shall be deemed invalid. A ballot envelope shall be deemed invalid if it does not contain a signed form confirming that the voter has voted in person.

c) Law on Local Government Election Commissions and Polling Station Commissions**Article 1**

- (5) For holding the *Saeima* elections, elections of the European Parliament and national referenda, the Central Election Commission in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in accordance with the rules of the electoral laws and at its own initiative or initiative of the voters, may establish polling stations abroad.

Article 1¹

- (3) Information regarding the polling stations established in foreign countries shall be submitted by the Central Election Commission to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs which shall inform of this fact the countries where the polling stations will be located.

Article 5

- (3) Polling station commissions in foreign countries shall be approved and their numerical composition shall be determined by the Central Election Commission. Polling station commissions in foreign countries shall be formed from citizens of Latvia, and they may not consist of fewer than three and more than seven members.
- (4) For elections of the *Saeima*, the European Parliament and for national referenda in foreign countries, the Central Election Commission upon a proposal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall appoint polling station commissions for postal voting and determine its numerical composition.

d) Law on Elections of the European Parliament

Article 32

- (1) Voters staying in foreign countries may participate in the elections by voting by post or in a polling station. Voting in polling stations established in foreign countries shall take place in accordance with the procedures laid down in Chapter III of this Law.
- (2) Application for postal voting shall take place from the thirty-fifth to the eighth day before the general election day by using an electronic service available on the portal of state administration services.

Article 33

- (1) A voter who has accessed the portal of state administration services shall print out the voting materials, select the ballot paper which corresponds to the list of candidates for which They shall vote; if they so wish, they shall make the marks referred to in Article 24 of this Law, and shall place the ballot paper in the ballot envelope and seal the envelope.
- (2) A voter shall place the sealed ballot envelope into a postal envelope on which the given name, surname of the voter, the sequential number in the list of postal voters, and the address of the polling station commission for postal voting shall be indicated and shall send the envelope, taking into account that the polling station commission shall open only those envelopes which are received before the counting of the votes commences.
- (3) If a voter arrives at a polling station on the election day, they may vote in accordance with the procedures laid down in Chapter III of this Law. The polling station commission shall, in accordance with the procedures specified by the Central Election Commission, inform the polling station commission for postal voting thereof.

e) Law on the Election of Local Government Councils

Article 33¹

- (1) A voter who resides in a foreign country may participate in the elections by postal voting. The voter may apply for postal voting 50 days before the election day but not later than 8 days before the election day.
- (2) The application for postal voting shall be submitted by a voter:
- 1) by using the free electronic service available on the portal of the state administration services www.latvija.lv or on the official website of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.

LIECHTENSTEIN

a) Constitution

Article 29

- 1) Every Liechtenstein citizen shall be entitled to civil rights in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.
- 2) All Liechtenstein citizens who have completed their 18th year, have their normal residence in Liechtenstein, and whose right to vote has not been suspended shall be entitled to all political rights in national matters..

Article 30

The acquisition and loss of Liechtenstein citizenship shall be determined by law.

Article 111

In municipal matters, all citizens residing in the municipality who have reached the age of 18 and are not disqualified from voting are eligible to vote and stand for election.

b) Law on the exercise of political rights in state affairs (People's Rights Act, VRG)

Voting

Article 1

Principle

- 1) In state affairs, all state citizens who have reached the age of 18 and have been legally resident in the state for one month prior to the election or vote [...] are eligible to vote and stand for election.
- 2) Persons who are abroad to attend an educational institution or for temporary work such as seasonal work, or who are temporarily accommodated in a foreign sanatorium, retain their right to vote if they meet the other requirements.

Art. 5

Exercising the right to vote

Voters exercise their right to vote in the municipality of their residence, either in person at the ballot box or by postal vote. Art. 8b remains reserved.

Article 6

Votes and elections

Votes and elections take place on a Sunday.

Article 7

Voting in person at the ballot box

- 1) Voters cast their votes during the designated voting period.
- 2) Repealed

Voting by mail**Article 8***a) Voting*

- 1) Voters may cast their votes by mail from any location within the country or abroad.
- 2) The ballot envelope and ballot card must be sealed by the voter in the officially preprinted delivery envelope marked specifically for the election or vote. By signing a preprinted declaration on the ballot card, the voter confirms that the vote cast reflects their will.
- 3) The delivery envelope can be handed over to the post office in within the country and in Switzerland without postage or to the municipality in person or by a representative.
- 4) Voting by mail is permitted from the time the official voting materials are delivered (Art. 29). The delivery envelopes must arrive at or be handed in to the municipality by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the election or referendum Sunday at the latest.

Article 8a*b) Verification*

- 1) Votes cast by mail shall remain in the delivery envelopes and shall be kept in a secure place until they are opened by the election or voting commission.
- 2) The election or voting commission shall open the delivery envelopes no earlier than 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the election or voting Sunday and check whether the postal votes are valid.
- 3) It is valid if:
 - a) the officially preprinted delivery envelope specially marked for the election or vote has been used for postal voting and is sealed;
 - b) the voter is entered in the electoral register, subject to Art. 30 para. 3;
 - c) the voting card is enclosed and the pre-printed declaration for postal voting on the voting card is signed in person; and
 - d) the vote was received no later than the date specified in Art. 8 (4).
- 4) The verification of postal votes must be noted separately in the minutes (Article 34).
- 5) The election or voting commission shall place the ballot envelopes of the postal votes recognized as valid in the ballot box unopened. The vote shall be noted in the voting register.
- 6) Postal votes declared invalid shall be treated as invalid votes; however, the ballot papers may not be removed from the ballot box.
- 7) Votes cast by mail that arrive at the municipality after the deadline specified in Art. 8 (4) shall be destroyed unopened.

Article 14*Voting rights of registered persons*

Subject to Art. 30 (3), only those who are legally registered in the electoral register are entitled to participate in elections and referendums.

Article 17*Voting card*

- 1) The voting card must contain:
 - a) the designation "voting card";
 - b) the name, address, and date of birth of the person entitled to vote;
 - c) the name of the municipality for which it is valid;
 - d) the number under which the voter is registered;
 - e) the name of the election or vote for which the ballot paper is valid ;
 - f) the official stamp.
- g) Declaration for postal voting. [...]

3) The voting card is valid for one election or ballot day.

Article 18

Delivery

- 1) The municipality must deliver the voting card and official voting materials to eligible voters no later than two weeks before the election or referendum day.
- 2) The municipality may also send the voting card and official voting materials to eligible voters abroad. This requires a written request to the municipality at least three weeks before the election or referendum day.

Article 33

Determination of the results

- 1) Immediately after the election or vote has ended and after the validity of the postal votes has been checked in accordance with Art. 8a, the election or voting commission shall open the ballot boxes and determine the result.
- 2) When counting the votes, the use of technical aids that speed up the counting process is permitted.

LITHUANIA / LITUANIE**a) Constitution****Article 34**

Citizens who, on the day of the election, have reached 18 years of age shall have the electoral right.

The right to stand for election shall be established by the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania and by the election laws.

Citizens who are declared by a court to be legally incapacitated shall not participate in elections.

Article 55

The Seimas shall consist of representatives of the Nation—141 Members of the Seimas, who shall be elected for a four-year term on the basis of universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot. [...]

The procedure for the election of the Members of the Seimas shall be established by law.

Article 56

Any citizen of the Republic of Lithuania who is not bound by an oath or a pledge to a foreign state, and who, on the election day, is not younger than 25 years of age and permanently resides in Lithuania, may stand for election as a Member of the Seimas. [...]

Article 78

A Lithuanian citizen by descent who has lived in Lithuania for not less than the last three years, provided that he has reached the age of not less than 40 prior to the election day and may stand for election as a Member of the Seimas, may stand for election as the President of the Republic. The President of the Republic shall be elected by the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania for a five-year term by universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot. [...]

Article 119

The right to self-government shall be guaranteed to the administrative territorial units of the State, which are provided for by law. This right shall be implemented through municipal councils and municipal mayors.

The members of municipal councils shall be elected from among the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania and other permanent residents of the respective administrative units, and municipal mayors shall be elected from among the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania, for a four-year term, as provided for by law, by the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania and other permanent residents of the respective administrative units on the basis of universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

b) Electoral Code**Article 8***Eligibility to vote*

1. The right to elect Members of the Seimas and the President of the Republic shall be granted to citizens of the Republic of Lithuania who have reached the age of 18 or over on polling day.

2. The right to elect municipal councillors and the mayor shall be granted to permanent residents of the respective municipality who have reached the age of 18 or over on polling day.

3. Eligibility to vote in local and mayoral elections shall be reserved to citizens of the Republic of Lithuania, nationals of another Member State of the European Union entitled to reside in the Republic of Lithuania, and other persons, given they have a documented proof of being entitled to permanent residence in the Republic of Lithuania and provided that they have declared the given municipality as their place of residence under the legislation of the Republic of Lithuania at least 60 days in advance of the polling day or have been entered in the records of persons who have not declared their place of residence in the given municipality.
4. Eligibility to elect Members of the European Parliament shall be reserved to citizens of the Republic of Lithuania and nationals of other Member States of the European Union permanently residing in the Republic of Lithuania who have reached the age of 18 or over on polling day.
5. A national of another Member State of the European Union who, under the legislation of the Republic of Lithuania, has acquired the right to reside in the Republic of Lithuania and has declared the place of residence in the Republic of Lithuania no later than 60 days before the polling day, shall be deemed to be a national of another Member State of the European Union permanently residing in the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 17

Single-member constituency of the Lithuanians of the world

1. The single-member constituency of the Lithuanians of the world shall be set up for the purposes of the elections to the Seimas. For the purposes of setting up a single-member constituency comprised of citizens of the Republic of Lithuania voting abroad, the number of voters in the constituency shall be determined by calculating the electoral turnout in the previous election to the Seimas and the electoral turnout of voters in diplomatic missions and consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as in additional polling stations abroad under the diplomatic missions or consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania.
2. The single-member constituency of the Lithuanians of the world shall be set up when the electoral turnout of voters staying abroad in the previous election to the Seimas and the turnout of those voting in diplomatic missions and consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as in additional polling stations abroad under the diplomatic missions or consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania, determined one year before the election to the Seimas, exceed the 1.1 average of voters in all single-member constituencies at home. The citizens of the Republic of Lithuania staying in other countries shall be entered on the electoral roll of this single-member constituency of Lithuania; accordingly, the number of single-member constituencies on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania shall be reduced by one constituency.
3. The second single-member constituency of Lithuanians of the world may be set up where the voter turnout in the previous election to the Seimas in diplomatic missions and consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania abroad as well as in additional polling stations abroad under the diplomatic missions and consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania exceeds the average number of voters of two single-member constituencies. The third single-member constituency of Lithuanians of the world may be set up where the voter turnout abroad exceeds the number of voters in three single-member constituencies on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, given the number of single-member constituencies on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania is reduced accordingly.

Article 58

Entry on the electoral roll of voters abroad and aboard the ships flying the national flag of Lithuania

1. Where one or more electoral rolls of one or more single-member constituencies of the Lithuanians of the world are drawn up for the purposes of elections to the Seimas, citizens of the Republic of Lithuania voting abroad shall be entered on the electoral roll(s) of the single-member constituency(ies) of the Lithuanians of the world.
2. In the run-up to presidential elections and elections to the European Parliament, citizens of the Republic of Lithuania voting abroad shall be entered on the electoral rolls of voters voting abroad.

3. Electoral rolls of voters voting in diplomatic missions or consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania shall be drawn up by means of electronic communications on the basis of data from the list of persons eligible to vote, applications submitted by individuals to the Central Electoral Commission under the procedure set out thereby, and on the basis of electronic notifications received from the diplomatic missions and consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania. Under the procedure set out by the Central Electoral Commission, persons unable to return to Lithuania for voting on the day other than polling day, also persons unable to return to Lithuania for voting on polling day and on the day of re-run or run-off elections may be entered on this electoral roll provided they intend to vote in a diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Lithuania.
4. For the purposes of elections to the European Parliament, persons entered on the electoral rolls referred to in Article 58(3) shall be required to confirm their intent of voting, during those particular elections, exclusively for the candidates standing for elections to the European Parliament in the Republic of Lithuania. This approval shall not be required from persons eligible to vote who intend to vote in a non-Member State of the European Union.
5. As regards crew members and passengers aboard the ships flying the national flag of Lithuania who are eligible to vote yet unable to return to Lithuania for voting on polling day, unable to return for voting on a day other than polling day, as well as for re-run or run-off voting, they shall be entered, under the procedure established by the Central Electoral Commission, on the electoral roll of the polling district on whose territory the administration of the ship's registration harbour is located.
6. Electoral rolls drawn up for the purposes of local elections and mayoral elections shall be exempt from the provisions of this Article.
7. For the purposes of elections to the Seimas, not less than 15 days before polling day, the diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Lithuania shall transmit to the Central Electoral Commission the electoral roll drawn up in the diplomatic mission and the data on its update(s). The electoral roll may be supplemented by entering voters who cannot to return to Lithuania during the early voting period and on polling day and therefore chose to vote in a diplomatic mission, a consular post, or an additional polling place abroad at the diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 144

Organisation of a poll in foreign countries

1. Voters travelling or living abroad shall be entitled vote in elections to the Seimas, presidential elections and elections to the European Parliament in a diplomatic mission or a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania, additional polling places located abroad under diplomatic missions, consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania, and aboard the ships flying the national flag of Lithuania.
2. The Central Electoral Commission shall lay down the procedure for organising a poll, vote counting and submitting records to the Commission as well as the procedure for issuing certificates to election observers.
3. The electoral commissions shall transmit the data of the election documents to the Central Electoral Commission in a secure way chosen by the diplomatic missions and consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 145

Organisation of a poll in diplomatic missions, consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania, and in additional polling places located abroad under diplomatic missions or consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania

1. Voting at a diplomatic mission or a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania shall take place during the working hours of these bodies. Not less than four hours must be allotted for voting during a working day of the said bodies. Voting in an additional polling place located abroad under a diplomatic mission or a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania shall take place during the

hours set by the diplomatic mission or consular post concerned. On polling day, the close of poll shall be no later than at 8 p.m. (Republic of Lithuania time).

2. The Central Electoral Commission shall, on the recommendation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, draw up a list of diplomatic missions and consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania and additional polling places located abroad under diplomatic missions and consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania in which voting shall take place and shall set at least three polling days for each diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Lithuania.

3. Election documents shall be delivered to voters who have communicated their home address to a diplomatic mission or a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania, or, at the voters' request, shall be sent by post and accepted from these voters in person by voting commissions set up by a diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Lithuania.

4. Voters arriving to vote at a diplomatic mission, a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania, or an additional polling place located abroad under the diplomatic mission or the consular post of the Republic of Lithuania shall be prohibited to take the election documents from the polling location or hand them over to other persons.

5. The head of a diplomatic mission or a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania shall be responsible for the organisation of the poll, for the submission to the Central Electoral Commission of the records and other election documents specified by the Commission received at that diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Lithuania as well as at the additional polling place located abroad under the diplomatic mission or the consular post of the Republic of Lithuania.

6. In the event of a situation in a foreign state which makes it impossible to vote in a diplomatic mission or a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania situated in that state or in additional polling places located abroad under the diplomatic mission or the consular post of the Republic of Lithuania, voting in that foreign state shall, on the reasoned proposal of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and by decision of the Central Electoral Commission, be organised by sending to a voter a ballot paper(s) to voters by post.

7. The head of a diplomatic mission or a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania or the Minister of Foreign Affairs may, having coordinated it with the Central Electoral Commission, send to the diplomatic mission, the consular post of the Republic of Lithuania, or the additional polling place located abroad under the diplomatic mission or the consular post of the Republic of Lithuania designated members of the voting commission, namely, employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the diplomatic missions or the consular posts of the Republic of Lithuania, for organising the poll there. In this case, the expenses related to the organisation of the poll shall be covered from the state budget funds allocated to the Central Electoral Commission for the preparation and conduct of polls in accordance with the agreement on the use of the state budget funds for the preparation of polls concluded by the Commission with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article 146

Organisation of a poll aboard the ships sailing under the national flag of Lithuania

1. Voters (ship's crew and passengers) who are aboard a ship sailing under the national flag of Lithuania shall be entitled to vote aboard that ship, provided they have left a port of the Republic of Lithuania at least four days before polling day and have not returned until polling day, or provided there are other circumstances preventing them from voting in pre-poll voting or voting on poll day in their polling district, or in a diplomatic mission, a consular post of the Republic of Lithuania, or in an additional polling place located abroad under the diplomatic mission or the consular post of the Republic of Lithuania.

2. Voting aboard a ship sailing under the national flag of Lithuania, wherein the master of the ship is a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania and at least five crew members are eligible to vote, shall be organised under the procedure laid down by the Central Electoral Commission. The list of such ships shall be compiled by the Central Electoral Commission on the recommendation of the Minister of Transport and Communications.

3. On the recommendation of the Minister of Transport and Communications, the Central Electoral Commission shall set the time for voting aboard a ship within which each voter aboard the ship shall be given the opportunity to vote. A poll shall not be organised aboard the ships on which the conditions for organising the poll in accordance with the requirements of this Code do not exist.
4. The masters of ships shall be responsible for the organisation of a poll and the submission to the Central Electoral Commission of the records and other election documents set out by the Commission.

LUXEMBOURG

a) Constitution

Article 63

(1) La Chambre se compose de soixante députés.

(2) Les députés sont élus pour cinq ans.

(3) L'élection est directe. Elle a lieu sur la base du suffrage universel, au scrutin de liste, suivant les règles de la représentation proportionnelle, conformément au principe du plus petit quotient électoral.

Le vote est obligatoire et secret. Ses modalités sont déterminées par la loi. [...]

Article 64

(1) Pour être électeur, il faut être Luxembourgeois et être âgé de dix-huit ans.

(2) Pour être éligible, il faut en outre être domicilié au Grand-Duché de Luxembourg.

(3) Les juridictions peuvent, dans les cas prévus par la loi, prononcer l'interdiction du droit de vote et d'éligibilité.

b) Loi électorale du 18 février 2003 (telle qu'elle a été modifiée)

VOTERS

Article 1

To be eligible to vote in legislative elections, a person must:

1° be a Luxembourg national;

2° be at least eighteen years of age on the day of the elections;

3° enjoy civil and political rights;

4° be domiciled in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; Luxembourg nationals domiciled abroad are eligible to vote in legislative elections by postal vote.

(...) *(deleted by the Law of 19 December 2008)*

Article 2

To be eligible to vote in municipal elections, a person must:

1° be at least eighteen years of age on the day of the elections;

2° enjoy civil rights and not have been deprived of the right to vote in the State of residence or in the State of origin; however, this latter condition may not be invoked against non-Luxembourg citizens who, in their country of origin, have lost the right to vote because they reside outside their State of origin;

3° for Luxembourg nationals, be resident in the Grand Duchy ;

4° for nationals of another Member State of the European Union, be domiciled in the Grand Duchy and have resided there for at least five years, the last year of residence immediately preceding the application for registration on the electoral roll provided for by this law must be uninterrupted;

5° for other foreign nationals, be domiciled in the Grand Duchy and have resided there for at least five years, the last year of residence immediately preceding the application for registration on the electoral roll provided for by this law must be uninterrupted. In addition, for

the entire period, they must be in possession of a residence permit, the required identification documents and a visa, if required, as provided for by the Law of 28 March 1972 on the entry and residence of foreigners, as subsequently amended.

Article 3

To be eligible to vote in European elections, a person must:

1° be a Luxembourg national or a national of another Member State of the European Union;

2° be at least eighteen years of age on the day of the elections;

(Law of 20 December 2013)

3° enjoy civil rights and not have been deprived of the right to vote either in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg or in the Member State of origin;

4° for Luxembourg nationals, be domiciled in the Grand Duchy; Luxembourg nationals domiciled abroad are eligible to vote in European elections by postal vote;

5° for nationals of another Member State of the European Union, be domiciled in the Grand Duchy and have been resident there at the time of applying for registration on the electoral roll provided for by this law.

Article 4

Voter status is confirmed by registration on the electoral roll. [...]

Article 89

Voting is mandatory for all voters registered on the electoral rolls.

Voters who are unable to participate in the election must inform the justice of the peace of their reasons, along with the necessary supporting documentation. If the justice of the peace accepts the validity of these excuses, no further action will be taken.

The following are excused by law:

1. voters who, at the time of the election, reside in a municipality other than the one in which they are required to vote;
2. voters over the age of 75.

Chapter VIII.- Postal voting in parliamentary elections

Article 168

Any voter may request to vote by post in legislative elections."

Article 169

Voters who wish to vote by post must notify the mayor and aldermen of the municipality in which they are registered and request their polling card.

The municipality of registration in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is considered to be the municipality of residence, failing that, the municipality of last residence, failing that, the municipality of birth, failing that, the City of Luxembourg.

Article 170

The application shall be made either by electronic submission on a secure government platform, on plain paper, or on a pre-printed form available from the municipal administration where the voter is required to vote for the Chamber of Deputies. It must indicate the surname, first names, date and place of birth and domicile of the voter, as well as the address to which the letter of convocation is to be sent."

Any person residing abroad must produce a copy of their valid identity card or passport."

The applicant must, in their written and signed declaration, declare under oath that they have not been deprived of their electoral rights either under Article 52 of the Constitution or under Article 6 of this Act.

Article 171

The application must be submitted electronically or sent by post to the College of Mayor and Aldermen, under penalty of forfeiture, no earlier than twelve weeks and no later than twenty-five days before polling day, if the convocation letter is to be sent to an address in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. If the letter of convocation is to be sent to an address abroad, the deadline is no later than forty days before polling day.

Article 172

Upon receipt of the application, the College of Mayor and Aldermen checks whether it contains the required information and documents.

It checks whether the applicant is registered on the electoral roll.

If the applicant meets the conditions for voting, the college of mayor and aldermen shall send him, in the case referred to in Article 171, paragraph 11, no later than fifteen days before the election and, in the case referred to in Article 171, paragraph 2, no later than thirty days before the election, by registered post, the letter of convocation including the list of candidates and the instructions annexed to this law, an electoral envelope and a ballot paper duly stamped in accordance with the provisions of Article 78 of this law, as well as an envelope for the transmission of the electoral envelope, bearing the words "Elections Postal vote", the name of the polling station to which the ballot is to be sent in the bottom righthand corner and the serial number, surname, first names and address of the voter in the top left-hand corner.

If the applicant does not meet the conditions for postal voting, the college of mayor and aldermen shall notify him of its refusal, in the case referred to in Article 171, paragraph 11, no later than twenty days before the election and, in the case referred to in Article 171, paragraph 2, no later than thirty-five days before the election.

Article 173

The ballot envelopes provided by the State must be opaque and of a uniform type for all voters. The envelopes and ballot papers required for postal voting shall be deposited with the president of the main polling station of the constituency, who shall forward them to each college of burgomasters and aldermen that requests them.

Article 174

An alphabetical list shall be drawn up of voters who have requested to vote by post, indicating the surname, first names, date and place of birth, domicile and current address of the voter. The action taken on the request shall be noted opposite the name of the applicant.

Voters included on this list may not choose another method of voting.

A note indicating admission to postal voting shall be made "next to" the name of the voter on the electoral roll of the municipality and on the lists of voters deposited at the various polling stations.

The numbered list of postal voters shall be deposited at the main polling station in each municipality. If the number of postal voters exceeds the maximum number of voters specified in Article 55 for that polling station, one or more other polling stations in the municipality may be assigned to handle postal voting operations.

Article 175

Voters shall complete their ballot papers in accordance with the provisions of Article 143 of this Law.

Article 176

To send their vote to the polling station, voters place their folded ballot paper (. .)², with the stamp on the outside, in the electoral envelope.

They insert this envelope into the transmission envelope, the characteristics of which are defined in Article 172 of this law. They send their ballot by ordinary post.

Article 177

Envelopes containing votes must reach the polling station to which they are addressed no later than 2 p.m. on polling day."

Article 178

The polling station shall verify that the number of envelopes "received"¹ corresponds to the number of voters eligible to vote by post as recorded in the list deposited at the polling station. If a discrepancy is found, the chairperson shall note it on the said statement and on the minutes of the voting operations.

Article 179

A member of the polling station shall open the transmission envelope and announce the surname, first names and serial number of the voter to the polling station. The name of the voter admitted to vote by post shall be marked on the list of voters admitted to vote by post. The ballot envelopes removed from the transmission envelopes shall be placed in a special ballot box.

Article 180

In the presence of all members of the electoral commission, one of them mixes the collected ballot envelopes, opens them and removes the ballot papers, which he immediately places, without unfolding them, in the ballot box.

The contents of any ballot envelope containing two or more ballot papers shall be destroyed immediately. These operations shall be recorded in the minutes.

Article 181

"Any envelope arriving at the polling station receiving the ballot after 2 p.m. on polling day shall be stamped with the date and time of its arrival."

"A report shall be drawn up on this operation." (Act of 19 December 2008) "This report shall include a list of voters whose envelopes arrived at the polling station receiving the votes after 2 p.m. on polling day." The transmission envelopes shall be destroyed immediately without being opened.

Section IV. – The counting of votes and the announcement of those elected**Article 213**

Each electoral office shall count the ballot papers contained in the ballot box without unfolding them. The number of voters and the number of ballot papers shall be recorded in the minutes. Before opening any ballot papers, the president shall mix all those that the office is responsible for counting.

Article 214

One of the assessors unfolds the ballot papers and hands them to the chair, who announces the number of votes obtained by each candidate. Two of the assessors count the votes and record them, each separately.

Article 215

Invalid ballot papers shall not be counted when determining the number of votes. The following shall be considered invalid:

- 1° all ballot papers other than those permitted by this law;
- 2° ballot papers that express more votes than there are members to be elected and those that do not contain any votes;
- 3° ballot papers whose shape or size has been altered, which contain any paper or object inside, or whose author could be identified by a sign, deletion or mark not authorised by law.

Article 216

Once all the ballot papers have been counted, the other members of the electoral commission and the witnesses examine them and submit their observations or complaints to the commission.

Ballot papers that have been the subject of complaints shall be added to the valid ballot papers if they have been accepted as such by decision of the polling station.

Article 217

The polling station shall draw up, on the basis of the records kept by an assessor and the secretary, a list of voters appearing on the electoral roll of the polling station who did not take part in the election. This list, signed by the president and secretary of the polling station, shall be sent by its president on the same day to the president of the main polling station.

The president of the polling station shall record any comments made on this list and attach any documents that may have been sent to him by the absent voters for the purposes of justification.

The president of the main polling station, after collecting all these registers, shall send them, together with the documents attached thereto, to the public prosecutor with territorial jurisdiction."

Article 218

The ballot papers shall be grouped into valid and invalid ballot papers and placed, to the exclusion of all other documents, in two sealed envelopes, one containing the valid ballot papers and the other containing the invalid ballot papers.

Each envelope shall bear the place and date of the election, the number of the counting station and the number of ballot papers it contains.

These two envelopes shall be placed together in a single package, which shall be sealed with the municipal seal or that of a member of the bureau and signed by the president, an assessor and a witness, and on which the same information shall be indicated.

Article 219

The bureau shall determine the number of voters, the number of blank or invalid ballot papers and the number of valid ballot papers, as well as the number of votes obtained by each candidate; these details shall be recorded in the minutes.

Article 220

The minutes referred to in the preceding articles, which record the operations carried out by the polling station, shall be drawn up in triplicate and signed immediately by the members of the polling station, the secretary and the witnesses. They shall be immediately taken by the chair of the polling station to the main office, together with the ballot papers and all documents held by the polling station.

Article 221

After the main office has collected the minutes from the polling stations in the municipality and carried out a general count of the votes, its chairperson shall publicly announce the names of those elected.

Article 224

A list of the persons elected shall be drawn up by the president and secretary of the main polling station of the municipality. This list shall contain the surname, first names, address, nationality, exact profession and, where applicable, the degree of kinship between several elected representatives.

The election report and the list of elected persons, drawn up by the main polling station and signed by the chairperson, assessors, secretary and witnesses, shall be sent immediately in duplicate, by registered post, together with the reports from the polling stations and all other supporting documents, excluding ballot papers, to the Minister of the Interior.

A copy of the election report, signed as the original, shall be filed with the municipal secretariat, where it shall be available for public inspection.

All envelopes containing ballot papers shall be gathered together immediately, to the exclusion of all other items, in one or more bundles bearing, in addition to the address of the recipient:

Communal election ofon

Ballot papers.

Article 225

The ballot papers thus collected shall be sent directly, by registered post, to the Minister of the Interior by the president of the main polling station.

As soon as the results of a municipal election are final, the ballot papers shall be transferred to the State archives, where they shall be kept until the next election for political analysis purposes. They shall then be destroyed. A Grand Ducal regulation shall determine the conditions and procedures for consulting ballot papers for political analysis purposes.

The election reports and lists of elected persons referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 224 shall be kept at the Ministry of the Interior. They may be consulted for political analysis purposes until the next elections. A Grand Ducal regulation shall determine the conditions and procedures for such consultation.

MALTA / MALTE**a) Constitution of Malta****20A.**

The State shall facilitate the participation of Maltese citizens who live abroad in the political, social, economic and cultural life of Malta.

57.

Subject to the provisions of article 58 of this Constitution, a person shall be qualified to be registered as a voter for the election of members of the House of Representatives if, and shall not be qualified to be so registered unless

(a) he is a citizen of Malta;

(b) he has attained the age of sixteen years; and

(c) he is resident in Malta and has during the eighteen months immediately preceding his registration been a resident for a continuous period of six months or for periods amounting in the aggregate to six months.

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply to a person who is ordinarily resident in Malta but has not been resident in Malta as required by this paragraph by reason of service abroad in the public service, including service in the offices referred to in sub-article (3) of article 124 of this Constitution, or by reason of service abroad in, or as a member of, disciplined force as defined in article 47 of this Constitution.

b) General Elections Act**PART III Voters****15.**

Subject to the provisions of the next following article, a person shall be entitled to be registered as a voter for the election of Members of the House if, and shall not be entitled to be registered unless, he has the qualifications required by article 57 of the Constitution and provided he is not so disqualified in terms of article 58 of the Constitution or in accordance with the provisions

16.

(1) Subject to the following provisions of this Act every person registered as a voter in an electoral division shall, while so registered, be entitled to vote at the election of Members of the House for that division.

(2) No person shall vote at the election of Members of the House in any division other than a division in which he is registered as a voter.

(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of sub-article (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be liable to the penalties established for offences against article.

MEXICO / MEXIQUE**a) Constitution****Article 35**

The prerogatives of citizens are:

I. To vote at popular elections; [...]

Article 36

The obligations of citizens of the Republic are: [...]

III. To vote in popular elections in the electoral district to which they belong; [...]

b) General Law on Electoral Institutions and Procedures**Article 329**

1. Citizens residing abroad may exercise their right to vote for the election of President of the United Mexican States and senators, as well as Governors of the federal entities and the Head of Government of the Federal District, provided that they determine the Constitutions of the States or the Statute of Government of the Federal District.

2. Mexicans residing abroad may cast their vote by post, by handing in their ballot paper in person at the polling stations set up in embassies or consulates, or, where applicable, electronically, in accordance with this Act and under the terms determined by the Institute.

3. Electronic voting may only be carried out in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Institute under the terms of this Act, which must ensure complete certainty and proven security for Mexicans residing abroad, for the effective exercise of their right to vote in general elections.

Article 330

1. For the exercise of voting, citizens residing abroad, in addition to those established by article 34 of the Constitution and those referred to in article 9, paragraph 1, of this Law, must meet the following requirements:

- a) Request the Executive Directorate of the National Registry of Electors, meeting the requirements through the means approved by the General Council, their registration in the electoral register and in the nominal list of citizens residing abroad;
- b) To Manifest, under its strictest responsibility and under protest of telling the truth, the address abroad to which the ballot(s) is sent or, where appropriate, the electronic means determined by the Institute, in which it may receive information regarding the electoral process, an
- c) Others set out in this Law.

Article 331

1. Mexican citizens who meet the above requirements shall send the application referred to in paragraph 1 (a) of the previous article between 1 September and 15 December of the year prior to the election in question.

2. The application will be sent to the Executive Directorate of the National Registry of Voters, by post, electronic, or in person in the modules that for this purpose are installed in the embassies or consulates and within the deadlines determined by the Institute.

3. The application will be sent to the Executive Directorate of the Federal Register of Voters, by certified mail, accompanied by the following documents:

- a) Readable photocopy of the front and back of your vote credential; the voter must sign the photocopy or, where appropriate, place your fingerprint, and
 - b) Document in which the address it claims to have abroad is recorded.
4. For purposes of verification of compliance with the delivery period referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, the date of issuance of the application for registration that the postal service concerned entails the shipping envelope shall be taken as a test element, and for the case of the electronic application, the date of receipt shall be considered the notice in which the relevant documents are attached.
5. To no application sent by the citizen after December 15 of the year prior to the election, or to be received by the Institute after January 15 of the year of the election, will be processed. In these cases, the Executive Directorate of the National Registry of Electors will send the interested party, by registered mail, notice of non-registration for extemporaneity.
6. The interested citizen may consult the Institute, by telephone or electronic, registration.

Article 332

1. The application for registration in the electoral register section of citizens residing abroad, will have legal effect of notifying the Institute of the decision of the citizen to vote from abroad in the election for President of the United Mexican States, senators, and Governors of the federal entities and the Head of Government of the Federal District, provided that this is determined by the Constitutions of the States or the Statute of Government of the Federal District. To this end the respective format will contain the following legend: "Manifesto, under protest of telling the truth, that for residing abroad:

- a) I express my decision to vote in the country where I reside and not in Mexican territory;
- b) I request to vote by any of the following means: (i) post, (ii) by handing over the ballot personally in the modules installed in the embassies or consulates, or (iii) electronically, in the next election for President of the United Mexican States, Senator, Governor or Head of Government, as the case may be;
- c) I authorize the Institute to verify compliance with legal requirements, to be registered in the electoral register of citizens residing abroad, and to temporarily discharge me, from the electoral register of citizens residing in Mexico, and
- d) I request that the instructions, formats, documents and electoral materials that correspond to me be sent to exercise my right to vote abroad."

Article 333

1. The nominal lists of voters residing abroad are the registers drawn up by the Executive Directorate of the Federal Voters' Register containing the names of persons included in the electoral roll who hold a voter registration card, reside abroad and request to be included on those lists.
2. The electoral rolls of voters residing abroad shall be of a temporary nature and shall be used exclusively for the purposes set out in this Book.
3. The electoral rolls of voters residing abroad shall not bear the photograph of the citizens included therein.
4. The General Council may order additional verification measures to those provided for in this Book, in order to guarantee the accuracy of the electoral rolls of voters residing abroad.
5. The provisions contained in Title I of Book IV of this Act shall apply, as appropriate.

Article 334

1. From 1 September until 15 December of the year preceding the presidential election, the Executive Directorate of the National Voters' Register shall make available to interested parties the application forms for registration on the electoral roll and on the nominal list of voters residing abroad, at the locations agreed by the General Executive Board, electronically or through the means determined by the Board itself.

2. The Institute shall agree with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where applicable, on the mechanisms for the registration of citizens residing abroad on the electoral roll through diplomatic missions, in accordance with the terms of the cooperation agreements established between both institutions.

3. The Institute shall sign the necessary agreements with the relevant federal and local public administration bodies to promote voting by Mexicans residing abroad.

4. Mexicans residing abroad may apply for their voter registration card, provided they meet the requirements set out in Article 136 of this Law.

5. The Executive Directorate of the Federal Voters' Register shall establish, at Mexican embassies or consulates abroad, the necessary mechanisms for the processing of voter registration. The Institute shall enter into the relevant agreements with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

6. For the purposes of the provisions of the preceding paragraph, a period of ninety days shall be opened for the processing of voter registration, which the Institute shall determine for each electoral process prior to the commencement of the period for inclusion in the electoral roll of Mexicans residing abroad referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 335

1. Applications for registration on the electoral roll by citizens residing abroad shall be processed in the chronological order of their receipt, and a record of the date of receipt shall be kept.

2. Once compliance with the requirements established by the General Council has been verified, the Executive Directorate of the Federal Voter Register shall proceed to register the applicant on the Voter Register for Citizens Residing Abroad. Should the applicant already be registered on the electoral roll, they shall be removed from the section corresponding to citizens residing in Mexico.

3. The Executive Directorate of the National Voters' Register shall retain the documents sent and, where applicable, the envelope containing them until the conclusion of the electoral process.

4. Once the electoral process has concluded, the voter lists for overseas residents shall cease to be valid. The Executive Directorate of the Federal Voter Register shall proceed to re-register the citizens listed therein on the voter list for the electoral district corresponding to their address in Mexico.

5. For statistical and archival purposes, the Institute shall retain a digital copy of the nominal lists of voters residing abroad for a period of seven years.

Article 336

1. Once the deadline for receiving registration applications has passed, the Executive Directorate of the Federal Voters' Register shall draw up the nominal lists of voters residing abroad using the applications received and processed, together with the records contained in the section of the electoral register for citizens residing abroad.

2. The lists shall be drawn up in two formats:

a) In the case of Mexican citizens residing abroad, the list shall be drawn up by country of residence and by relevant federal state, if the photo voter ID card was issued or renewed from abroad, or by the electoral district appearing on their photo voter ID card, if it was issued within the national territory, and

b) In accordance with the criterion of domicile in Mexico of citizens residing abroad, by federal state and electoral district, listed in alphabetical order. These lists shall be used by the Institute for the purposes of counting and tallying the votes.

3. In any event, the staff of the Institute, political parties, and independent candidates are obliged to safeguard the confidentiality of the personal data contained in the nominal lists of voters residing abroad. The General Executive Board shall issue the resolutions and implement the necessary measures to this end.

4. The General Executive Board shall submit to the General Council a report on the number of voters abroad, grouped by country, state or equivalent, and municipality or equivalent.

Article 337

1. Political parties, through their representatives on the National Oversight Commission, shall have the right to verify the nominal lists of voters residing abroad, referred to in subparagraph (b) of paragraph 2 of the preceding article, using the electronic means available to the Executive Directorate of the Federal Voter Register.
2. The nominal lists of voters residing abroad shall not be displayed outside the national territory.

Article 338

1. No later than 15 February of the relevant election year, the Executive Directorate of the Federal Voters' Register shall make the nominal lists of voters abroad available to political parties, whilst safeguarding the protection of the personal data contained therein.
2. Political parties may submit comments on these lists, citing specific and individualised facts and cases, up to and including 28 February.
3. Any necessary amendments shall be made to the lists based on the comments submitted by political parties and independent candidates, and the General Council and the National Supervisory Commission shall be informed no later than 15 April.
4. Political parties and independent candidates may challenge the report referred to in the preceding paragraph before the Electoral Tribunal. Such challenges shall be subject to the provisions of this Act and the relevant legislation.
5. If the report is not challenged or, where applicable, once the Electoral Tribunal has ruled on any challenges, the General Council shall meet to declare that the lists of voters residing abroad are valid.

Article 339

1. No later than 31 December of the year preceding the election, the General Council of the Institute, or where applicable, in coordination with the relevant Local Public Body, shall approve the format of the printed ballot paper and the electronic ballot paper to be used by citizens residing abroad for the election in question, as well as the instructions for their use, the tools and materials required for electronic voting, the formats of the records for counting and tallying, and the other electoral documents and materials.
2. Once the provisions of the preceding paragraph have been approved, the General Executive Board shall order the printing of postal ballot papers and electoral materials for the voting of Mexicans residing abroad.
3. The provisions of Article 266 of this Act shall apply, as appropriate, to ballot papers. Ballot papers to be used abroad shall bear the inscription "Mexican resident abroad".
4. The number of ballot papers to be printed for voting abroad shall be equal to the number of voters registered on the relevant electoral rolls. The General Council shall determine an additional number of ballot papers. Any unused additional ballot papers shall be destroyed before polling day, in the presence of representatives of the political parties and independent candidates.
5. The General Executive Board shall submit the mechanisms and procedures for electronic voting to the General Council for approval before the electoral process begins.

Article 340

1. The documentation and electoral material referred to in the preceding article shall be made available to the General Executive Board or, where applicable, the relevant body in the federal entities no later than 15 March of the election year.
2. The Executive Directorate of the National Voters' Register shall make available to the General Executive Board the envelopes bearing the name and address abroad of each citizen who has opted for postal voting, registered on the relevant electoral rolls, arranged in accordance with the method set out in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 2 of Article 336 of this Act.

3. The General Executive Board or the relevant body in the federal entities shall take the necessary steps to send, to each citizen by post with acknowledgement of receipt, the ballot paper, documentation and other materials necessary for casting a vote. In the case of citizens who have opted for electronic voting, they shall send precise instructions on the steps to be followed so that they may cast their vote.

4. The dispatch of the ballot paper, identification number, security mechanisms, instructions and other electoral documentation shall be completed by 20 April of the election year at the latest.

Article 341

1. Upon receipt of the ballot paper by citizens who have chosen to vote by post, or in person at the polling stations set up in embassies or consulates, or upon receipt of the identification numbers and other security mechanisms for electronic voting, the citizen shall exercise their right to vote freely, secretly and directly, by marking the candidate of their choice.

2. Each method of voting must have instructions approved by the General Council of the Institute.

3. The Institute shall ensure that electronic voting includes at least the security measures necessary to guarantee:

- a) That the person casting the vote is the Mexican citizen residing abroad who is entitled to do so;
- b) That the Mexican citizen residing abroad may not cast more than one vote, whether electronically or by any other means provided for in this Act;
- c) That the vote is free and secret, and
- d) The effective casting, transmission, receipt and counting of the vote cast.

Article 342

1. Once the citizen has voted, they must fold the ballot paper and place it in the envelope sent to them, sealing it in such a way as to ensure the secrecy of the vote.

2. The voter must send the envelope containing the ballot paper to the Institute by registered post as soon as possible.

3. For the purposes of the preceding paragraph, the envelopes for sending the ballot paper to Mexico shall bear the voter identification number of the sender, as well as the address of the Institute determined by the General Executive Board.

4. Citizens may send the envelope referred to in paragraph 1 of this article via the collection points set up for this purpose at Mexican embassies or consulates abroad. The Institute shall enter into the relevant agreements with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

5. For the purposes of the preceding paragraph, the envelopes for sending the ballot paper to Mexico must be handed in at the collection points set up at Mexican embassies or consulates abroad no later than the Sunday preceding polling day and must also meet the requirements set out in paragraph 3 of this article.

6. Once a citizen has handed over the envelope at the collection points set up at Mexican embassies or consulates abroad, in accordance with the procedure agreed for that purpose by the General Council, the Council shall take measures to control and safeguard the envelopes, so that they may be sent by registered post to the Institute.]

Article 343

1. The General Council shall determine the manner in which citizens abroad are to cast their votes to the Institute or, where applicable, to local public bodies.

2. The electronic voting system approved by the Institute's General Council must comply with the following:

- a) Be auditable at every stage of its development and implementation;
- b) It must allow the voter to verify their vote before casting it;
- c) It must prevent coercion of the vote, guaranteeing free and secret suffrage;

- d) It must guarantee that the person casting the vote is the Mexican citizen residing abroad who is entitled to do so;
 - e) Ensure that Mexican citizens residing abroad cannot cast more than one vote, whether electronically or by any other means provided for in this Act, and
 - f) Have a real-time, public and reliable electoral results system.
3. The Institute shall issue guidelines aimed at safeguarding the security of the vote.

Article 344

1. The General Executive Board or, where applicable, the Local Public Bodies shall make the necessary arrangements regarding postal voting to:
- a) Receive and register, noting the date, the envelopes containing the ballot papers, sorting them in accordance with the electoral rolls to be used for the purposes of counting and tallying;
 - b) Mark the word "voted" next to the voter's name on the relevant electoral roll; this may be done using electronic means, and
 - c) Safeguard the envelopes received and protect the secrecy of the vote.

Article 345

1. Votes cast abroad will be considered those received by the Institute until twenty-four hours before the start of the election day, if the shipment is made by post or in person in the modules that are installed in the embassies or consulates; or until 18:00 hours of the day of the election day, time of Central Mexico, if the shipment is made by electronic means.
2. With regard to the electronic envelopes or votes received after the aforementioned period, a list of their senders will be drawn up and then, without opening the ballot, in the presence of the representatives of the political parties, to their destruction or elimination, without their content being revealed.
3. On the day of the election day, the executive secretary shall submit to the General Council of the Institute a report on the number of votes cast by citizens residing abroad, classified by country of residence of the voters, type of office to be elected, mode of vote used, as well as of the votes received after the term referred to in the previous paragraph. Electronic votes must be obtained from the system implemented for that purpose, which must be auditable.]

Article 346

1. Based on the nominal lists of voters residing abroad, according to the criteria of their domicile in national territory, the General Council:
- a) Determine the number of polls corresponding to each one-minal electoral district. The maximum number of votes per table will be 1,500, and
 - b) Approve the method and the deadlines to select and train citizens who will act as members of the tables of scrutiny and counting, applying in the conduct the provisions of article 254 of this Law.
2. The polls and counting of the vote of voters residing abroad will be integrated with a president, a secretary and two scrutinizers; there will be two alternates per table.
3. The aforementioned tables will have as headquarters the unique premises, in the Federal District, determined by the Executive General Board.
4. Political parties and independent candidates shall appoint two representatives for each bureau and one general representative for every twenty bureaux, as well as a general representative for the district count of the vote cast abroad.
5. In the absence of the officers holding and alternate officers of the bureaux, the Executive General Board shall determine the procedure for the appointment of the staff of the Institute that supplies them.
6. The Executive General Board shall take the necessary measures to ensure the integration and operation of the polling stations.

Article 347

1. The polling and counting tables will be installed at 17 hours on election day. At 18 hours, the scrutiny and counting of the vote issued abroad will begin.
2. For the scrutiny and calculation of Governor and Head of Government, the Local Public Bodies will use the electronic system enabled by the Institute, stating the results in the minutes and applying, in what is conducive, the provisions of this Law:
 - a) A bureau composed of three citizens who will be insaculated, as well as by the Councillors and representatives of the political parties;
 - b) Then the citizens of the bureau shall request the Electoral Councillors to enter their passwords or keys to allow access to the electronic system to carry out the calculation of the votes;
 - c) The electronic system shall carry out the calculation by ordering it by the reference federal entity manifested by citizens residing abroad;
 - d) The results should be projected during the session of the General Council. Subsequently, the minutes containing the results collected must be printed;
 - e) [The minutes with the results of the vote must be signed by the members of the bureau and will be delivered to the secretary of the General Council, proceeding to close the table, and
 - f) Once the above has been done, the results must be published by the system of partial electoral results.
3. The General Council shall determine such measures as it deems relevant for the preparation of minutes and reports relating to the vote of voters residing abroad. In any case, the documents thus prepared must have signature.

Article 348

1. For the scrutiny and calculation of the votes cast abroad for the election of President of the United Mexican States, the following will be stated:
 - a) The president of the table will verify that he has the nominal list of voters resident abroad that corresponds to him, and will add those that in that list have marked the word "voted";
 - b) Then, the scrutinizers shall count the envelopes contained in the ballots and shall verify that the result is equal to the sum of voters marked by the word "vote" indicated in the previous subparagraph;
 - c) Verified the above, the president of the bureau shall proceed to open the envelope and extract the ballot, to, without further formality, deposit it at the ballot box; if an envelope is opened, it is found that it does not contain the ballot, or contains more than one ballot, the vote or votes shall be considered to be null and void and the fact shall be recorded in the minutes;
 - d) The envelopes containing the ballots shall be deposited in a separate container for further destruction;
 - e) Once the above is completed, the scrutiny and calculation shall begin, with the rules established in article 290 and 294, paragraph 1 (c) to (f) of this Act, and
 - f) In determining the validity or invalidity of the vote, the provisions of article 291 of this Law and subsection (c) of this paragraph shall apply.

Article 349

1. The vote-counting and tally sheets from each polling station shall be grouped according to the relevant federal state.
2. Staff of the Institute previously appointed by the General Executive Board shall, in the presence of the general representatives of the political parties, proceed to tally the results recorded in the vote counting and tally sheets of the respective polling stations, in order to obtain the result of the votes cast abroad for the election of the President of the United Mexican States and senators, by federal state, which shall be recorded in the corresponding tally sheet.

3. The district tally sheets shall be signed by the responsible official and by the general representative of each political party designated for that purpose.
4. The procedures set out in the preceding paragraphs of this article shall be carried out in the presence of the general representatives of the political parties and the independent candidates for the counting of votes cast abroad.

Article 350

1. Once the counting and tallying of votes cast abroad has been fully completed, and after the President of the General Council has announced the results of the analyses referred to in subparagraph (I) of paragraph 1 of Article 45 of this Act, the Executive Secretary shall inform the Council General of the results, by party, of the votes cast abroad for President of the United Mexican States and senators.
2. The Executive Secretary shall deliver to the members of the General Council the report containing the results, by federal entity, of the votes received from abroad and shall order their inclusion in the preliminary election results system.

Article 351

1. The General Executive Board shall, by appropriate means, provide each district council with a copy of the district tally report referred to in Article 349 of this Act by the Wednesday following polling day.
2. Political parties and independent candidates shall receive a legible copy of all reports.
3. The ballot papers, the original tally sheets from the polling stations and the tally sheets for single-member electoral districts, as well as the detailed report drawn up by the General Executive Board regarding votes cast abroad for the election of the President of the United Mexican States, shall be included in an electoral package to be forwarded, before the Sunday following election day, to the Superior Chamber of the Electoral Tribunal for the relevant legal purposes. For the election of senators, such information shall be forwarded to the competent Regional Chamber of the Electoral Tribunal.

Article 352

1. The results of votes cast from abroad shall be recorded in the minutes.
2. The result of the sum referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be recorded in the minutes referred to in subparagraph d) of paragraph 1 of Article 314 of this Law.
3. The certified copy of the district record of the count of votes cast abroad for President of the United Mexican States in the respective electoral district shall be included in the file referred to in subparagraph (e) of paragraph 1 of Article 316 of this Act.
4. Local Public Bodies shall carry out the activities provided for in the preceding paragraphs of this Article for the relevant local election.

Article 353

1. National and local political parties, as well as their candidates for elected office, may not conduct electoral campaigns abroad; consequently, the activities, events and electoral propaganda referred to in Article 242 of this Act are prohibited abroad.
2. During the electoral process, under no circumstances and for no reason whatsoever shall political parties and independent candidates use resources derived from public or private funding, in any form, to finance ordinary or campaign activities abroad.
3. Under no circumstances may radio and television airtime be purchased or acquired, nor may space be leased for propaganda or advertising abroad.

Article 354

1. In order to fulfil the powers and duties conferred upon the Institute by this Book, the General Executive Board shall propose to the General Council, in the year preceding the presidential election, the creation of the administrative units required, specifying the resources necessary to carry out their duties during the electoral process.
2. The Institute shall establish the guidelines to be followed by Local Public Bodies to ensure that Mexicans residing abroad in the relevant federal states are able to vote.

Article 355

1. The cost of postal services arising from mail sent by the Institute and Local Public Bodies in the federal states to citizens residing abroad, as well as the cost arising from digital, technological, operational and promotional services, shall be provided for in the budget of each institution.
2. The Institute, in coordination with other public bodies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, shall promote and implement the installation of devices with electronic access at Mexican diplomatic missions located in areas where there is a large concentration of Mexican citizens abroad.

Article 356

1. The General Council and the Councils of Local Public Bodies in each federal state shall take the necessary measures to ensure the proper application of the provisions contained in this Book.
2. Insofar as they do not contravene the provisions of this Book, the other relevant provisions of this Act, the General Act on the System of Electoral Appeals and other applicable laws shall apply.
3. In cases where electoral processes are conducted solely within the federal states, the provisions of this Book shall apply as appropriate.

MOLDOVA, REPUBLIC OF / MOLDOVA, REPUBLIQUE DE**a) Constitution****Article 38***The right to vote and the right to be elected*

(1) The will of the people constitutes the basis of State power. This will shall be expressed through free elections, held periodically by universal, equal, direct, secret and freely expressed suffrage.

(2) Citizens of the Republic of Moldova shall have the right to vote from the age of 18, attained by election day inclusive, with the exception of those placed under interdiction in the manner established by law.

(3) The right to be elected shall be guaranteed to citizens of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote, under the conditions established by law.

b) Electoral Code No. 325/2022**Article 2***Principles of participation in elections*

[...] (3) Citizens of the Republic of Moldova domiciled outside the country shall enjoy full electoral rights under the provisions of this Code. The Government of the Republic of Moldova, the Central Electoral Commission, the diplomatic missions and consular offices are required to create conditions enabling citizens to exercise their electoral rights freely.

Article 8*Elections Day*

[...] (2) By derogation from paragraph (1), elections in certain electoral circumscriptions or polling stations may be conducted, for objective reasons (pandemics, exceptional circumstances, ensuring the right to vote under unusual conditions, the large number of voters registered at polling stations abroad, etc.) over a two-day period (Saturday and Sunday), as established by decision of the Central Electoral Commission at least 25 days before election day. [...]

Article 34*Establishment of electoral circumscriptions (excerpt)*

(1) [...] Under similar conditions, the Commission shall establish second-level electoral circumscriptions for polling stations abroad and for localities on the left bank of the Nistru.

Article 39*Particularities of the establishment and functioning of polling stations abroad (excerpts)*

(1) For parliamentary elections, presidential elections and republican referendums, one or more polling stations may be organized at the diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Moldova for voters who will be abroad on the date of the electoral event.

(2) Polling stations established abroad shall be organized at least 35 days before the date of the electoral event.

(3) In addition to the polling stations referred to in paragraph (1), with the agreement of the competent authorities of the respective countries, polling stations may be organized for a locality or several localities in which, according to data from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, at least 500 voters who are citizens of the Republic of Moldova are temporarily resident or permanently domiciled. [...]

(5) The primary basis for the establishment of polling stations abroad shall be the dynamics of voter participation at polling stations abroad over the last three electoral events, complemented by data on prior registration of citizens of the Republic of Moldova abroad and information provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration on the number and location of citizens of the Republic of Moldova abroad.

Article 61

Voters' Lists

[...] (6) For polling stations established outside the Republic of Moldova, voter lists shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure established by the Regulation on the compilation, administration, dissemination and updating of voter lists, approved by the Central Electoral Commission. [...]

Article 81

Counting and tabulation of votes by the Precinct Electoral Bureau

(1) After the expiry of the time reserved for voting, the Chairperson of the Precinct Electoral Bureau shall declare the voting closed and order the closure of the polling station. The Precinct Electoral Bureau shall begin the counting of votes.

Article 88

Observers

[...] (8) Observers accredited by the Central Electoral Commission may monitor the electoral process throughout the country and in all the polling stations, including those opened abroad. Observers accredited by District Electoral Councils may perform their activity only within the territory of concerned Electoral District. [...]

Article 160

Special restrictions of the right to vote (applicable to local elections only)

(1) Voters who do not have registered domicile or temporary residence in the respective administrative-territorial unit shall not participate in the election of the local council and the mayor.

(2) The period of domicile or temporary residence registration shall not be less than 3 months before the date of the first round of elections.

c) Law No. 109/2024 on the Partial Implementation of Postal Voting (as amended by Law No. LP129 of 29 May 2025, in force as of 3 June 2025)

Article 1

Purpose and subject matter

- (1) This Law governs the principles of participation in elections through the exercise of the right to vote by post, as an alternative voting method, the specific electoral procedures for postal voting, and the competences of the electoral bodies organizing postal voting.
- (2) The purpose of this Law is to create the normative framework necessary for the partial implementation of postal voting to enable citizens of the Republic of Moldova to exercise the right to vote by an alternative method, and to evaluate the suitability of making this method permanent.
- (3) The provisions of Electoral Code No. 325/2022 shall apply to the electoral procedures relating to postal voting in respect of matters not provided for by this Law.

Article 3

Direct and freely expressed vote by post

- (1) A voter included in the postal voting list who has received the envelope containing the ballot paper(s) shall vote personally. The transmission of received ballot papers and voting on behalf of another person are prohibited.
- (2) No one is entitled to exert pressure on the voter to cause them to vote or not to vote, or to prevent them from expressing their will independently. The voter is personally responsible for ensuring that their vote is freely expressed and, where this principle is violated, for reporting such influence in the manner provided by law.
- (3) Photographing or publicly and demonstratively displaying the completed ballot paper is prohibited.

Article 4

Secret vote

- (1) Postal voting is secret, so as to exclude any possibility of influencing the voter's will. The voter is personally responsible for maintaining the secrecy of their vote. Failure to respect the secret character of the vote, disclosure of the voting option expressed by post to other persons, or transmission of the ballot paper to a third party shall be sanctioned in accordance with the law.
- (2) Electoral bodies shall ensure the secrecy of the vote through the use of two separate envelopes: one nominal outer envelope, for voter identification, and a second anonymous inner envelope for the secret vote, in which the ballot paper is placed.

Article 5

Timing of postal voting

- (1) By derogation from Article 8(1) and Article 75 of Electoral Code No. 325/2022, postal voting is conducted in advance, before election day.
 - (2) The dispatch of ballot papers for postal voting shall commence no later than 20 days before election day. The receipt of outer envelopes by the electoral bureaus of postal voting polling stations shall end two days before election day.
- [Article 5(2) as amended by Law No. LP129/2025. The deadline for receipt of outer envelopes was changed from Thursday to Friday before election day.]*

Article 7*The right to vote by post*

(1) The right to vote by post is available to the persons referred to in Article 14 of Electoral Code No. 325/2022 who have applied for and been included in the postal voting list.

(2) A person who has reached the age of 18 may register for and exercise the right to vote by post.

Article 8*Conditions for the partial implementation of postal voting*

(1) In determining the countries where postal voting is to be implemented, the following criteria shall be taken into account:

a) the absence of polling stations in the host country or the significant distance to the nearest previously established polling station;

b) the experience of implementing postal voting in the host country;

c) the prior submission of at least 30 registration applications or the participation of at least 30 persons in voting at a previous electoral event;

[Article 8(1)(c) as amended by Law No. LP129/2025: threshold changed from 30 actual voters to 30 prior registration applications.]

d) the safety and reliability of postal or courier services.

(2) The right to vote by post may not be exercised in countries with which the Republic of Moldova has no established diplomatic relations, in countries affected by military conflicts, or in countries that do not comply with international standards for the conduct of free and fair elections.

Article 13*Establishment of postal voting polling stations and electoral bureaus*

(1) To ensure postal voting and the counting of votes so cast, postal voting polling stations shall be established within the electoral circumscription for polling stations abroad.

(2) Postal voting polling stations shall be established at least 35 days before election day and shall encompass no fewer than 30 and no more than 2,500 voters included in the postal voting lists in the territory of one country.

(3) The electoral bureaus of postal voting polling stations shall be constituted by the District Electoral Council no later than 25 days before election day, with an odd number of members of no fewer than 5 and no more than 15 persons. They shall operate within the premises of the diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Moldova and, where necessary, in the locations approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article 17*Registration for postal voting (excerpts)*

(1) To exercise the right to vote by post, citizens of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote shall register through the official website of the Central Electoral Commission. The purpose of registration is to establish the number of voters intending to vote by post and to draw up postal voting lists.

(2) Registration is mandatory for the exercise of the right to vote by post. Voters may register from the date of publication of the act setting the election date until 45 days before the election date. In the case of a second round of a presidential election, registrations from the first round shall be maintained. Voters may cancel their registration no later than 30 days before election day.

[Article 17(2) as amended by Law No. LP129/2025.]

(6) A registration application shall be rejected by the electoral body in the following cases:

a) the applicant could not be remotely identified through digital means;

- b) the applicant indicated a non-existent or incomplete postal address;
- c) the applicant is not registered in the State Register of Voters;
- d) the registration procedure was not completed;
- e) the applicant did not provide a contact telephone number;
- f) more than seven registration applications have been submitted from the same email address;
- g) the same postal address appears in more than seven registration applications, with applications exceeding seven persons per address being rejected;
- h) the applicant did not attach a photograph of themselves taken simultaneously with the identity document confirming the right to vote.

Article 25*Procedure for completing the postal ballot paper (excerpt)*

(4) Even if the voter has registered for or voted by post, upon presenting themselves at a polling station, the electoral bureau shall issue them a ballot paper on one occasion only. In such a case, the ballot paper dispatched by post shall be annulled and this shall be recorded in the electoral bureau's minutes.

Article 35*Final and transitional provisions (excerpts)*

(2) Postal voting, as an alternative voting method, shall be implemented in presidential elections and parliamentary elections held after the entry into force of this Law, and shall apply to citizens of the Republic of Moldova located in the territory of the United States of America, Canada, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of Sweden, the Republic of Finland, Iceland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand. Where a republican referendum is held on the same day as a presidential election, postal voting shall also apply.

[Article 35(2) as amended by Law No. LP129/2025: Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand were added to the list of eligible countries, extending coverage from six to ten countries.]

(3) The results of postal voting shall have legal effect, carrying the same legal value as the results of voting at a polling station.

(4) The Central Electoral Commission shall propose, with supporting reasons, that the Constitutional Court declare null or invalidate the results of voting at the postal voting polling station(s) where objective circumstances of electoral fraud are established.

(5) Following the completion of each partial implementation of postal voting, the Central Electoral Commission shall, within three months, prepare and submit to Parliament a report on the implementation of this alternative voting method, including proposals regarding its permanent applicability, with subsequent introduction of corresponding amendments to Electoral Code No. 325/2022.

**d) Regulation on the peculiarities of organizing and implementing postal voting
(CEC Decision No. 2680 of 5 August 2024, as amended by CEC Decision No. 3640/2025)**

Point 3

This Regulation shall apply to citizens of the Republic of Moldova located in the territory of the United States of America, Canada, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of Sweden, the Republic of Finland, Iceland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand in the context of parliamentary elections, presidential elections, and republican referendums.

[Point 3 as amended by CEC Decision No. 3640/2025. The previous version limited application to six countries and to the electoral event of 20 October 2024.]

Point 7

Citizens of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote who will be abroad during the voting period and choose to vote by post shall register in advance through the official website of the Central Electoral Commission, in accordance with the procedure set out in this Regulation.

Point 75

The voting period shall begin for each voter upon receipt of the voting materials and shall end upon their return to the electoral bureau, which shall receive them no later than 18:00 local time of the host country on the Friday before election day.

[Point 75 as amended by CEC Decision No. 3640/2025, pursuant to Law No. LP129/2025. The previous version set the deadline as Thursday before election day. The correction to Friday brings the Regulation into alignment with Article 5(2) and Article 23(1) of Law No. 109/2024 as amended.]

Point 87

The receipt of outer envelopes by the electoral bureaus of postal voting polling stations shall end two days before election day, namely on the Friday before election day, no later than 18:00 local time of the host country.

[Point 87 as amended by CEC Decision No. 3640/2025.]

Point 88

The electoral bureau may decide to extend the receipt period by no more than two hours where postal or courier service providers have notified that electoral materials are still to be delivered. The District Electoral Council for polling stations abroad and the Central Electoral Commission shall be informed of any such extension.

Point 95(1) [introduced by CEC Decision No. 3640/2025]

Upon expiry of the period for receipt of envelopes, the electoral bureau shall count the envelopes containing ballot papers received and draw up minutes recording their number. The counting and tabulation of votes cast by post, and the completion of the minutes on the results of the count, shall begin on the Sunday of election day, after the closure of all polling stations in the host country, in accordance with the Instruction on the procedure for counting, tabulating, centralizing and publishing the results of postal voting, as approved by the Central Electoral Commission.

Point 117

Decisions approving the minutes on voting results and/or the reports of the electoral bureaus of postal voting polling stations and/or the District Electoral Council for polling stations abroad

may be challenged under Chapter XIII of Electoral Code No. 325/2022 and the Regulation on the procedure for examining contestations during the electoral period, approved by the Central Electoral Commission.

Point 118

Violation of the normative framework governing the partial implementation of postal voting shall entail administrative, civil, contraventional and criminal liability.

Point 119

In the event of electoral fraud, or where circumstances or violations capable of influencing election results or calling into question the proper conduct of elections are established, the Central Electoral Commission shall, on the basis of evidentiary materials, propose to the Constitutional Court that it declare null or invalidate the results of voting at the postal voting polling station(s) concerned.

e) Regulation on the establishment of polling stations abroad (CEC Decision No. 2542 of 28 May 2024, as amended by CEC Decision No. 3683/2025)

Point 2

Citizens of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote located abroad may vote at any polling station established abroad, irrespective of their immigration status in the host country.

Point 7

Pursuant to Article 34(1) of Electoral Code No. 325/2022, the Central Electoral Commission shall establish a distinct electoral circumscription for polling stations abroad, which is equated with the electoral circumscriptions of second-level administrative-territorial units.

Point 8

In accordance with Article 35(12) of Electoral Code No. 325/2022, for the organization of electoral processes at polling stations abroad, the Central Electoral Commission shall form a distinct District Electoral Council, with its seat in the municipality of Chişinău.

Point 10

The Central Electoral Commission may, at least 35 days before election day, organize:

- a. one or more polling stations at the diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Moldova;
- b. with the agreement of the competent authorities of the host countries, one or more polling stations for localities in which, according to data from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at least 500 citizens of the Republic of Moldova with the right to vote are temporarily resident or domiciled.

Point 32

Voting shall take place on election day between 07:00 and 21:00 local time of the host country.

Point 33

In accordance with Article 8(2) of Electoral Code No. 325/2022, in the electoral circumscription for polling stations abroad, or in certain polling stations, voting may be conducted over two days (Saturday and Sunday) for objective reasons (pandemics, exceptional circumstances, ensuring the right to vote under unusual conditions, the large number of voters registered at polling stations abroad, etc.), as established by decision of the Central Electoral Commission at least 25 days before election day.

Point 36

Members of the electoral bureau of a polling station constituted outside the Republic of Moldova shall not examine the legality of the voter's presence in the territory of the host country.

Point 39

Identity documents accepted for voting abroad

Voting at polling stations established abroad shall take place on the basis of one of the following identity documents:

- a. the identity card or identity booklet of a citizen of the Republic of Moldova;
- b. the provisional identity card or provisional identity booklet;
- c. the passport of a citizen of the Republic of Moldova, including one with an expired period of validity, provided that no other circumstance has arisen in which, pursuant to applicable law, it has become invalid.

[Point 39 as amended by CEC Decision No. 3683/2025: the acceptance of a passport with an expired validity period was introduced, constituting a meaningful access facilitation measure for diaspora communities.]

Point 43

After the expiry of the time reserved for voting, the Chairperson of the Precinct Electoral Bureau shall announce the end of voting and order the closure of the polling station.

Point 44

The Precinct Electoral Bureau shall carry out the counting and tabulation of votes in accordance with Article 81 of Electoral Code No. 325/2022 and the Regulation on the operation of Precinct Electoral Bureaus, which shall apply accordingly.

Point 48

The District Electoral Council shall centralize the results of voting across the entire electoral circumscription in a set of minutes, in accordance with Article 84 of Electoral Code No. 325/2022.

MONACO**a) Constitution****Article 53**

Le Conseil National comprend vingt-quatre membres élus pour cinq ans au suffrage universel direct et au scrutin de liste dans les conditions prévues par la loi.

Sont électeurs, dans les conditions fixées par la loi, les citoyens de nationalité monégasque de l'un ou de l'autre sexe âgés de dix-huit ans au moins, à l'exception de ceux qui sont privés du droit de vote pour l'une des causes prévues par la loi.

b) National Elections Law**Article 1**

Law No. 1.250 of 9 April 2002

Monegasque citizens of either sex who have reached the age of eighteen are eligible to vote, with the exception of those who have been deprived of the right to vote for one of the reasons provided for by law.

Article 6

Law No. 1.250 of 9 April 2002; amended by Law No. 1.269 of 23 December 2002; by Law No. 1.409 of 22 October 2014

The electoral roll is permanent. It may only be revised annually by a commission composed as follows:

the Mayor, Chair, who in the event of absence or incapacity may be replaced by a deputy or, failing that, by a Municipal Councillor in accordance with the order of precedence, a representative of the Minister of State or his or her deputy designated for this occasion by ministerial order, two members of the Municipal Council chosen by this Assembly.

In the event of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote.

The electoral roll and the annual revision table are kept in the Town Hall archives.

Any person of Monegasque nationality may, at any time, consult and obtain a copy of the electoral roll, in paper or electronic format, free of charge, provided that they undertake not to use it in a manner contrary to the provisions of Article 80 bis.

To this end, the applicant shall sign a sworn statement undertaking to comply with the provisions of Article 80 bis.

The Mayor shall draw up a list of persons who have requested a copy of the electoral roll.

Article 43

Amended by Law No. 1.269 of 23 December 2002; by Law No. 1.409 of 22 October 2014

Voters who are eligible to vote within the meaning of the previous article may, upon request, exercise their right to vote by proxy if they can prove that:

* 1° either that they reside permanently or for study or training purposes abroad, outside the neighbouring French department and the nearest Italian province;

* 2° that they are unable to go to the polling station on polling day due to imprisonment, disability, health reasons or professional or sporting obligations that they must fulfil in person. However, voters who have a final court order requiring their registration are allowed to vote, even if they are not registered.

The following are not eligible to vote:

voters registered under the provisions of Article 7, paragraph 2, point 2, but who are not yet able to exercise their right to vote;

registered voters who have been deprived of the right to vote by a final decision or those whose right to vote has been suspended pursuant to Article 3.

Article 43 bis[3]

Created by Law No. 1.321 of 6 November 2006; replaced by Law No. 1.489 of 23 June 2020; amended by Law No. 1.539 of 16 December 2022

Voters who are eligible to vote within the meaning of the previous article may, upon request, exercise their right to vote by proxy if they:

1° certify on their honour that they are unable to go to the polling station on election day;

2° provide proof of their detention, under the conditions laid down by sovereign order.

Act No. 839 of 23 February 1968 on national and municipal elections

The proxy application form is available at the Town Hall, at the Principality's diplomatic and consular representations abroad, and on the websites of the Commune and the Government. This form, the sworn statement from the voter who wishes to vote by proxy or the supporting document referred to in point 2 of the previous paragraph, together with a photocopy of their valid Monegasque identity card or passport, must be submitted to the Town Hall or sent by post or by secure electronic means to the General Secretariat of the Town Hall, which shall acknowledge receipt. However, the submission or transmission of a photocopy of a valid Monegasque identity card or passport is not required when the request is made online by a person using their digital identity within the meaning of Law No. 1.483 of 17 December 2019 on digital identity. A sovereign order determines the conditions for the application of this paragraph, in particular the forms and deadlines required for the establishment of the proxy. The validity of the proxy is limited to a single ballot and extends, where applicable, to the second round. The proxy holder for whom the proxy is drawn up must enjoy their electoral rights and be registered on the electoral roll.

No proxy may hold more than two proxies. If this limit is not respected, only the proxies that were received first shall be valid; the other proxy or proxies shall be null and void.

Any validly granted proxy is irrevocable. However, a voter who has given a proxy may vote in person if they arrive at the polling station before their proxy has exercised their powers.

Article 44

Law No. 1.250 of 9 April 2002

Upon entering the polling station, all voters are required to establish their identity by presenting their voter card and a valid identity card or passport. They shall receive the envelope intended to contain the ballot paper; they are required to place their ballot paper in the envelope in the part of the polling station set aside for this purpose, away from prying eyes.

Upon returning, they confirm their vote on the copy of the electoral roll and in the margin next to their name with their signature. A distinctive mark is placed on the voter card by one of the polling station officials.

Any voter with certain disabilities that make it impossible for them to place their ballot paper in the envelope and insert it into the ballot box is entitled to be assisted by a voter of their choice who is also exercising their right to vote. Similarly, if they are unable to confirm their vote by signing, the vote is confirmed by a member of the polling station.

Article 44 bis[4]

Created by Law No. 1.321 of 6 November 2006

Any voter acting as a proxy is required, for each of the proxies they hold, to establish their identity upon entering the polling station by presenting a valid identity card or passport.

After confirming the existence and validity of their proxy voting mandate under the conditions set by sovereign order, they shall receive the envelope intended to contain the ballot paper.

He shall participate in the ballot under the conditions set out in the previous article, except that his vote shall be recorded, by virtue of the proxy he holds, by his signature on the copy of the electoral roll next to the name of the principal, and a distinctive mark shall be affixed to the proxy by one of the members of the electoral commission.

Article 45

The counting of votes shall take place immediately after the polls close and shall be conducted without interruption until it is completed.

Where the counting of votes cannot take place on the same day, the ballot box shall be sealed and deposited in a room in the town hall, the openings of which shall also be sealed.

The mayor shall take all other measures necessary for the safekeeping of the ballot box.

Article 46

Law No. 1.250 of 9 April 2002

The counting of votes shall be carried out in public, under the supervision of the polling station. It shall be carried out as follows:

The ballot box shall be opened by the chair of the polling station. The number of envelopes shall be verified by the polling station; if this number is greater or less than the number of signatures, this shall be noted in the minutes.

The chairperson of the polling station sets up several counting tables. Each table is staffed by one member of the polling station as table chair and three scrutineers appointed from among the voters by the chair of the polling station.

To this end, candidates or lists of candidates may propose a list of voters, which, for each list present, must be attached to the declaration of candidacy of one of the candidates on that list. The envelopes are distributed among the various tables by the chair of the polling station, who supervises the entire counting process.

The polling station president removes the ballot paper from the envelope, reads it aloud in its entirety and passes it to a scrutineer; the names on the ballot papers are recorded by two scrutineers appointed by the polling station president on tally sheets prepared for this purpose.

The tables on which the counting takes place shall be arranged in such a way that voters can circulate around them.

Article 47

Law No. 1.250 of 9 April 2002; amended by Law No. 1.409 of 22 October 2014; replaced by Law No. 1.411 of 2 December 2014

The vote shall be invalid if the envelope does not contain any ballot papers. The following shall be invalid:

- a) ballot papers that do not comply with the requirements of Article 39; however, ballot papers shall not be invalidated solely on the grounds that they have been altered by the voter in order to cast their vote; ballot papers written by the voter themselves to cast their vote are also not invalidated solely because they do not comply with the formal requirements set out in Article 39;
- b) multiple ballot papers contained in the same envelope when they consist of different lists;
- c) multiple ballot papers that contain the same lists with identical combinations;
- d) ballot papers that are illegible, those that do not contain sufficient information or in which voters have identified themselves, those found in the ballot box without an envelope or in non-compliant envelopes, those bearing or whose envelopes bear internal or external identifying marks or offensive remarks about candidates or third parties;
- e) ballot papers bearing the name of a candidate whose candidacy has not been registered;
- f) ballots containing more names than seats to be filled;
- g) ballot papers with writing on the back.

Blank ballot papers are not valid; however, these ballot papers are considered as votes cast for the calculation of the absolute majority.

Ballot papers with fewer names than seats to be filled are valid.

Multiple ballot papers count as only one when they designate the same lists without mixing or the same candidate.

Null or invalid ballot papers and empty or non-compliant envelopes, or those bearing marks or annotations, as well as the attendance lists, shall be initialled by a member of the polling station and appended to the minutes of the voting operations.

c) Ordonnance Souveraine n° 927 (23 January 2007)**Section I - Dispositions générales****Article 1^{er}**

Le vote par procuration, prévu par la loi n° 839 du 23 février 1968, modifiée, susvisée, est exercé par tout électeur attestant ou justifiant de son empêchement dans les conditions fixées aux articles 11 et 12.

Article 2

La procuration de vote, mentionnée à l'article 43 bis de la loi n° 839 du 23 février 1968, modifiée, susvisée, est établie dans les formes et délais fixés dans la présente ordonnance.

Article 3

Tout électeur désirant exprimer son vote par procuration doit remplir préalablement un formulaire prévu à cet effet.

Section II - Du formulaire de demande de procuration

Article 4

Le formulaire de demande de procuration, défini par arrêté ministériel, comporte les éléments d'appréciation nécessaires au traitement de la démarche de l'électeur, savoir les noms, prénoms, date de naissance et domicile, et le cas échéant, numéro de téléphone et adresse électronique, du mandant et du mandataire, ainsi que la liste des pièces nécessaires à la recevabilité de la demande.

Les modalités d'application du présent article sont fixées par arrêté ministériel.

Article 5

Le formulaire de demande de procuration est mis à disposition des électeurs à compter de la publication de l'arrêté ministériel fixant la convocation du collège électoral et au plus tard quinze jours avant la date de début de la campagne préalable.

Article 6

La validité du formulaire est limitée à un seul scrutin et s'étend, le cas échéant, au deuxième tour.

Article 7

Le formulaire de demande de procuration est disponible à la Mairie, dans les représentations diplomatiques et consulaires de la Principauté à l'étranger, ainsi que sur les sites Internet de la Commune et du Gouvernement.

Article 8

Le formulaire de demande de procuration, accompagné des pièces nécessaires, doit parvenir au secrétariat général de la Mairie :

- a) soit en le déposant à la Mairie de Monaco ;
- b) soit en le transmettant par voie postale ;
- c) soit en le transmettant par voie électronique selon un procédé sécurisé dont les modalités d'application sont définies par arrêté ministériel ;

au plus tard le vendredi en huit précédant la date du scrutin.

Section III - Du mandant

Article 9

Le mandant ne peut désigner qu'un seul mandataire.

Article 10

Le mandant joint à son formulaire la copie de sa carte d'identité ou de son passeport monégasque en cours de validité.

Article 11

Modifié par l'ordonnance n° 8.874 du 29 octobre 2021

Le formulaire est complété et signé par le mandant. Il doit y indiquer le motif pour lequel il ne peut se rendre au bureau de vote le jour du scrutin.

Ce motif doit se référer à un de ceux énoncés à l'article 43 bis de la loi n° 839 du 23 février 1968, modifiée, susvisée, et être obligatoirement étayé par la production de l'un des documents énumérés à l'article 12.

Article 12

Remplacé par l'ordonnance n° 5.078 du 1er décembre 2014 ; par l'ordonnance n° 8.874 du 29 octobre 2021

Selon la situation de l'électeur, le document à fournir à l'appui de sa demande de procuration est le suivant :

1° une attestation sur l'honneur indiquant que l'électeur ne peut pas se rendre au bureau de vote le jour de l'élection ;

2° si l'électeur est empêché de se rendre au bureau de vote le jour du scrutin en raison de sa détention, une attestation établie par le Directeur des Services Judiciaires ou, en cas d'absence ou d'empêchement, par le Secrétaire Général de la Direction des Services Judiciaires, si la personne est détenue en Principauté de Monaco, ou par le chef d'Établissement du lieu de détention en cas d'incarcération à l'étranger ; ces attestations ne peuvent en aucun cas faire état du motif et de la durée de la détention.

Article 13

Le mandant conserve la possibilité de voter personnellement s'il se présente au bureau de vote avant que son mandataire n'ait exercé ses pouvoirs.

Article 14

Dans l'hypothèse où un membre du bureau de vote constate que le mandataire désigné par le mandant a déjà exercé ses pouvoirs et affirmé son vote par sa signature sur la copie de la liste électorale, le mandant doit restituer l'enveloppe, après en avoir vidé le contenu, à un membre du personnel de surveillance et ressortir de la salle de vote.

Section IV - Du mandataire**Article 15**

Pour pouvoir prétendre à la qualité de mandataire, l'électeur doit jouir de ses droits électoraux et être inscrit sur la liste électorale.

Article 16

Aucun mandataire ne peut disposer de plus de deux procurations.

Article 17

Dans l'hypothèse où un membre du bureau de vote constate que le mandant a voté en personne et affirmé son vote par sa signature sur la copie de la liste électorale, le mandataire doit restituer l'enveloppe, après en avoir vidé le contenu, à un membre du personnel de surveillance et ressortir de la salle de vote.

Section V - Des modalités de traitement du formulaire du vote par procuration
Intitulé remplacé par l'ordonnance n° 8.874 du 29 octobre 2021

Article 18

Le formulaire de demande de procuration est enregistré, dès réception, par le secrétariat général de la Mairie qui en accuse réception dans un délai de cinq jours ouvrés.

Les modalités d'application du présent article sont fixées par arrêté ministériel.

Article 19

Dans l'hypothèse où la demande de procuration remplit les conditions nécessaires à son établissement, le maire en informe le mandant.

Article 20

Dans l'hypothèse où la demande de procuration ne remplit pas les conditions nécessaires à l'établissement d'une procuration, le maire fait part au mandant de l'irrecevabilité de sa demande ou du complément de pièces à fournir, en motivant sa réponse.

Dans ce cas, le mandant a la possibilité de reformuler ou de compléter sa demande de procuration afin que son dossier soit recevable, sous réserve du respect du délai fixé à l'article 8.

Section VI - De la procuration

Article 21

La procuration est établie par le Secrétariat Général de la Mairie et signée par le Maire.

Article 22

La procuration est délivrée sans frais.

Article 23

La procuration reprend les noms, prénoms, date de naissance et domicile du mandant et du mandataire.

Article 24

La procuration est envoyée au mandataire au plus tard le mardi précédant le dimanche des élections ou du premier tour du scrutin.

Aucune demande de procuration ne peut être sollicitée durant la semaine séparant les élections à deux tours.

Article 25

La procuration est établie pour la durée du scrutin.

Article 26

Les documents constitutifs du dossier et une copie de chaque procuration sont conservés en Mairie pendant quatre mois après expiration des délais prescrits pour l'exercice des recours contre l'élection.

Article 27

La lettre «P» est portée sur la copie de la liste électorale, mentionnée aux articles 42 et 44 de la loi n° 839 du 23 février 1968, modifiée, susvisée, en face du nom du mandant.

Section VII – Du vote par procuration**Article 28**

À son entrée dans la salle de vote, le mandataire doit présenter la procuration dont il est porteur, accompagnée de sa carte d'identité ou de son passeport en cours de validité, à un membre du personnel de surveillance chargé de procéder à leur examen.

Article 29

Le mandataire exprime le vote du mandant dans les conditions fixées par l'article 44 bis de la loi n° 839 du 23 février 1968, modifiée, susvisée.

Article 30

Le mandataire doit suivre les démarches prescrites aux deux articles précédents s'il est détenteur d'une deuxième procuration.

MONTENEGRO

a) Constitution

Article 45

Electoral right

The right to elect and stand for elections shall be granted to every citizen of Montenegro of 18 years of age and above with at least a two-year residence in Montenegro.

The electoral right shall be exercised in elections.

The electoral right shall be general and equal.

Elections shall be free and direct, by secret ballot.

b) Law on the Election of Counsellors and Members of Parliament

BASIC PROVISIONS

Article 1

This Law regulates: the manner and procedure of electing councillors in municipal assemblies, borough councils, Administrative Capital assembly and Historic Royal Capital assembly (hereinafter referred to as the municipality), and of members of the Parliament of Montenegro; organisation, composition and powers of election management bodies; ascertaining of voting results and allocating of seats; protection of voting right and other matters of significance for election organisation and administration.

Article 2

Montenegrin nationals who are included on the electoral register in accordance with the law governing the electoral register (hereinafter referred to as the voter) shall vote for councillors and members of parliament and stand as candidates in elections of councillors and MPs, on the basis of universal and equal voting right, at free and direct elections, by secret ballot, in accordance with this Law.

No one may, on whatever grounds, take voters to account for voting, or ask them to say who they have voted for or why they have not voted.

After the voting is completed, public opinion polling concerning the voting may be carried out among voters who agree to take part.

Public opinion polling may not be done at polling stations nor at a distance of up to 100 meters from the polling station.

II - VOTING RIGHT

Article 10

Voting right, within the meaning of this Law, shall include the rights of voters: to vote for and stand as a candidate in election; to nominate and be nominated; to make decisions on the nominated candidates and candidate lists; to ask candidates questions publicly; to be informed in a timely, truthful, complete and objective manner about the programmes and activities of candidate list submitting entities, as well as to exercise other rights provided by this Law.

Article 11

A voter who has turned 18 years of age, has legal capacity and permanent residence in Montenegro for no less than two years prior to the election day, shall be entitled to vote for and stand as a candidate in election of members of parliament.

A voter who has turned 18 years of age, has legal capacity and permanent residence in Montenegro for no less than two years and permanent residence in a municipality, or a borough which is an electoral district for no less than six months prior to the election day shall have the right to vote for and stand as a candidate in election of councillors.

Article 88

Voters residing abroad shall vote at a polling station in the area of their last residence in the territory of Montenegro, before going abroad.

c) The Law on Election of the President of Montenegro

Article 9

Provisions of the Law on the Election of Councillors and Deputies relating to: the right to vote; the determination and publication of the list of candidates; presentation of candidates; the manner of organising the election; the form and content of the ballot paper; voting at and outside the polling station; and the protection of the right to vote shall apply mutatis mutandis to the election of the President, unless otherwise provided by this Act.

d) Law on the Electoral Roll

Article 9

Citizens of Montenegro who have the right to vote shall be registered in the voters' list, and after the decision on calling elections, persons who acquire the right to vote no later than on the day of the election (hereinafter: voter), according to their place of residence.

A voter who resides abroad shall be registered in the voters' register according to their last place of residence before going abroad.

A voter who, in the capacity of a member of the Armed Forces of Montenegro, civil protection, police and employees of state administration bodies, is in international forces, i.e. peacekeeping missions and other activities abroad, military exercise, in custody or serving a prison sentence shall be entered in the voters' register according to their last place of residence.

MOROCCO / MAROC**a) Constitution****Article 17**

Les Marocains résidant à l'étranger jouissent des droits de pleine citoyenneté, y compris le droit d'être électeurs et éligibles. Ils peuvent se porter candidats aux élections au niveau des listes et des circonscriptions électorales locales, régionales et nationales. La loi fixe les critères spécifiques d'éligibilité et d'incompatibilité. Elle détermine, de même, les conditions et les modalités de l'exercice effectif du droit de vote et de candidature à partir des pays de résidence.

b) Loi organique n° 27-11 relative à la Chambre des représentants**Article 72**

Les électrices et électeurs inscrits sur les listes électorales générales résidant hors du territoire du Royaume peuvent voter par procuration.

A cet effet, tout électeur intéressé doit renseigner un formulaire spécial mis à sa disposition au siège de l'ambassade ou du consulat dans le ressort duquel se trouve sa résidence, le signer et faire légaliser, sur place, sa signature après y avoir porté les données relatives à son prénom et son nom, le numéro de sa carte nationale d'identité ou le numéro de son passeport, la commune ou l'arrondissement sur le territoire national sur la liste électorale duquel il est inscrit, l'adresse fournie pour l'inscription sur ladite liste ainsi que les prénom et nom de la personne mandatée, le numéro de sa carte nationale d'identité et son adresse.

L'intéressé transmet en personne ou remet la procuration au mandataire.

Le mandataire vote au nom de l'intéressé selon les modalités prévues par la présente loi organique.

Aucune personne ne peut être mandatée par plus d'un électeur résidant hors du territoire du Royaume.

NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS**a) Constitution****Article 4**

Every Dutch national shall have an equal right to elect the members of the general representative bodies and to stand for election as a member of those bodies, subject to the limitations and exceptions prescribed by Act of Parliament.

Article 55

1. The members of the Senate are elected by the members of the provincial councils and the members of the electoral colleges referred to in the second paragraph and Article 132a, paragraph 3. The election shall be held, except in the event of the dissolution of the Senate, within three months after the election of the members of the provincial councils.

2. For the benefit of Dutch nationals who are not residents and who meet the requirements applicable to the election of the House of Representatives of the States General, elections shall be held for an electoral college for the Senate. The members of this electoral college shall be directly elected by these Dutch nationals. The same requirements apply to membership. Article 129, paragraphs 2 through 6, applies mutatis mutandis.

b) Electoral Act**CHAPTER D. Registration of the franchise****Section D 1**

1. The municipal executive shall register the franchise of the residents of the municipality.

Section D 2

The Mayor and Aldermen of The Hague are responsible for maintaining a registry of persons whose actual place of residence is outside the Netherlands, who are eligible to vote pursuant to Article B 1, and who have not been excluded from voting pursuant to Article B 5.

Section D 3

1. For every election to the House of Representatives, the municipal executive of The Hague shall register the franchise of persons as referred to in section B 1, subsection 1 who, on nomination day, have their actual place of residence outside the Netherlands, if they have submitted a written request to this effect.

2. The request shall be lodged with the municipal executive of The Hague or with the head of the consular mission within whose area the applicant's place of residence falls. The head of the consular mission shall forward the request as quickly as possible to the municipal executive of The Hague.

Section D 3a

1. For every election to the House of Representatives, Our Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations shall register the franchise of persons as referred to in section B 1, subsection 2 if they have submitted a written request to this effect.

2. A person as referred to in section B 1, subsection 2 (a) shall submit the request to the representative of the Netherlands in the country where he has his actual place of residence on nomination day.

3. A person as referred to in section B 1, subsection 2 (b), whose actual place of residence has not been in the Netherlands for at least ten years, shall submit the request to such of Our Ministers as is responsible for the work of the relevant official. Our Minister shall forward the request as quickly as possible to the representative of the Netherlands in the country where the official has his actual place of residence on nomination day.

Section D 3b

1. The request referred to in sections D 3 and D 3a shall be submitted no more than six months before polling day.

2. The request must have been received by the body to which it is to be submitted no later than six weeks before polling day.

3. The request shall be assessed on the basis of the presumed situation on nomination day.

4. A decision shall be taken on the request no later than the seventh day after it has been received.

5. A request may be submitted by electronic means only to the municipal executive of The Hague or to the representative of the Netherlands in Aruba, Curaçao or St Maarten.

6. When and where the request forms may be obtained, free of charge, by voters shall be regulated by order in council. A model form shall be established by ministerial order.

Section D 3c

1. The municipal executive of The Hague shall maintain a database of persons to whom a form for registration of the franchise is to be sent, without the need for a separate request, for each election to the House of Representatives. Residents of Aruba, Curaçao and St Maarten shall not be included in the database.

2. Our Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations shall maintain a database of residents of Aruba, Curaçao and St Maarten to whom a form for registration of the franchise is to be sent, without the need for a separate request, for each election to the House of Representatives.

3. Persons shall be included in this database at their own request or following a request for registration of the franchise for an election to the House of Representatives, regardless of whether such a request has been granted.

4. The data registered shall be removed from the database if:

a. the person registered so requests;

b. no request for registration was lodged in respect of the last election to the House of Representatives.

5. The data to be included in the database shall be determined by order in council.

Section D 4

The municipal executive shall immediately notify any person at his request whether he is registered as a voter. If the person making the request is not registered as a voter, he shall be notified of the reasons for this no later than on the seventh day after receipt of the request.

Section D 5

Any person may submit a written request for a review of his registration on the grounds that he has not been registered, or not registered in the correct way, as a voter.

Section D 6

A decision shall be taken on the request for review no later than the seventh day after receipt thereof. If necessary, the registers referred to in section D 3, subsection 1, and section D 3a shall be amended accordingly.

Section D 7

The applicant shall be notified of the decision forthwith

Section L 1

A voter who does not expect to be able to vote in person may vote by proxy in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

Section L 2

1. An authorisation may be granted either in response to a written application in accordance with the provisions of division 2 or by the submission of a voting pass or voter's pass in accordance with the provisions of division 3 of this chapter

Section L3

The proxy holder may cast a proxy vote only at the same time as his or her own vote for that election.

Section L4

A voter may not accept more than two appointments as a proxy per election.

Section L 7

1. The application referred to in section L 8 must be received no later than five days before polling.
2. The mayor shall publicly announce this time limit on nomination day.

Section L8

1. A voter who wishes to vote by proxy must submit a petition to the mayor of the municipality in which he is registered as a voter on the day of the nomination. A form must be used to submit the petition. To prevent abuse, the mayor may impose restrictions on the availability of the form. He shall publish any such decision in the municipal gazette.
2. In his petition, the voter shall designate a proxy. Only a person who is registered as a voter on the day of the nomination within the area covered by the election may act as a proxy.
3. The petition must be accompanied by a statement from the authorized representative indicating their willingness to act in that capacity. [...]

Section M 1

In an election to the House of Representatives, a voter who has his actual place of residence outside the Netherlands on nomination day or who will be outside the Netherlands on polling day shall, at his request, be allowed to vote by post in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

Section M 3

1. A request to vote by mail must be submitted to the mayor of The Hague.
2. The voter must include with the request a copy of a document as referred to in Section 1 of the Compulsory Identification Act.
3. A request must be received no later than the twenty-eighth day before the election.
4. The voter must include in their request the email address to which they wish to receive the ballot. If they do not provide an email address, the ballot will be sent to them by mail.
5. A voter who wishes to receive the ballot by mail must indicate this in their request.
6. A form must be used to submit a request. A model for the form shall be established by ministerial regulation.

Section M 7

1. A voter casts a vote by:
 - 1°. shading in the box located before the list to which the candidate of their choice belongs, using a color of their choice; and then
 - 2°. shading in the box located before the number of the candidate of their choice on that list, using a color of their choice.
2. The voter then folds the ballot in such a way that the candidates' names are not visible and places the ballot in the ballot envelope or another envelope.
3. The voter signs a statement on the absentee ballot or the replacement absentee ballot certifying that he or she has personally completed the ballot.
4. He attaches a copy of an identity document designated by order in council. The identity document must be valid on the day of nomination. A person as referred to in Article B 1, paragraph 2, subparagraph b, attaches a statement that he or a person related to him is in the Dutch civil service.
5. He then places the absentee ballot or replacement absentee ballot, the copy of the identification document, the statement from the Dutch public service (if applicable), and the envelope containing the ballot in the return envelope provided or another return envelope and returns it sealed.
6. A voter may send the return envelope by mail or deliver it in person to the mayor of The Hague, without prejudice to paragraph 7.
 - a. If returned by mail, the voter shall ensure that the return envelope is properly stamped.
 - b. If the return envelope is delivered in person, the person receiving the return envelope on behalf of the mayor shall record this by at least noting the date and time of receipt and affixing his or her signature to the return envelope.
7. The voter may also send the return envelope provided or another return envelope by mail or in person to the head of a diplomatic or consular mission of the Netherlands abroad. Paragraph 6 applies mutatis mutandis. The head of the diplomatic or consular mission shall ensure that the return envelope is forwarded without delay to the mayor of The Hague upon receipt. In doing so, he shall ensure that the return envelopes in his possession no later than 10:00 a.m. local time on the fifth day before the day of the vote are in the possession of the mayor of The Hague in a timely manner.

Section M 8

1. The documents referred to in section M 7, subsection 4 must be in the possession of the mayor of The Hague no later than 15.00 hours on polling day.
2. The mayor shall ensure that return envelopes which are received in time and are adequately stamped are handed over unopened to the chairpersons of the electoral committees referred to in section M 9 before 21.00 hours on polling day.

Section M 10

1. The chairperson of the electoral committee shall open the return envelope and take out the postal vote certificate and the envelope containing the ballot paper. He shall check whether the declaration that the voter has completed the ballot paper personally has been signed and whether the signature under it corresponds to the signature under the approved application. He shall then hand the postal vote certificate to the second member of the electoral committee.
2. The second member of the electoral committee shall initial the application to show that the voter has cast his vote.
3. The chairperson shall then hand the envelope containing the ballot paper unopened to the third member of the electoral committee. If the ballot paper is not in the envelope intended for that purpose, the chairperson shall hand the folded ballot paper, without examining it, to the third member of the electoral committee.
4. The third member of the electoral committee shall place the envelope containing the ballot paper in the ballot box. If the ballot paper is not in the envelope intended for that purpose, the third member of the electoral committee shall put the folded ballot paper, without examining it, in the ballot box.

Section M 11

1. If the return envelope does not contain both a valid postal vote certificate and a ballot paper or the envelope containing the ballot paper referred to in section M 6, subsection 1 (d), or if the declaration by the voter on the postal vote certificate that he has completed the ballot paper personally has not been signed, the chairperson shall put the relevant papers back into the return envelope without examining the ballot paper or opening the envelope containing the ballot paper, and shall set the envelope aside, after having sealed it.
2. If two or more ballot papers or envelopes containing ballot papers are sent in one return envelope, the chairperson shall put all the ballot papers or envelopes containing ballot papers and postal vote certificates back into the return envelope without examining the ballot papers or opening the envelopes containing ballot papers, and shall set the envelope aside, after having sealed it.

Section M 13

1. Our Minister of Foreign Affairs may, in consultation with our Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, designate a Dutch diplomatic or consular mission where an electoral committee/polling station shall be established for postal voting. Notification of such designation shall be made in the Government Gazette.

NORTH MACEDONIA / MACÉDOINE DU NORD**a) Constitution****Article 22**

Every citizen on reaching 18 years of age acquires the right to vote.

The right to vote is equal, universal and direct, and is exercised at free elections by secret ballot. Persons deprived of the right to practice their profession by a court verdict do not have the right to vote.

Article 62

The Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia is composed of 120 to 140 Representatives. The Representatives are elected at general, direct and free elections and by secret ballot. [...]

Article 80

The President of the Republic is elected in general and direct elections, by secret ballot, for a term of five years . [...]

b) Electoral Code (2021 as amended)**Article 2**

[...] 17. "Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia on temporary work or residence abroad," within the meaning of this law, are citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who have registered their last place of residence in the Republic of Macedonia and who, on the day of the elections, are temporarily staying abroad for more than three months or are on temporary work or residence abroad for more than one year, in accordance with the records of the competent authority.

Article 4

(1) The election of the President of the Republic shall take place on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia and in the diplomatic and consular representations of the Republic of Macedonia in Europe and Africa, North and South America, Australia and Asia, as a single electoral unit according to the majority model.

(2) The Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia shall elect between 120 and 123, of which 120 are elected according to the proportional model, the territory of the Republic of Macedonia being divided into six electoral districts established by this law, each electing 20 representatives, and 3 representatives are elected according to the proportional model in an electoral unit covering Europe, Africa, North and South America, Australia and Asia.

(3) The first representative of the electoral unit covering Europe, Africa, North and South America, Australia and Asia shall be elected insofar as the list of candidates for the positions of delegates obtained the highest number of votes, namely the delegate elected with the highest number of votes in the electoral units of the Republic Macedonia in the last parliamentary elections in the Republic of Macedonia.

(4) The second representative in the electoral district covering Europe, Africa, North and South America, Australia and Asia shall be elected insofar as the list of candidates for the positions of delegates obtained twice the number of votes required for the election of the delegate who obtained the highest number of votes in the electoral units of the Republic of Macedonia during the last parliamentary elections in the Republic of Macedonia.

(5) The third representative of the electoral unit covering Europe, Africa, North and South America, Australia and Asia shall be elected insofar as the list of candidates for election obtained three times the number of votes obtained by the representative elected with the lowest number of votes in the electoral districts electoral units of the Republic of Macedonia in the last parliamentary elections in the Republic of Macedonia.

(6) In the electoral district covering Europe, Africa, North and South America, Australia and Asia, if none of the lists of representatives obtained the required number of votes set out in paragraph (3) of this article, no representative shall be elected.

(7) In the electoral districts of the Republic of Macedonia, the number of voters may vary from minus 5 per cent to plus 5 per cent of the average number of voters in the electoral district.

(8) The election of council members shall be conducted at the municipal level, or in the city of Skopje, according to the proportional model.

(9) The election of the mayor shall be conducted at the municipal level, or in the city of Skopje, according to the majority model.

Article 6

(2) Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who on Election Day are temporarily employed or residing abroad and are registered in the Voter Register based on the records of the relevant authority and the application for voting, shall vote for the election of the President of the Republic and for the election of Members of Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia in the Diplomatic-Consular Offices of the Republic of Macedonia abroad, or the consular offices, pursuant to the provisions of this Code.

Article 41

[...] (5) The Electoral Register shall also include all citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are on temporary work or residence abroad and who have a place of residence in the territory of the Republic of Macedonia. These persons shall be entered according to their last place of residence in the Republic of Macedonia prior to their departure abroad

Article 42

[...] (4) The registration of citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are on temporary work or residence abroad shall also be carried out on the basis of an application submitted to the diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices.

Article 45

[...] (4) Citizens who, at the time of the elections, are on temporary work or residence abroad and have submitted an application to vote at the diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices, shall not be included in the extracts from the Electoral Register used for voting in the Republic of Macedonia.

(5) Citizens who, at the time of the elections, are on temporary work or residence abroad and have not submitted an application to vote at the diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices, shall be included in special extracts from the Electoral Register for voting in the Republic of Macedonia.

Article 46

For the purpose of conducting voting at diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices, in penitentiary institutions, institutions for out-of-family care, and at the State Election Commission, special extracts from the Electoral Register shall be prepared, as follows:

- for voting by citizens who, at the time of the elections, are on temporary work or residence abroad, on the basis of a submitted application to vote;

- for voting by citizens who, at the time of the elections, are in detention or serving a prison sentence;
- for voting by citizens who, at the time of the elections, are accommodated in institutions for out-of-family care, on the basis of a submitted application to vote;
- for voting by members of the election boards for voting at diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices.

Article 47

The special extracts from the Electoral Register referred to in Article 46 of this Code shall be prepared in two copies, as follows:

- for citizens who, at the time of the elections, are on temporary work or residence abroad, one copy shall be systematized according to the polling station and electoral district, with a note indicating the country in which the citizen is on temporary work or residence abroad and the location of the diplomatic-consular mission, i.e. consular office;
- and the second copy shall be systematized according to the country in which the citizens are on temporary work or residence abroad and the location of the diplomatic-consular mission, i.e. consular office, with a note indicating the polling station number and the electoral district.

Article 48

[...] (3) Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are on temporary work or residence abroad, if during the inspection at the diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices, it is established that they or another citizen are not entered in the Electoral Register, or if it is determined that an entry, update, or deletion of data should be carried out, shall submit the request for registration, updating, or deletion of data, together with the relevant documentation, by electronic mail through the diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices, to the State Election Commission or directly to the State Election Commission.

(4) The State Election Commission shall check the accuracy of the data and the documents submitted by the citizen within not later than three days from the day of receiving the request and if it is determined that the request is justified, it shall pass a decision for entry, addition or deletion of data in the Voter Register based on the submitted relevant documentation and pursuant to the "Rulebook on Methodology for Full Access, Amendment and Deletion of Data in the Voter Register", or it shall pass a decision to reject the request.

(5) The citizen may appeal the decision of the State Election Commission and initiate an administrative dispute before the Administrative Court within three days following the day of receipt of the decision.

(6) The Administrative Court shall decide upon the appeal referred to in paragraph (5) of this article, within 3 days from the day of receipt of the appeal. [...]

(8) Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are on temporary work or residence abroad may file an administrative lawsuit against the decision of the State Election Commission by electronic mail through the diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices, to the Administrative Court or directly to the Administrative Court.

Article 49

[...] (2) The State Election Commission, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, shall deliver to the diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices, the special extracts from the Electoral Register for persons on temporary work or residence abroad, on the basis of records from the competent authority, for public inspection.

Article 50-a

(1) The State Election Commission shall submit a notification to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on publishing a public call for announcing the elections, immediately or not later than two days after the announcement of the elections. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall publish the public call on its website within one day.

(2) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is required to submit the notification to the DCOs or the consular offices immediately, or not later than three days upon the receipt of the notification from paragraph (1) of this article, for the purpose of its publication on their website within a period not longer than three days.

(3) The notification from paragraph (1) of this article shall be published on the website of the DCO or the consular offices in Macedonian language and its Cyrillic alphabet, in the languages and alphabets of the communities listed in the Preamble of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia and in the official language of the corresponding country.

(4) The notification from paragraph (1) of this article shall contain data on the type of elections announced, a call for a public inspection of the Voter Register and submitting a voting application, the date of the commencement and termination of the voting application period, the necessary documents, as well as clarification on who is entitled to vote and where the voting will take place.

(5) The public call shall also be published on the State Election Commission website within the deadline stipulated in paragraph 1 of this article.

(6) During the public inspection, the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad shall submit the request for entry, addition or deletion of data in the separate Voter Lists to the State Election Commission through the application with their personal email.

(7) The citizens of the Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad, who registered their last residence in the Republic of Macedonia and who have submitted a voting application to the State Election Commission for the coming elections shall be registered in the separate Voter Lists.

(8) As of the day of the announcement of the elections until the end of the public inspection, the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia referred to in paragraph (7) of this article can submit an application that is either hand-signed or emailed through the application using their personal email address, by which they register for voting in the forthcoming elections.

(9) The citizens of Republic of Macedonia who are temporarily employed or residing abroad, who have submitted a voting application and are registered in the separate Voter Lists shall be entitled to vote in the presidential and parliamentary elections.

(10) The DCOs or the consular offices shall email the applications from paragraph (8) of this article to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs immediately, or not later than two days after the expiry of the public inspection period, whereas the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall submit them to the State Election Commission immediately, or not later than 24 hours of their receipt.

Article 113-a

(1) The voters who are temporarily employed or residing abroad on Election Day shall vote at the DCOs or consular offices of the Republic of Macedonia abroad, one day prior to the Election Day in the Republic of Macedonia.

(2) Out of country voting will be conducted at the following DCOs or consular offices of the Republic of Macedonia:

- Republic of Albania – Tirana;
- Republic of Austria – Vienna, which covers the Slovak Republic;
- Commonwealth of Australia – Canberra and Melbourne;
- Kingdom of Belgium – Brussels, which covers Grand Duchy of Luxembourg;
- Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo;
- Republic of Bulgaria – Sofia, which covers the Republic of Moldova;
- Canada – Ottawa and Toronto;
- People's Republic of China – Beijing, which covers the Democratic People's

- Republic of Korea and Socialist Republic of Vietnam;
- Republic of Croatia – Zagreb;
- Kingdom of Denmark – Copenhagen;
- Arab Republic of Egypt – Cairo;
- Republic of Estonia – Tallinn;
- Republic of France – Paris and Strasbourg, which covers the Portuguese Republic;
- Federal Republic of Germany – Berlin, Bonn and Munich;
- Republic of Greece – Athens and Thessaloniki;
- Republic of Hungary – Budapest;
- India – New Delhi;
- Italy – Rome and Venice, which covers Malta;
- State of Israel – Tel Aviv;
- The Holy See of Vatican;
- Kingdom of the Netherlands – The Hague;
- Republic of Poland – Warsaw;
- Romania – Bucharest;
- Russian Federation – Moscow, which covers the Republic of Belarus;
- Republic of Serbia – Belgrade;
- Republic of Slovenia – Ljubljana;
- Kingdom of Spain – Madrid;
- Kingdom of Sweden – Stockholm, which covers the Republic of Finland;
- Switzerland – Bern and Geneva, which cover the Principality of Liechtenstein;
- Republic of Turkey – Ankara and Istanbul, which cover Saudi Arabia, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Azerbaijan and Republic of Uzbekistan;
- Ukraine – Kiev;
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – London, which covers Ireland and Republic of Iceland;
- USA – Washington, Detroit, Chicago and New York;
- State of Qatar – Doha;
- Montenegro – Podgorica;
- Czech Republic – Prague;
- Republic of Kosovo – Pristina;
- Kingdom of Norway – Oslo;
- Japan – Tokyo;
- Republic of Kazakhstan – Astana, and
- United Arab Emirates – Abu Dhabi.

(3) The State Election Commission shall deliver the election material to the DCOs or consular offices through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, immediately upon its receipt.

(4) For the voters from the paragraph (1) of this article, the elections shall be conducted by the Election Boards for voting at the DCOs or consular offices.

(5) Election Boards at the DCOs or consular offices shall prepare protocols for the voting at the DCOs or consular offices.

(6) The ballots shall be placed in separate envelopes with an indication of the location of the DCOs or consular offices and electoral district and they shall be sealed.

(7) Election Boards shall deliver the protocols, sealed envelopes and other election material to the State Election Commission through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, after the voting is completed.

(8) The State Election Commission shall tabulate and establish the results from the out-of-country voting.

Article 67

[...] (11) The submission of objections and administrative lawsuits related to voting abroad shall be carried out exclusively electronically, in person, or through an authorised representative. The

time of submission of the objection shall be considered the time at which the citizen sent the electronic mail to the State Election Commission.

Article 108

(10) The determination of the identity of the voter and whether the voter has previously voted shall be carried out without technical equipment in the following cases: [...]

- for voting by citizens who, at the time of the elections, are on temporary work or residence abroad, on the basis of a submitted application for voting in accordance with Article 113-a of this Code; and
- for voting by members of the election boards for voting at diplomatic-consular missions, i.e. consular offices, in accordance with Article 113-b of this Code.

Article 147

[...] (7) The submission of objections and administrative lawsuits related to voting abroad shall not be permitted by regular post and shall be carried out by electronic mail, in person, or through an authorised representative

Article 149

[...] (2) Any voter whose personal voting right has been violated in the procedure for conducting voting abroad may submit an objection to the State Election Commission within 24 hours by electronic mail, in person, or through an authorised representative, in accordance with Article 147, paragraph (7) of this Code

Article 149-a

[...] (2) Any voter whose personal voting right abroad has been violated at any stage of the electoral process may submit an objection to the State Election Commission within 48 hours from the day of the violation, by electronic or express mail, and the time of submission of the objection shall be deemed to be the time of dispatch of the consignment

NORWAY / NORVEGE**a) Constitution****Article 49**

The people exercise the legislative power through the Storting. The Members of the Storting are elected through free and secret elections.

The inhabitants have the right to govern local affairs through local democratically elected bodies. Specific provisions regarding the local democratically elected level shall be laid down by law.

Article 50

Those entitled to vote in elections to the Storting are Norwegian citizens who have reached the age of 18 or who turn 18 in the year when the election is held.

The extent to which Norwegian citizens who on election day are resident outside the realm, but who satisfy the aforementioned conditions are entitled to vote shall be determined by law.

b) 2023 Election Act**Chapter 2. Right to vote and electoral register****Section 2-1***Right to vote at parliamentary elections*

(1) Norwegian citizens who have turned 18 years or will turn 18 years by the end of the year of the election are eligible to vote at parliamentary elections if they are or have been registered in the National Population Registry as resident in Norway.

(2) Norwegian personnel at diplomatic and consular missions abroad are eligible to vote, regardless of whether they are or have been registered in the National Population Registry as resident in Norway. The same applies to the members of the household of such personnel.

Section 2-2*Right to vote at county council and municipal council elections*

(1) Norwegian citizens who have turned 18 years or will turn 18 years by the end of the year of the election are eligible to vote at county council elections and municipal council elections if they are or have been registered in the National Population Registry as resident in Norway.

(2) Section 2-1, subsection 2 applies, correspondingly.

(3) Persons who are not Norwegian citizens are eligible to vote if they have turned 18 years or will turn 18 years by the end of the year of the election and have either

a. been registered in the National Population Registry as resident in Norway in the three years prior to Election Day, or

b. are nationals of another Nordic country and were registered in the National Population Registry as resident in Norway no later than 30 June in the year of the election.

Section 2-3*Responsibility for keeping and updating the electoral register*

(1) The Ministry shall keep and update the electoral register. The electoral register shall be updated up to and including the Saturday prior to Election Day. A joint electoral register shall be created for county council and municipal council elections.

(2) The Ministry shall ensure that all municipalities and county authorities receive an electoral register on 2 January in the year of the election.

Section 2-4*Access to the National Population Registry*

The Ministry, county authorities, and municipalities may, without prejudice to the duty of secrecy, obtain information from the National Population Registry that is necessary to conduct elections.

Section 2-5*Use of personal data for the development and testing of IT systems*

The Ministry may process collected personal data to develop and test IT systems for the electoral register if it is impossible or disproportionately difficult to achieve the purpose by using anonymous or fictitious data.

Section 2-6*The municipality in which voters shall be registered in the electoral register*

(1) Persons eligible to vote who are residents of Norway shall be registered in the electoral register in the municipality where they were registered in the National Population Registry as resident on 30 June in the year of the election.

(2) Persons eligible to vote who reside on Svalbard or Jan Mayen shall be registered in the electoral register in the municipality where they were most recently registered in the National Population Registry as resident.

(3) Persons eligible to vote who reside outside of Norway, and who have been registered in the National Population Registry as resident in Norway in the previous 10 years prior to Election Day, shall be registered in the electoral register in the municipality where they were most recently registered in the National Population Registry as resident.

(4) Persons eligible to vote who have not been registered in the National Population Registry as resident in Norway in the previous 10 years prior to Election Day, shall, if they are to vote, be registered in the electoral register in the municipality where they were most recently registered in the National Population Registry as resident.

(5) Norwegian personnel at diplomatic and consular missions abroad who have not been registered in the National Population Registry as resident in a municipality in Norway prior to being hired, shall be registered in the City of Oslo. The same applies to the members of the household of such personnel.

Section 3-2*Eligibility at local government elections*

Persons who are eligible to vote at county council and municipal council elections are eligible for election to the county council or municipal council if the following conditions are met:

a. He or she is registered in the National Population Registry on Election Day as resident in the municipality for municipal council elections or in one of the municipalities in the county for county council elections.

b. He or she is not disqualified from election pursuant to Section 3-3.

Chapter 8. Advance voting abroad**Section 8-1***When voters can vote in advance*

Voters abroad may vote in advance in the period from 1 July up to and including the penultimate Friday before Election Day.

Section 8-2*Who may receive advance votes*

- (1) Posted members of the Foreign Service at Norwegian Foreign Service missions, with the exception of honorary Foreign Service missions, are returning officers abroad. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs may appoint returning officers at honorary Norwegian Foreign Service missions. The head of mission may appoint one or more of the mission's local staff to serve as returning officers.
- (2) The Ministry appoints returning officers at other locations abroad.

Section 8-3*Where voters can vote in advance*

- (1) Voters abroad can vote in advance at Norwegian Foreign Service missions. They may only vote at honorary Norwegian Foreign Service missions if the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has appointed returning officers at such locations. The head of mission may decide that voters may cast advance votes outside the area of the mission.
- (2) The Ministry decides where voters may otherwise vote abroad.

Section 8-4*How voters can vote in advance*

- (1) Sections 6-6, subsections 1, 6-8, 6-9, 6-10, 6-11, and 6-13 apply, correspondingly.
- (2) The voter shall place the ballot paper in a ballot paper envelope and seal the envelope. The returning officer shall place the ballot paper envelope in a cover envelope, seal the cover envelope and then add the following to the cover envelope
- a. the name and address of the electoral committee;
 - b. the voter's name and national identity number
 - c. the voter's address in Norway registered in the Population Registry on 30 June in the year of the election, or possibly the most recent address if the voter has given notice that he or she has moved abroad,
 - d. the time and place the vote was cast.

Section 8-5.*Postal voting*

- (1) Voters who are staying abroad, and who do not have the opportunity to seek out a returning officer, may vote by post without a returning officer being present.
- (2) Voters are responsible for casting advance votes in sufficient time for the votes to have been received by the electoral committee by 5 p.m. the day after Election Day.

Section 10-8*Completion of the first count*

- (1) The first count of ballot papers shall occur manually.
- (2) Advance ballots cast in the voter's own municipality shall be counted for each individual polling station. This only applies if a minimum of 60 advance votes have been received at the polling station.
- (3) At the election proceedings, ballot papers placed in a ballot box without the use of a ballot paper envelope shall be counted at the polling station if the part of the electoral register to which the count applies, contains at least 100 names. There shall be no separate counting of ballot papers cast at extra polling stations. These are to be counted together with the ballot papers cast at the ordinary polling station in the polling district.
- (4) The first count of advance voting ballot papers shall commence no later than four hours before the final polling station in the municipality has closed. The count may only commence at the

earliest on the day before Election Day and only if at least 60 advance voting ballot papers have been received. If a minimum of 60 advance voting ballot papers have not been received, the count shall commence as soon as all of the advance voting ballot papers have been approved.

(5) Before the first count commences, 30 advance voting ballot papers shall be set aside and mixed together with advance voting ballot papers that arrive after the count has commenced.

(6) The first count of ballot papers cast at the election proceedings shall commence as soon as possible after voting at the election proceedings has concluded.

(7) The result of the first count shall be announced.

Section 18-4

First count of ballot papers that have been cast in advance

(1) If the election proceedings are postponed or delayed, the counting of ballot papers that have been cast in advance may, at the earliest, commence on the day before the extended or postponed elections proceedings are concluded.

(2) If the count has commenced, it shall be stopped. The count may continue the day before the election proceedings are concluded.

c) 2024 Election regulation

Chapter 5. Information to voters on the right to vote

Section 5-1

Information to voters on the right to vote

(1) The Ministry shall inform voters of the municipality in which they can cast their vote on election day, cf. section 2-10 of the Election Act, and that they shall show identification, cf. section 6-11 of the Election Act.

(2) The information shall be provided electronically. The information shall be sent to the voter's digital mailbox if he or she has set up such a mailbox.

(3) The information shall nevertheless be sent by ordinary post if the person entitled to vote

a. is listed as reserved in the Contact and Reservation Register; or

b. has not updated the information in the Contact and Reservation Register, or confirmed that the information is correct, in the last 18 months.

(4) The information shall be sent to voters based on the municipality in which they were registered in the electoral register on 8 July.

(5) The information shall be received by persons entitled to vote before the ordinary advance voting commences on 10 August.

Chapter 6. Joint provisions for voting in Norway

Section 6-1

Announcement of changes to when and where voters can cast their vote

If the electoral committee makes changes to when and where voters can cast their vote, the electoral committee shall inform the Directorate of Elections of the changes as soon as possible. The electoral committee shall also announce changes to when and where voters can cast their vote in a suitable manner.

PERU / PEROU**a) Constitution****Article 187**

In multi-member elections, there shall be proportional representation, in accordance with the system established by law. The law contains special provisions to facilitate voting by Peruvians residing abroad.

b) Organic Law No. 26859 On Elections**Article 21**

Members of the Congress of the Republic are elected by direct, secret and compulsory suffrage. It comprises the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

The Senate consists of a minimum of sixty senators, elected for a term of five years, in accordance with the following:

a. The election of senators by multi-member constituencies is conducted using the first-past-the-post system, for which the territory of the Republic is divided into twenty-seven electoral constituencies: one for each department of the national territory, plus one for the Provinces of Lima, one for the Constitutional Province of Callao and one for Peruvians residing abroad. One seat is allocated to each electoral constituency, with the exception of Metropolitan Lima, to which four seats are allocated using the proportional representation system. For the election of senators by multi-member electoral district, the optional preferential vote applies.

b. The remaining members of the Senate are elected by a single national electoral district using the proportional representation system. The optional double preferential vote applies.

The Chamber of Deputies consists of a minimum of one hundred and thirty deputies, elected for a term of five years, in accordance with the following:

a. Deputies are elected by multi-member constituencies using the proportional representation system, for which the territory of the Republic is divided into twenty-seven electoral constituencies: one for each department, plus one for the Provinces of Lima, one for the Constitutional Province of Callao and one for Peruvians residing abroad. The National Elections Board (JNE) allocates one seat to each electoral constituency and distributes the remaining seats in proportion to the number of voters, with the exception of the constituency for Peruvians residing abroad, to which only two seats are allocated.

b. The optional double preferential vote applies, except in electoral districts where fewer than two deputies are elected, in which case there is a single optional preferential vote. In accordance with the provisions of Article 90 of the Political Constitution of Peru, for each election, the National Electoral Board (JNE), prior to calling the electoral process, sets the total number of representatives to the Congress of the Republic at a rate of one deputy for every one hundred and sixty thousand voters and twice that number of voters for each senator

TITLE X VOTING BY CITIZENS RESIDING ABROAD**Title X****Voting Rights of Citizens Residing Abroad****Chapter 1****General Provisions****Article 224**

Peruvian citizens residing abroad are entitled to vote in general elections and referendums. They are required to register with the National Registry of Identification and Civil Status

Article 225

Peruvian citizens residing abroad shall cast their votes on the same date set for the elections within the territory of the Republic.

Reference: LOE: Art. 16

Article 226

Voting shall take place at the premises of the Peruvian Consular Office in the relevant country or at a location designated by the consular official in the event that the premises are insufficient.

Polling stations shall be established for every group of at least 350 (three hundred and fifty) citizens eligible to vote and no more than 500 (five hundred). Where the number of citizens eligible to vote is less than the established minimum, the polling station shall be established with that number of eligible citizens.

The number of citizens per polling station shall be determined by the National Office of Electoral Processes (ONPE). 184

Article 227

In countries where there is a large number of Peruvian citizens, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall take official steps to obtain authorisation permitting the exercise of the right to vote at the premises mentioned in the preceding article.

Chapter 2**The Register of Voters Residing Abroad****Article 228**

The Register of Peruvian voters residing abroad is drawn up by the National Registry of Identification and Civil Status in accordance with the criteria and timeframes set out in this Act. The National Office of Electoral Processes shall act in accordance with Article 202 of this Act and, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, shall be responsible for forwarding the lists of voters to the consular offices. 185

Cross-reference: LOE: Art. 202

Article 229

Each electoral roll must include, in addition to the voters' personal details, the name of the country and the locality in which those voters reside.

Correspondence: LOE: Art. 203

Article 230

Each Consular Office may combine polling stations within its respective polling venue.

Chapter 3**Polling Station Staff****Article 231**

In countries where there are fewer than two hundred (200) registered Peruvian citizens, the consular officer, assisted by a Secretary or Assistant if necessary, receives the votes of the electors, from among whom he designates two (2) to form the polling station staff for the purposes of setting up the polling station, conducting the vote and counting the votes.

Correspondence: LOE: Art. 55

CHAPTER 2

Register of Voters Residing Abroad

Article 228

The register of Peruvian voters residing abroad shall be prepared by the National Registry of Identification and Civil Status. On the basis of the Register received and approved by the National Elections Board, the National Office of Electoral Processes shall proceed in accordance with Article 202 of this Organic Law on Elections and, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, shall be responsible for sending the Voter Lists to the Consular Offices.

Article 229

Each list of voters must include, in addition to their details, the name of the country and the locality where said voters reside.

Article 230

Each Consular Office may establish mergers of polling stations in their respective polling places.

Chapter 3

Polling Station Staff

Article 231

In countries where there are fewer than two hundred (200) registered Peruvian citizens registered, the consular official, assisted by a secretary or assistant, if necessary, shall receive the votes of the voters, from among whom he shall designate two (2) to constitute the polling station staff for the purposes of setting up the polling station, voting and counting the votes.

Article 232

If the consular officer is not a Peruvian national, he or she shall appoint three (3) citizens from the electoral roll to form the polling station staff, chaired by the person with the highest level of education and, in the event of a tie, by the oldest person, as decided by the consular officer.

Article 233

In countries where there is more than one polling station, the draw for the selection of full and alternate members shall be conducted at the National Office of Electoral Processes, from among the voters with the highest level of education on the list corresponding to the polling station.
Correspondence: LOONPE: Art. 27, sub-clause I)

Article 234

In cases where the National Office of Electoral Processes is unable to form the Polling Stations, the consular officer shall appoint the Polling Station staff from among the voters with the highest level of education included on the list corresponding to each Polling Station.

Article 235.—The disqualifications, time limits and other considerations are those described in Articles 57, 58, 59, 60 and 61 of this Act.

The National Electoral Processes Office, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is responsible for providing the various Consulates with the list of regular and alternate members selected in the draw for polling station members.

This list must be published both at the National Electoral Processes Office and at the various Consulates.

Challenges to Polling Station Members

Article 236

Once the list referred to in the preceding article has been published, any registered citizen whose rights are in force with the National Registry of Identification and Civil Status, or authorised representatives, may lodge any challenges they deem appropriate within three (3) calendar days from the date of publication.

Any objection not supported by documentary evidence shall be rejected outright by the relevant consular office. Substantiated objections shall be resolved by that authority within one day of receipt, with a copy sent to the National Electoral Tribunal and the National Electoral Processes Office. The decision is final.

If the objections raised against the three (3) principal members or one or more alternate members are found to be well-founded, a new draw shall be held.

Article 237

Immediately following the resolution of the objections, the National Office of Electoral Processes sends the Credentials to the relevant Consulates, which shall summon the selected citizens within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the respective Credentials.

Dispatch of electoral materials

Article 238

Together with the lists of voters and polling station staff, the National Electoral Processes Office shall send the forms for the establishment of the polling station, the voting and the counting of votes, the ballot papers, the posters listing the registered candidates and other electoral materials and, in general, all documents, items and supplies that cannot be procured abroad.

Correspondence: LOONPE: Art. 27, sub-clause c).

Chapter 4 On Voting

Article 239

All procedures relating to the setting up of the polling station, voting and the counting of votes shall take place on the same day. The polling station must be set up before 07:00 in the morning and voting must continue until 17:00.¹⁸⁶

Alternatively, in the case of Peruvian citizens residing abroad, postal voting or voting by post is provided for, which consists of the citizen casting their vote on a ballot paper which they have previously requested and, after exercising their right, returning by post to the Consulate with which they are registered, within the time limits set out in the relevant Regulations. Postal voting is only applicable in referendums or general elections.

Failure to vote

Article 240

Peruvian citizens residing abroad who do not cast their vote are considered to have failed to vote and must pay the statutory fine.

Reference: Law 27369: Art. 25; Law 28859.

VOTING BY PERUVIANS RESIDING ABROAD In accordance with Article 4 of Law No. 28859, Peruvians abroad shall not be fined for failing to vote, but the fine applicable to Peruvian citizens residing in Peru shall apply in the following cases: failure to attend or refusal to serve on a polling station, or refusal to perform the duties of a polling station official.

Article 241

Peruvian citizens residing abroad who, for health reasons or due to force majeure, are justifiably unable to cast their vote, must apply to the National Electoral Board, via the Consular Office, for an exemption from voting.

POLAND / POLOGNE**a) Constitution****Article 62**

If, no later than on the day of vote, he has attained 18 years of age, a Polish citizen shall have the right to participate in a referendum and the right to vote for the President of the Republic of Poland as well as representatives to the Sejm and Senate and organs of local self-government. Persons who, by a final judgment of a court, have been subjected to legal incapacitation or deprived of public or electoral rights, shall have no right to participate in a referendum nor a right to vote.

Article 96

The Sejm shall be composed of 460 Deputies.
Elections to the Sejm shall be universal, equal, direct and proportional and shall be conducted by secret ballot.

Article 97

The Senate shall be composed of 100 Senators.
Elections to the Senate shall be universal, direct and shall be conducted by secret ballot.

Article 99

Every citizen having the right to vote, who, no later than on the day of the elections, has attained the age of 21 years, shall be eligible to be elected to the Sejm.
Every citizen having the right to vote, who, no later than on the day of the elections, has attained the age of 30 years, shall be eligible to be elected to the Senate.
No person sentenced to imprisonment by a final judgment for an intentional indictable offence may be elected to the Sejm or the Senate.

Article 127

The President of the Republic shall be elected by the Nation, in universal, equal and direct elections, conducted by secret ballot.
The President of the Republic shall be elected for a 5-year term of office and may be re-elected only for one more term.
Only a Polish citizen who, no later than the day of the elections, has attained 35 years of age and has a full electoral franchise in elections to the Sejm, may be elected President of the Republic. Any such candidature shall be supported by the signatures of at least 100,000 citizens having the right to vote in elections to the Sejm.
A candidate who has received more than half of the valid votes shall be considered elected President of the Republic. If none of the candidates has received the required majority of votes, then a repeat ballot shall be held on the 14th day after the first vote.
The two candidates who have received the largest number of votes in the first ballot shall participate in a repeat ballot. If one of the two such candidates withdraws his consent to candidacy, forfeits his electoral rights or dies, he shall be replaced in the repeat ballot by the candidate who received the next highest consecutive number of votes in the first ballot. In such case, the date of the repeat ballot shall be extended by a further 14 days.
The candidate who receives the higher number of votes in the repeat ballot shall be elected President of the Republic.

The principles of and procedure for nominating candidates and conducting the elections, as well as the requirements for validity of the election of the President of the Republic, shall be specified by statute.

Article 169

[...] 2. Elections to constitutive organs shall be universal, direct, equal and shall be conducted by secret ballot. The principles and procedures for submitting candidates and for the conduct of elections, as well as the requirements for the validity of elections, shall be specified by statute.

3. The principles and procedures for the election and dismissal of executive organs of units of local government shall be specified by statute. [...]

b) Electoral Code

Chapter 2

Electoral rights

Article 10

§ 1. The right to vote (active voting rights) shall be enjoyed by:

- 1) in elections to the Sejm and Senate and in elections for the President of the Republic of Poland – a citizen who is at least 18 years of age on the day of the vote;
- 2) in elections to the European Parliament in the Republic of Poland – a Polish citizen who is at least 18 years of age on the day of the vote and a citizen of the European Union who is not a Polish citizen, who is at least 18 years of age on the day of the vote and permanently resides in the territory of the Republic of Poland;
- 3) in elections to local government bodies:
 - a) municipal councils – Polish citizens, citizens of the European Union who are not Polish citizens, and citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland who are at least 18 years of age on the day of the vote and are permanent residents of the municipality;
 - b) county council and provincial council – Polish citizens who are at least 18 years of age on the day of the vote and who are permanent residents of the county or province, respectively;
- 4) in elections for the mayor of a given municipality – a person who has the right to vote for the council of that municipality.

§ 2. The following persons shall not have the right to vote:

- 1) has been deprived of public rights by a final court ruling;
- 2) has been deprived of their electoral rights by a final decision of the State Tribunal;
- 3) incapacitated by a final court ruling.

Article 11

§ 1. The right to stand for election (passive voting rights) shall be enjoyed by:

- 1) in elections to the Sejm – Polish citizens who have the right to vote in these elections and who are at least 21 years of age on the day of the election;
- 2) in elections to the Senate – Polish citizens who have the right to vote in these elections and who are at least 30 years of age on the day of the election;
- 3) in elections to the President of the Republic of Poland – Polish citizens who are at least 35 years of age on the day of the election and who enjoy full electoral rights to the Sejm;
- 4) in elections to the European Parliament in the Republic of Poland – a person who has the right to vote in these elections, who is at least 21 years of age on the day of the vote, and who has been a permanent resident of the Republic of Poland or the territory of another Member State of the European Union for at least 5 years;

5) in elections to local government bodies – a person who has the right to vote in these elections;
6) in elections for the head of a municipality – a Polish citizen who has the right to vote in these elections, who is at least 25 years of age on the day of the vote, provided that the candidate does not have to be a permanent resident of the municipality in which they are standing for election.

§ 2. The following persons shall not be eligible for election:

1) has been convicted by a final judgment to a term of imprisonment for an intentional offence prosecuted by public indictment or an intentional fiscal offence, except that in the case of the elections referred to in 1(6), convicted by a final court judgement for an intentional offence prosecuted by public indictment or an intentional fiscal offence;

2) against whom a final court ruling has been issued confirming the loss of the right to be elected, referred to in Article 21a(2a) of the Act of 18 October 2006 on the disclosure of information about documents of state security authorities from 1944-1990 and the content of those documents (Journal of Laws of 2016, item 1721).

§ 3. A citizen of the European Union who is not a Polish citizen and a citizen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland who has been deprived of the right to stand for election in the Member State of the European Union of which he or she is a citizen or in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

§ 4. A person who has previously been elected twice as mayor in a given municipality in mayoral elections held pursuant to Article 474 § 1 shall not be eligible for election as mayor in that municipality.

Article 14

§ 1. For the purpose of conducting elections to the Sejm and Senate, elections for the President of the Republic of Poland and elections to the European Parliament in the Republic of Poland, polling stations shall be established for Polish citizens residing abroad, provided that there are at least 15 voters in the district and that it is possible to forward the results of the vote to the relevant electoral commission immediately after the vote has been completed.

§ 2. The polling districts referred to in § 1 shall be established by way of a regulation issued by the minister responsible for foreign affairs, after consultation with the State Electoral Commission, specifying their number and the seats of the district electoral commissions.

§ 3. The polling stations referred to in § 1 shall be part of the electoral district corresponding to the Śródmieście district of the capital city of Warsaw.

§ 4. The implementing provisions issued on the basis of § 2 shall serve as the basis for the minister responsible for foreign affairs to enter data on polling stations for Polish citizens residing abroad into the Central Electoral Register.

Article 16

§ 1. The mayor shall, in the form of a public notice, inform voters no later than 30 days before the election date, the information provided by the election commissioner on:

- 1) the numbers and boundaries of permanent and separate polling stations;
- 2) the designated seats of the polling station electoral commissions for the given elections;
- 3) premises of the polling stations adapted to the needs of voters with disabilities;
- 4) the possibility of postal voting and voting by proxy.

One copy of the announcement shall be forwarded immediately to the election commissioner.

§ 2. The announcement referred to in § 1 shall be published by the mayor in the Public Information Bulletin no later than 30 days before the election date.

§ 2a. If, after the publication of the announcement referred to in § 1, there is a change in the seat of the district electoral commission referred to in Article 13a § 2a, the mayor shall immediately inform the voters, in the form of an announcement, of the information referred to in § 1, taking into account the changes made, and publish it in the Public Information Bulletin. The provision of § 1, second sentence, shall apply.

§ 3. The obligation referred to in § 1 with regard to polling stations established abroad shall be incumbent on consuls. This obligation shall be fulfilled no later than 20 days before the date of the election.

§ 4. The captain of a Polish sea-going vessel shall immediately notify voters of the establishment of a polling station on board the vessel.

Chapter 4 Central Voters Register

Article 18

§ 1. The Central Voters Register shall include:

- 1) persons who have the right to vote;
- 2) persons who have reached the age of 17;
- 3) persons who do not have the right to vote for the reasons specified in Article 10 § 2;
- 4) information on permanent polling stations and electoral districts.

§ 2. The Central Voters Register confirms the right to vote.

§ 3. The Central Voters Register is used for:

- 1) drawing up electoral rolls;
- 2) drawing up lists of persons entitled to participate in referendums;
- 3) determining the number of voters;
- 4) verifying the right to vote or the right to participate in a referendum in connection with the verification of signatures submitted to the competent authority in connection with the intention to hold a referendum or the submission of a legislative initiative by citizens or a citizens' legislative initiative by residents of a municipality, district or province;
- 5) determining the number of residents for the purposes specified in Article 12 § 3, Article 182 § 1a, Article 202 § 1, Article 203 § 4, Article 260 § 3, Article 261 § 1 and 2, Article 373 § 2, Article 375 § 1, Article 378 § 3, Article 419 § 2, Article 463 § 1, Article 476 § 4 and Article 478 § 4;
- 6) performance of other tasks resulting from the provisions of the Code, the Act of 15 September 2000 on local referendums (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 741), the Act of 14 March 2003 on national referendums (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 851) and the Act of 24 June 1999 on the exercise of legislative initiative by citizens (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 2120).

§ 4. The minister responsible for computerisation shall maintain the Central Voter Register in an ICT system and ensure its maintenance and development in order to perform the tasks specified in the Code, including:

- 1) ensuring protection against unauthorised access to the Central Voters Register;
- 2) ensuring the integrity of data in the Central Voter Register;
- 3) ensures the availability of the ICT system in which the Central Voter Register is maintained for entities processing data in that register;
- 4) prevents damage to the ICT system in which the Central Voters Register is maintained;
- 5) defines the rules for the security of processed data, including personal data;
- 6) defines the rules for reporting personal data breaches;
- 7) ensures accountability for actions performed on data collected in the Central Voter Register;
- 8) ensures the accuracy of data processed in the Central Voters Register.

§ 5. The minister responsible for internal affairs shall ensure the functioning of a separate network enabling access to the Central Voters Register for the authorities referred to in § 8 points 1–4.

§ 6. The minister responsible for foreign affairs shall ensure the functioning of a separate network enabling consuls to access the Central Electoral Register.

§ 7. The minister responsible for computerisation shall perform the duties referred to in Article 15 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (OJ EU L 119 of 4 May 2016, p. 1, as amended).

§ 8. In order to perform the tasks specified in the Code, access to the Central Voters Register shall be granted to:

- 1) mayors;
- 2) the State Electoral Commission and electoral commissioners, through the National Electoral Office;
- 3) the minister responsible for computerisation;
- 4) the minister responsible for foreign affairs;
- 5) consuls.

§ 9. Verification of the right to vote of residents of a district or province, in the case of tasks performed by a district or provincial electoral commission and by district or provincial authorities, shall be carried out through the district administrator.

§ 10. Updating the data collected in the Central Voters Register by the municipality is a task entrusted to the municipality.

§ 11. Entries in the logs of (logs) of the Voter are stored for 5 years from the date of their creation.

Article 18a

§ 1. Part A of the Central Voters Register collects data on Polish citizens referred to in Art. 18 § 1 points 1–3, including:

- 1) first name(s);
- 2) surname;
- 3) PESEL identification number;
- 4) date of birth;
- 5) address of registration of permanent residence;
- 6) address of current place of residence registered in connection with the submission of an application under specified in Article 19;
- 7) address of the current place of residence in connection with the submission of an application under the procedure specified in Articles 28, 28a, 30, 34, 35 or in connection with the inclusion of a given voter in the list drawn up on the basis of Article 29;
- 8) information on the deprivation of the right to vote for the reasons specified in Article 10 § 2, the period of deprivation of the right to vote, the designation of the court or the State Tribunal, the file reference number, the date of issue and the date of entry into force of the decision on the basis of which the right to vote was deprived;
- 9) information on the electoral district to the Sejm and Senate, elections to the European Parliament in the Republic of Poland and elections to local government bodies;
- 10) information about the polling station responsible for the address referred to in point 5 or 6;
- 11) information about the polling station where the voter is to be included in the electoral roll drawn up for the elections in question, if it is a different polling station than the one indicated in point 10;
- 12) information about the voter's intention to vote in European Parliament elections held by another European Union Member State.

§ 2. The data referred to in § 1 points 1–5 shall be transferred to the Central Electoral Register from the PESEL register after the person reaches the age of 17.

§ 3. Part B of the Central Voters Register collects data on European Union citizens who are not Polish citizens and data on citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland who are entitled to exercise their voting rights in the Republic of Poland, including:

- 1) first name(s);
- 2) surname;
- 3) PESEL identification number;
- 4) date of birth;
- 5) citizenship;
- 6) passport number or other identity document number;
- 7) address of registration of permanent residence registered in connection with the submission of an application under specified in Article 19a;

8) address of current place of residence registered in connection with the submission of an application under the procedure specified in Articles 28, 28a, 34 and 35 or in connection with the inclusion of a given voter in the list drawn up on the basis of Article 29;

9) information on the deprivation of the right to vote for the reasons specified in Article 10 § 2, the period of deprivation of the right to vote, the name of the court, the file reference number, the date of issue and the date of entry into force of the decision on the basis of which the right to vote was deprived;

10) information on the electoral district and the competent electoral commission in elections to the European Parliament in the Republic of Poland and in municipal council elections;

11) information about the electoral district competent for voting in accordance with the address of permanent residence indicated in the application referred to in § 19a;

12) information about the polling station where the voter is to be included in the electoral roll drawn up for the elections in question, if it is a different polling station than the one indicated in point 11;

13) information about the voter's intention to vote in European Parliament elections held by another European Union Member State.

§ 4. The Central Voters Register, in the section concerning residents, processes data on Polish citizens under the age of 17, and European Union citizens who are not Polish citizens and citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland not included in part B of the register, to the extent covering their permanent residence address.

§ 5. The registered address referred to in § 4 is transferred to the Central Voters Register from the PESEL register.

Article 18b

§ 1. The data referred to in Article 18a § 1 point 6 and § 3 points 1–7 shall be entered into the Central Voters Register by the mayor directly in the ICT system.

§ 2. The data referred to in Article 18a § 1 point 7 and § 3 points 8 shall be entered into the Central Voters Register by the authority compiling the electoral roll or the mayor of the Śródmieście district of the capital city of Warsaw in the case referred to in Article 34, directly into the ICT system.

§ 3. The data referred to in Article 18a § 1 point 12 and § 3 point 13 shall be entered into the Central Voters Register by the minister responsible for computerisation directly in the ICT system.

Article 18c

§ 1. The data referred to in Article 18a § 1 shall be deleted immediately in the event of:

- 1) death;
- 2) loss of Polish citizenship.

§ 2. The deletion of data in the cases referred to in § 1 shall be based on information provided by the PESEL register on the registration of the event in accordance with Article 10(3) of the Act of 24 September 2010 on population registration.

§ 3. In the event of a change in the data referred to in Article 18a § 1 points 1–5 in the PESEL Register, they shall be automatically updated in the Central Voters Register.

Article 18d

§ 1. The data referred to in Article 18a § 3 shall be deleted immediately in the event of:

- 1) death;
- 2) loss of citizenship of a Member State of the European Union other than the Republic of Poland or citizenship of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- 3) submission of an application for removal from the Central Electoral Register.

§ 2. The deletion of data in the cases referred to in § 1(1) or (2) shall be based on information provided by the PESEL register on the registration of the event in accordance with Article 10(3) of the Act of 24 September 2010 on population registration.

§ 3. In the event of a change in the data referred to in Article 18a § 3 points 1-6 in the register PESEL, they are automatically updated in the Central Voter Register.

Art. 18e. Article 11 of the Act of 24 September 2010 on population registration shall apply to the verification of the accuracy of personal data contained in the Central Voter Register and to the determination of any discrepancies between such data and the actual state of affairs.

Art. 19. § 1. A person may be included in only one permanent polling station in the Central Voters Register.

§ 2. In Part A of the Central Voters Register, voters registered as permanent residents in a given municipality shall be automatically included in the permanent polling station corresponding to their permanent address.

§ 3. In Part A of the Central Voters Register, voters permanently residing in the municipality without being registered as permanent residents in that municipality shall be included in the permanent polling station appropriate for their permanent address, if they submit an application to that effect to the municipal office competent for their place of residence.

§ 4. The provision of § 3 shall apply accordingly to voters permanently residing in the municipality at an address other than their permanent residence address in that municipality.

§ 5. The application referred to in § 3 shall include: the surname, first name(s), PESEL identification number of the applicant and a statement regarding the address of permanent residence.

§ 6. In the application referred to in § 3, the voter may include their e-mail address or mobile phone number and information about their consent to the transfer of data to the register of contact details of natural persons.

§ 7. The application referred to in § 3 may be submitted in writing in the form of:

- 1) paper, bearing a handwritten signature;
- 2) electronic form, bearing a qualified electronic signature, a trusted signature or a personal signature, using an electronic service provided by the minister responsible for computerisation, after authentication of the applicant in the manner specified in Article 20a(1) of the Act of 17 February 2005 on the computerisation of the activities of entities performing public tasks (Journal of Laws of 2023, item 57).

§ 8. A voter included in a permanent polling station at their request, who is then registered for permanent residence at a different address, shall be automatically included in the permanent polling station appropriate for the address of permanent residence.

§ 9. The provisions of § 1–8 shall apply accordingly to voters who are not permanently resident anywhere but who reside permanently in the municipality, with the proviso that such voters shall provide an address at which they can be contacted by municipal officials in place of their permanent address.

Article 19a

§ 1. In Part B of the Central Voter Register, voters permanently residing in the municipality shall be included in the permanent polling station appropriate for their permanent address, if they submit an application to this effect to the municipal office appropriate for their place of residence.

§ 2. The application referred to in § 1 shall include: surname, first name(s), citizenship, passport number or other document confirming the applicant's identity, the applicant's PESEL registration number and a statement regarding the permanent address.

§ 3. In the application referred to in § 1, the voter may include their e-mail address or mobile phone number and information about their consent to the transfer of data to the register of contact details of natural persons.

§ 4. If, at the time of submitting the application referred to in § 1, the applicant does not have a PESEL identification number, in order to assign a PESEL identification number, the application shall additionally contain the data referred to in Article 8(9) and (24a) of the Act of 24 September 2010 on population registration and, if available, the data referred to in Article 8(3)-(5), (7), (8), (12) and (13) of that Act.

§ 5. The application referred to in § 1 may be submitted in writing in the form of:

- 1) paper, bearing a handwritten signature;

2) electronic form, bearing a qualified electronic signature or a trusted signature, using an electronic service provided by the minister responsible for computerisation, after the applicant has been authenticated in the manner specified in Article 20a(1) of the Act of 17 February 2005 on the computerisation of the activities of entities performing public tasks.

§ 6. A voter whose data is included in Part B of the Central Voter Register may, upon request submitted to the municipal office competent for their place of residence, be removed from the Central Voter Register.

§ 7. The application referred to in § 6 shall include: the surname, first name(s) and PESEL identification number of the applicant.

§ 8. The application referred to in § 6 may be submitted in writing in the form of:

1) paper, bearing a handwritten signature;

2) electronic, bearing a qualified electronic signature or a trusted signature, using electronic means of communication, in accordance with the rules laid down in the Act of 17 February 2005 on the computerisation of the activities of entities performing public tasks.

§ 9. In the event of discrepancies between the data in the application referred to in § 1 and the data in the PESEL register, the mayor shall clarify the discrepancies within 7 days.

§ 10. The provisions of § 1–9 shall apply accordingly to voters who are not resident anywhere but who reside permanently in the municipality, with the proviso that such voters shall provide, in place of their permanent address, an address at which they can be contacted by municipal office staff.

Article 20

The decision to include or refuse to include a person in a permanent polling station shall be issued by the mayor within 5 days of the date of submission of the application referred to in Art. 19 § 3 and

Art. 19a § 1, or within 5 days of the date of clarification of discrepancies in accordance with the procedure specified in Art. 19a § 9.

§ 2. Before issuing the decision referred to in § 1, the mayor is obliged to verify whether the person applying for inclusion in a permanent polling station meets the conditions of permanent residence at the address indicated in the application.

§ 3. A decision granting the application shall result in the voter being included in the permanent polling station. A decision to refuse inclusion in the permanent polling station, together with the reasons for the refusal, shall be delivered to the applicant without delay.

§ 4. A decision to refuse inclusion in a permanent polling station may be appealed to the local district court. The appeal shall be lodged through the mayor within 3 days of the date of delivery of the decision. The mayor shall immediately forward the complaint to the court, together with the decision and case files. The mayor may also immediately amend or revoke his decision if he considers the complaint to be entirely justified.

§ 5. The court shall examine the complaint referred to in § 4 in non-litigation proceedings within 3 days of its delivery. A copy of the court's decision shall be delivered to the person who lodged the complaint and to the mayor. The court's decision is not subject to appeal.

Article 35

§ 1. Voters residing abroad and holding valid Polish passports or, in the case of European Union citizens who are not Polish citizens, holding a valid passport or other identity document, shall be included in the electoral roll drawn up and updated by the consul with territorial jurisdiction.

§ 2. Voters shall be included in the electoral roll drawn up by the consul on the basis of a request submitted by the voter up to 5 days before the election date:

1) in writing, in paper form, bearing the voter's handwritten signature;

2) using the electronic service provided by the minister responsible for foreign affairs;

3) to the consul's e-mail address as a digital copy of the application bearing the voter's handwritten signature.

§ 2a. The application referred to in § 2 shall include the surname and first name(s), PESEL

identification number, valid Polish passport number, address of residence abroad and contact details in the form of an e-mail address or mobile phone number. In the case of European Union citizens who are not Polish citizens, the application shall include the number of another valid identity document, as well as the place and date of its issue.

§ 2b. In order to verify voter data, the consul shall have access to data contained in the PESEL register referred to in the Act of 24 September 2010 on population registration, and in the passport document register referred to in the Act of 27 January 2022 on passport documents

§ 3. The provisions of Article 32 § 1, 4, 5, 8 and 9 shall apply accordingly to voters referred to in § 1, except that the certificate shall be issued by the consul who drew up the electoral roll.

§ 4. The minister responsible for foreign affairs, in consultation with the minister responsible for computerisation, after consulting the State Electoral Commission, shall specify, by way of a regulation:

1) the template for the electoral roll referred to in § 1, and the manner of its preparation and updating,

2) the template for the certificate of voting rights, the manner of issuing, receiving and recording such certificates, taking into account the need to ensure the possibility of verifying the data contained in the electoral roll, the security of entering and processing such data, the protection of the certificate against forgery, the determination of methods for the secure collection of the certificate, and the principle that a person may only be entered in one electoral roll.

§ 5. Within the territory of the Member States of the European Union and countries which may be entered on the basis of a Polish identity card, a valid identity card of the Republic of Poland shall be considered equivalent to a valid Polish passport.

Article 38

§ 1. Voting may be done in person, subject to the provisions of Chapter 7.

§ 2. Postal voting shall also be considered personal voting.

Article 39

§ 1. Voting shall take place at the premises of the district electoral commission, hereinafter referred to as "polling station".

§ 2. Voting shall take place without interruption from 7:00a.m.to 9:00 p.m.

§ 2a. There may be only one polling station in a single room.

§ 3. (repealed)

§ 4. At the end of voting, the chairperson of the polling station committee shall order the end of voting. From that moment on, only voters who arrived at the polling station before the end of voting may vote.

§ 5. Voting in separate polling stations and in polling stations established on Polish sea vessels may commence later than the time specified in § 2, provided that this does not affect the ability of all eligible voters to cast their votes efficiently.

§ 6. Voting in polling stations established on Polish sea vessels and abroad shall take place between 7:00a.m.and 9:00 p.m. local time on each day of voting. If voting is to be completed on the day following the day of voting in the country, voting shall be conducted on the preceding day.

§ 7. The precinct electoral commission may order the early termination of voting in separate polling stations and in polling stations established on Polish sea vessels if all voters entered in the electoral roll have cast their votes. The order to terminate voting early may be issued no earlier than at 6 p.m.00 . The chairperson of the district electoral commission shall immediately notify the person in charge of the unit referred to in Article 12 § 4 and 7, the mayor and the relevant higher-level electoral commission of the decision to end voting.

Article 53a

§ 1. A voter with a significant or moderate degree of disability within the meaning of the Act of 27 August 1997 on vocational and social rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities may vote by post.

§ 1a. The following voters may also vote by post:

1) subject to mandatory quarantine, isolation or home isolation on the day of voting, as referred to in the

Act of 5 December 2008 on the prevention and control of infections and infectious diseases in humans

(Journal of Laws of 2019, items 1239 and 1495, and of 2020, items 284 and 374);

2) who is 60 years of age or older on the day of the vote at the latest.

§ 2. (repealed)

§ 3. (repealed)

§ 4. Postal voting is excluded in the case of voting in polling stations established in the units referred to in Article 12 § 4 and 7, and in polling stations established abroad and on Polish sea vessels, as well as in the case of a disabled voter and a voter who reaches the age of 60 on the day of the vote at the latest granting a proxy to vote.

Chapter 7 Voting by proxy**Article 54**

§ 1. A voter with a significant or moderate degree of disability within the meaning of the Act of 27 August 1997 on vocational and social rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities may grant a "voting proxy" on their behalf in elections, hereinafter referred to as a "power of attorney to vote".

§ 2. (repealed)

§ 3. The provision of § 1 shall also apply to voters who reach the age of 60.

§ 4. Voting by proxy is excluded in the case of voting in polling stations established in the units referred to in Article 12 § 4 and 7, as well as in polling stations established abroad and on Polish sea vessels, and in the case of a disabled voter or a voter who reaches the age of 60 on the day of the election at the latest, who has notified their intention to vote by post.

§ 5. (repealed)

Article 55

§ 1. A proxy may be a person who has the right to vote, subject to § 4.

§ 2. A proxy to vote may only be accepted from one person, subject to § 3.

Article 230

§ 1. The district electoral commission, on the basis of the protocols referred to in Article 78 § 1, determines the results of voting for individual lists of candidates and draws up two copies of the minutes of the voting results in the electoral district.

§ 2. If the competent district electoral commission does not obtain the results of the vote in polling stations abroad or on Polish sea vessels within 24 hours of the end of the vote referred to in Article 39 § 6, the vote in those polling stations shall be deemed null and void. This fact shall be recorded in the report on the results of voting in the electoral district, listing the polling stations and the possible reasons for not obtaining the results of voting from those stations.

§ 3. The report shall list the sums referred to in Article 228 § 1.

§ 4. The report shall be signed by all members of the commission present at the time of its preparation. The report shall be stamped with the commission's seal.

§ 5. Persons submitting the list may be present during the determination of the voting results and the preparation of the report, and they shall have the right to make comments on the report, specifying specific allegations.

§ 6. The chairperson of the district electoral commission shall immediately forward the data from the protocol concerning the number of valid votes and valid votes cast for each list of candidates, as well as the number of valid votes cast for individual candidates from each of these lists, to the State Electoral Commission, in the manner determined by the latter, via an electronic data transmission network.

§ 7. The chairperson of the district electoral commission shall immediately send the protocol of the voting results in the electoral district in a sealed envelope to the State Electoral Commission in the manner determined by the latter.

§ 8. The template for the report on the results of voting in the electoral district shall be specified by the State Electoral Commission.

PORTUGAL

a) Constitution

Article 49

Right to vote

1. Every citizen who has attained the age of eighteen years has the right to vote, subject to the incapacities provided for in the general law.
2. The right to vote shall be exercised personally and constitutes a civic duty.

Article 115

Referenda

[...] 12. Citizens who reside abroad and are properly registered to vote under the provisions of Article 121(2) shall be called upon to take part in referenda that address matters which specifically also concern them.

Title II – President of the Republic

Article 121

Election

1. The President of the Republic is elected by the universal, direct and secret suffrage of Portuguese citizens who are registered to vote in Portuguese territory and, in accordance with the following paragraph, of Portuguese citizens who reside abroad.
2. The law shall regulate the right to vote of Portuguese citizens who reside abroad, to which end it must pay due regard to the existence of ties that effectively link them to the Portuguese community. [...]

b) Law no. 14/79 - Electoral Law for the Assembly of the Republic

Article 12

Constituencies

- 1 - For the purpose of the election of the Members of the Assembly of the Republic, the electoral territory is divided into constituencies, each of which corresponds to an electoral college. [...]
- 4 - Electors who reside outside Portuguese territory are grouped into two constituencies, one of which covers the whole of the territory of the European countries, and the other the remaining countries and the territory of Macao, and both have their seat in Lisbon.

Article 13

Number and distribution of Members of the Assembly of the Republic

- 1 - The total number of Members of the Assembly of the Republic is two hundred and thirty.
- 2 - The total number of Members of the Assembly of the Republic for the constituencies in Portuguese territory is two hundred and twenty-six, to be distributed in proportion to the number of electors in each constituency using d'Hondt's highest-average rule, in harmony with the criterion laid down in Article 16.
- 3 - There are two Members of the Assembly of the Republic for each of the constituencies referred to in paragraph (4) of the previous Article. [...]

Article 20*Election day*

- 1 - Election day shall be the same in all constituencies and shall fall on a Sunday or national holiday.
- 2 - Abroad, in-person voting shall begin on the day before the date set for the election in the national territory and shall end on that day.
- 3 - Abroad, in-person voting on the day before the election takes place between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. local time and, on election day, from 8 a.m. until the deadline for exercising the right to vote in national territory. The polling station committee, with the collaboration of the candidates' delegates, shall be responsible for ensuring conditions of freedom of vote during the two days of voting and any interruptions, as well as the inviolability of the ballot boxes, which shall be sealed at the beginning of the electoral operations.

Article 79*Exercise of the right to vote*

- 1 - The right to vote shall be exercised directly by the citizen voter.
- 2 - Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 97, no form of representation or delegation shall be permitted in the exercise of the right to vote.
- 3 - The right to vote of voters residing in the national territory shall be exercised in person.
- 4 - Voters residing abroad shall exercise their right to vote in person or by post, depending on their choice made with the respective electoral commission abroad by the date of each election.
- 5 - Abroad, only voters registered in the electoral roll at the consular post or section to which the locality where they reside belongs shall be allowed to vote.

Article 79-B*Early voting*

- 1 - Voters may vote early if they:
 - a) Are hospitalised due to illness or are expected to be hospitalised;
 - b) Are imprisoned.
- 2 - Voters registered in the national territory may also vote early:
 - a) When travelling abroad in the exercise of public functions;
 - b) When travelling abroad in the exercise of private functions;
 - c) When travelling abroad as official representatives of a national team, organised by a sports federation with public utility status;
 - d) As students, researchers, teachers and research fellows travelling abroad to higher education institutions, research units or equivalent recognised by the competent ministry;
 - e) Patients undergoing treatment abroad;
 - f) Those who live with or accompany the voters mentioned in the previous paragraphs.
- 3 - Only early votes received at the respective polling stations and polling sections by the date and time specified in Article 41 shall be considered.
- 4 - The lists running for election may, under general terms, appoint delegates to supervise early voting operations, who shall enjoy all the immunities and rights provided for in Article 50-A.

Article 79-E*How to exercise the right to vote in advance for voters living abroad*

- 1 - Voters who meet the conditions set out in Article 79-B(2) may exercise their right to vote between the twelfth and tenth days prior to the election, at diplomatic or consular representations or at external delegations of Portuguese public institutions previously defined by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, under the terms set out in paragraphs 7 to 14 of Article 79-C.

2 - The duties provided for in paragraphs 8 to 13 of Article 79-C shall be performed by a diplomatic official appointed for that purpose, who shall be responsible for sending the electoral correspondence by the most expeditious means to the respective parish council.

3 - In the case of voters referred to in Article 79-B(2)(a), if the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recognises that it is impossible for them to travel to the locations referred to in paragraph 1, it shall appoint a diplomatic official to collect the electoral correspondence during the period referred to therein.

4 - The electoral operations provided for in the preceding paragraphs may be supervised by the lists that appoint delegates up to the sixteenth day prior to the election.

Article 79-F

Right of choice for voters residing abroad

1 - Voters residing abroad may choose between voting in person or by post at their respective electoral registration commission until the date of each election.

2 - Voters registered abroad who do not exercise their right to choose between voting in person or by post by the date of each election shall vote by post.

3 - The choice referred to in the previous paragraph may be changed at any time with the respective electoral commission abroad, except in the period between the date of scheduling and the date of each election.

Article 79-G

Postal voting by voters residing abroad

1 - Postal voting is free of charge for voters residing abroad, with the State being responsible for paying the respective postage costs.

2 - The Ministry of Internal Administration shall send ballot papers to citizens registered in the electoral rolls drawn up by the census commissions abroad who choose to vote by post.

3 - The ballots shall be sent by the fastest postal service, by registered mail, as soon as possible after the draw referred to in Article 31(1), to the addresses indicated in the electoral rolls.

4 - Each ballot paper shall be accompanied by two envelopes:

- a) One of the envelopes, which shall be green, shall be used to hold the ballot paper and shall not contain any markings;
- b) The other envelope, which is white and larger in size so as to contain the ballot paper envelope, is a prepaid envelope with the words "Assembly for the collection and counting of votes cast by voters residing abroad - European Constituency" or "Assembly for the collection and counting of votes cast by voters residing abroad - Electoral District outside Europe", with the voter's name, civil identification number, address, consulate and country pre-printed on the sender's side, and the address corresponding to the respective assembly for the collection and counting of votes cast by voters residing abroad on the recipient's side.

5 - The voter marks the list they are voting for with a cross in the respective square and folds the ballot paper in four, then places it in the green envelope, which they seal.

6 - The green envelope, properly sealed, is placed in the white envelope, together with a photocopy of the voter's citizen card or identity card, which the voter sends, also sealed, before election day.

Article 106-I

Operations of the assemblies for collecting and counting votes

1 - The assemblies for collecting and counting votes cast by voters residing abroad shall commence their work at 9 a.m. on the tenth day after the election at a location provided by the electoral administration of the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Internal Administration.

2 - The electoral administration of the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Internal Administration shall ensure that the white envelopes sent by that date are grouped by career consulates and

consular sections where the registration took place, delivering them to the chair of the respective polling station.

3 - The electoral administration of the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Internal Administration shall also arrange for the delivery to the president of the polling station of the minutes and ballot papers referred to in Article 101-A(2) of this law.

4 - The presidents of the assemblies shall deliver the groups of white envelopes to the scrutineers, who shall count the votes and initial the electoral registers in the column provided for that purpose and in the line corresponding to the voter.

5 - The presidents of the assembly tables shall then have the voters counted according to the votes recorded in the electoral registers.

6 - Once this count is complete, the presidents of the assemblies shall have the white envelopes counted, which shall be immediately destroyed.

7 - After the destruction of the white envelopes, the presidents of the polling stations shall order the green envelopes to be opened in order to check the number of ballot papers collected.

8 - The provisions of Articles 101 to 106 of this law shall then be observed, with the necessary adaptations.

Article 106-J

General count of votes in constituencies for residents abroad

1 - Each assembly for collecting and counting votes for residents abroad shall have a general count assembly consisting of:

- a) A member of the National Election Commission appointed for this purpose by the Commission no later than the eighth day after the election, who shall preside;
- b) A judge appointed by the Superior Council of Magistrates;
- c) Two jurists of recognised merit appointed by the president;
- d) Two mathematics teachers who teach in Lisbon, appointed by the member of the Government responsible for education;
- e) Two presidents of polling stations for the collection and counting of votes cast by voters residing abroad, appointed by the president;
- f) The secretary of the Lisbon Court of Appeal, who acts as secretary and has no right to vote.

2 - The general count assemblies must be constituted by the tenth day after the election day, and this must be announced by public notice from the electoral administration of the General Secretariat of the Ministry of Internal Administration. The appointments provided for in subparagraphs b) and d) of the previous paragraph must be communicated to the National Election Commission by the ninth day after the election day.

3 - Candidates and representatives of the lists may attend the proceedings of each general count assembly without the right to vote, but with the right to complain, protest or counter-protest.

4 - The general count assembly shall consolidate the results counted by the assemblies for the collection and counting of votes cast by voters residing abroad with the results counted in the in-person voting of voters residing abroad.

Article 113

Minutes of the general count

1 - Minutes shall be drawn up immediately after the general count, recording the results of the respective operations, the complaints, protests and counter-protests submitted in accordance with the provisions of Article 108(3) and the decisions taken on them.

2 - Within two days of the conclusion of the general count, the chair shall send two copies of the minutes to the National Election Commission by registered mail or by hand, against receipt.

Article 115*National election map*

Within eight days of receiving the final results from all constituencies, the National Election Commission shall draw up and publish in the Official Gazette, 1st series, an official map showing the election results, including:

- a) Number of registered voters, by constituency and total;
- b) Number of voters, by constituency and total;
- c) Number of blank votes, by constituency and total;
- d) Number of invalid votes, by constituency and total;
- e) Number, with the respective percentage, of votes attributed to each party or coalition, by constituency and total;
- f) Number of seats allocated to each party or coalition, by constituency and total;
- g) Names of elected members of parliament, by constituency and by party or coalition.

c) Decree-Law no. 319-A/76 - Electoral Law of the President of the Republic**Article 1***Active electoral capacity*

1 - Portuguese citizens registered in the national territory and Portuguese citizens residing abroad who are registered in the national electoral register are eligible to vote for the President of the Republic. [...]

Article 1-B*Citizens residing abroad*

Portuguese nationality and registration on the electoral roll abroad are sufficient proof of the existence of effective ties to the national community.

Article 12*Election day*

1 - Election day is the same throughout the national territory.
2 - Abroad, voting begins on the day before the election and ends on election day.
3 - Abroad, voting on the day before the election takes place between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. and, on election day, from 8 a.m. until the deadline for exercising the right to vote in the national territory. The polling station committee, with the collaboration of the candidate delegates, shall be responsible for ensuring the conditions for free voting during the two days of voting and any interruptions, as well as the inviolability of the ballot boxes, which shall be sealed at the beginning of the electoral operations.

Article 31-A*Polling station abroad*

Each polling station or consular post corresponds to a polling station, which shall be divided when there are more than 5,000 registered voters.

Article 33-A*Polling stations abroad*

Polling stations shall be set up:

- a) At consular posts and sections, including honorary consulates with powers to carry out voter registration operations, at the external delegations of Portuguese ministries and public institutions;
- b) If strictly necessary, in other locations where it is possible to ensure the supervision of electoral operations by delegates from at least two of the candidates for the Presidency of the Republic.

Article 70*In-person and personal voting*

- 1 - The right to vote shall be exercised in person.
- 2 - The right to vote shall be exercised directly by the citizen voter.
- 3 - No form of representation or delegation shall be permitted in the exercise of the right to vote, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 74.

Article 70-B*Early voting*

- 1 - Voters may vote early if they:
 - a) Are hospitalised or are expected to be hospitalised due to illness;
 - b) Are imprisoned.
- 2 - Voters registered in the national territory may also vote early:
 - a) When travelling abroad in the exercise of public functions;
 - b) When travelling abroad in the exercise of private functions;
 - c) When travelling abroad as official representatives of a national team, organised by a sports federation with public utility status;
 - d) As students, researchers, teachers and research fellows travelling abroad to higher education institutions, research units or equivalent recognised by the competent ministry;
 - e) Patients undergoing treatment abroad;
 - f) Those who live with or accompany the voters mentioned in the previous paragraphs. [...]

Article 70-E*Method of exercising the right to vote in advance by voters abroad*

- 1 - Voters who meet the conditions set out in Article 70-B(2) may exercise their right to vote between the twelfth and tenth days prior to the election, at diplomatic or consular representations or at external delegations of Portuguese public institutions previously defined by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, under the terms established in paragraphs 7 to 14 of Article 70-C.
- 2 - The functions provided for in paragraphs 8 to 13 of Article 70-C shall be performed by a diplomatic official appointed for that purpose, who shall be responsible for sending the electoral correspondence by the most expeditious means to the respective parish council.
- 3 - In the case of voters referred to in Article 70-B(2)(a), if the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recognises that it is impossible for them to travel to the locations referred to in paragraph 1, it shall appoint a diplomatic official to collect the electoral correspondence during the above-mentioned period.
- 4 - The electoral operations referred to in the preceding paragraphs may be supervised by the candidates who appoint delegates up to the sixteenth day prior to the election.
- 5 - In the event of a second ballot, the operations referred to in the preceding paragraphs shall take place between the twelfth and tenth days prior to the election, using, if necessary, the ballot papers from the first ballot.

Article 105*General count*

The general count of the election and the proclamation of the elected candidate or the designation of the two candidates who will compete in the second round, in accordance with Articles 10 et seq., shall be the responsibility of a general counting assembly, which shall begin its work at 9 a.m. on the eighth day after the election at the Constitutional Court.

Article 111*National election map*

Within eight days of receiving the general tally reports, the National Election Commission shall prepare and publish in the 1st series of the Official Gazette an official map with the election results, including:

- a) Number of registered voters;
- b) Number of voters;
- c) Number of blank and invalid votes;
- d) Number and percentage of votes cast for each candidate;
- e) Name of the elected candidate or names of the two candidates competing in the second round.

d) Law no. 15-A/98 of 3 April 1998, last amended by Organic Law no. 3/2017 of 18 July 2017)

Article 37:2

When a referendum addresses a matter that also specifically concerns them, citizens who reside abroad and are properly registered on the electoral roll under the provisions of Article 121(2) of the Constitution shall also be called upon to participate.

Article 128:2

When the electors referred to in subparagraphs a), b) and g) of the previous paragraph are away abroad between the twelfth day before that of the referendum and that on which the referendum is held, they may exercise the right to vote at the diplomatic or consular representations or the foreign delegations of the Portuguese ministries and public institutions defined in advance by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in accordance with Article 130-A.

ROMANIA / ROUMANIE**a) Constitution****Article 36***Right to vote*

(1) Every citizen having turned eighteen up to or on the election day shall have the right to vote. [...]

b) Law no. 208 of July 20, 2015, regarding the election of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, as well as for the organization and functioning of the Permanent Electoral Authority (Legislative Elections Law)**Article 2**

(1) Parliamentary elections in Romania are held in compliance with the universal, equal, direct, secret and freely expressed nature of the vote, under the conditions of this law.

(2) Romanian citizens have the right to vote and to be elected, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnic origin, language spoken, religion, political opinion, wealth or social origin, according to the Constitution and the legislation in force.

(3) Romanian citizens with domicile or residence abroad exercise their right to vote under the conditions of this law.

(4) Romanian citizens have the right to vote from the age of 18, if this age has been reached by election day inclusive. [...]

Article 4

For the organisation of the elections, electoral constituencies shall be set up at the level of the 41 counties, a constituency in the Municipality of Bucharest and a constituency for the Romanian citizens domiciled or residing abroad. The total number of electoral constituencies shall be 43. The name, numbering and number of mandates for each electoral constituency are listed in Appendix 1, which is a part of this law.

Article 6

(1) Voting in the country takes place on a single day, which can only be a Sunday. Abroad, voting also takes place on the Saturday immediately preceding the voting date.

(2) The election date shall be made public at least 90 days before voting day, by publishing in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part I, the Government decision regarding the election date.

(3) The electoral campaign begins 30 days before voting day and ends 24 hours before the start of voting.

Article 7

(1) For the organization of the electoral process, the Permanent Electoral Authority operates permanently, which issues rulings, decisions and instructions. During the organization of the elections, the Central Electoral Bureau, constituency electoral bureaus at county level, of the Bucharest municipality, sector electoral offices, in the case of the Bucharest municipality, and a constituency electoral bureau for Romanian citizens with domicile or residence outside the country, as well as electoral bureaus of the polling stations, are formed.

Article 13

(1) At the level of each of the 43 electoral districts, a constituency electoral bureau shall be established consisting of 3 judges, a representative of the Permanent Electoral Authority and a maximum of 12 representatives of political parties, political alliances, electoral alliances and organizations of citizens belonging to national minorities participating in the elections, according to this law, in the respective electoral district. The constituency electoral bureau for Romanian citizens with domicile or residence abroad shall be headquartered in the municipality of Bucharest.

Article 23

(1) In the states where the diplomatic missions and consular offices of Romania are located, one or more polling stations for voters voting abroad are organized, as a rule, in the headquarters of the diplomatic missions, consular offices, consular sections, if they operate in different headquarters, and cultural institutes.

(2) With the consent of the authorities in the respective country, polling stations may be organized in places other than those provided for in paragraph (1).

(3) In addition to the polling stations provided for in paragraphs (1) and (2), polling stations may be organized, with the consent of the authorities in the respective country, for the localities or groups of localities in which at least 100 voters have opted to vote, according to art. 42 paragraph (2).

(4) Within 5 days at the latest from the expiry of the term provided for in art. 42 paragraph (2), the Permanent Electoral Authority shall communicate to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the localities abroad in which polling stations must be established according to paragraph (3), as well as their number.

(5) Starting with the fifteenth day of the electoral period and no later than 20 days before the voting date, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall communicate to the Permanent Electoral Authority, in a staggered manner, the proposals of diplomatic missions and consular offices regarding the locations of polling stations abroad provided for in paragraphs (1)-(4), as soon as they are finalized.

(6) The list provided for in paragraph (5) shall be accompanied by the following documents:

- a) summary of consultations with diplomatic missions and consular offices;
- b) summary of consultations with persons representing Romanian citizens abroad and the criteria used for their selection;
- c) justification note regarding the cases in which polling stations organized in previous elections will no longer be organized, if applicable;
- d) logistical note regarding each polling station, according to the model established by the Permanent Electoral Authority;
- e) information provided by the competent foreign authorities regarding the number of Romanian citizens with domicile, residence or other forms of registration abroad, broken down by country.

(7) Within 3 days from the date of each communication provided for in paragraph (5), the Permanent Electoral Authority shall approve, by decision, the proposals of diplomatic missions and consular offices regarding the locations of polling stations abroad. Within 3 days from the date of the last communication, the Permanent Electoral Authority shall make public the final list of polling stations abroad.

(8) The coordination activities of the preparation and organization of the voting process abroad are ensured by the electoral office for the polling stations abroad, with the logistical support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article 25

(1) The electoral register is structured by counties, municipalities, cities, communes, for Romanian citizens with domicile or residence in the country, and for those with domicile or residence abroad, by states and localities.

(2) Each voter appears in the Electoral Register only once, being assigned to a single polling station.

Article 33

[...] (2) The data that are entered in the Electoral Register for each voter who has established his/her domicile abroad are the following:

- a) the surname and first name, as well as the name held before marriage or administrative change of name;
- b) date of birth;
- c) place of birth;
- d) personal identification number;
- e) home address;
- f) passport number;
- g) date of passport issuance;
- h) passport expiration date.

(3) In addition to the data mentioned in paragraph (2), for each voter who has established his/her domicile abroad and who temporarily resides in Romania, the following data shall be entered:

- a) residence address in Romania;
- b) the series and number of the provisional identity card;
- c) the date of issue of the provisional identity card;
- d) the expiration date of the provisional identity card.

(4) In addition to the data mentioned in paragraph (1), for each voter domiciled in Romania who has established his/her residence abroad, the address of residence abroad, the option for voting by correspondence and the postal code of the address of residence abroad may be entered.

(5) In addition to the data referred to in paragraph (1), for each voter domiciled abroad who has established his/her residence in another country, the address of residence abroad, the option for voting by mail and the postal code of the domicile address or the address of residence abroad may be entered.

Article 42

(1) No later than 45 days before the election date, the voter registered in the Electoral Register with his/her home address may address to the mayor of the administrative-territorial unit of residence, by mail or in person, a written, dated and signed request, including his/her surname, first name and home address, for registration with his/her home address in the Electoral Register for the respective election, accompanied by a copy of his/her identity document and a copy of his/her proof of residence.

(2) Starting with April 1 of the year in which parliamentary elections are held on time and until the expiry of no more than 15 days from the start of the electoral period, the voter who wishes to vote abroad in the parliamentary elections may register in the Electoral Register as a voter abroad, through an online form, available on the website of the Permanent Electoral Authority, in which he/she will enter his/her name, surname, personal identification number, locality and state where he/she chooses to vote, to which he/she will attach a scanned copy or photo of his/her identity document.

(3) Each voter registered in the Electoral Register with domicile or residence abroad is assigned to a single polling station.

(4) The application forms provided for in paragraphs (1) and (2) are established by decision of the Permanent Electoral Authority.

(5) Voters registered in the Electoral Register with domicile in the country and residence abroad, as well as those with domicile abroad, vote only at the polling station where they were assigned, with the exceptions provided for by this law.

Article 48

The electoral lists include citizens with the right to vote registered in the Electoral Register. They are permanent and supplementary.

Article 49

(1) The permanent electoral lists in the country are drawn up and printed by mayors, by polling station, based on the data and information contained in the Electoral Register.

(2) Romanian voters who have made requests provided for in art. 42 paragraph (2) are registered in the permanent electoral lists abroad.

(3) Permanent electoral lists from abroad are drawn up by the Permanent Electoral Authority and are sent to the constituency electoral bureau for Romanian citizens with domicile or residence abroad, no later than 10 days before the voting date.

Article 51

(1) Supplementary electoral lists shall be drawn up in the cases provided for by this law and shall include the elements provided for in art. 49 paragraph (5) or (6), as the case may be. Supplementary electoral lists shall be signed by the president of the electoral bureau of the polling station where they were drawn up. [...]

(3) The following persons shall be included in the supplementary electoral lists used in polling stations abroad by the president of the electoral bureau of the polling station:

- a) persons who vote at polling stations organized abroad and who provide proof that they have their domicile or residence abroad;
- b) staff of diplomatic missions and consular offices, consular sections and cultural institutes abroad;
- c) members of the electoral bureaus of polling stations and computer operators from abroad, if they have their domicile or residence abroad;
- d) candidates, if they are running in the external electoral district*).

Article 83

(1) Romanian citizens with domicile or residence in Romania who are in the country on voting day may exercise their right to vote at polling stations organized in Romania based on one of the following identity documents, valid on voting day: a) identity card; b) electronic identity card; c) provisional identity card; d) identity card; e) diplomatic passport; f) electronic diplomatic passport; g) service passport; h) electronic service passport ;i) military service record, in the case of students from military schools.

(2) Romanian citizens residing in Romania, but who have been registered in the Electoral Register with a residence address abroad, may exercise their right to vote at polling stations organized abroad based on one of the following identity documents, valid on voting day, accompanied by an official document issued by the foreign state regarding the establishment of residence: a) identity card; b) electronic identity card; c) provisional identity card; d) identity card; e) diplomatic passport; f) electronic diplomatic passport; g) service passport; h) electronic service passport; i) simple passport; j) simple electronic passport; k) temporary simple passport.

(3) Romanian citizens residing abroad may exercise their right to vote at polling stations organized abroad, according to this law, based on one of the following identity documents, valid on voting day: a) simple passport, mentioning the country of residence; b) temporary simple passport, mentioning the country of residence; c) simple electronic passport, mentioning the country of residence.

(4) Residence abroad means the address abroad where the natural person declares that he has a secondary residence, other than his domicile, and where he has a legal right of residence for more than 90 days. The documents attesting residence abroad are established by order of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(5) Romanian military, police and civilian personnel from the institutions of the defense, public order and national security system sent on mission in theatres of operations abroad shall exercise their right to vote at any polling station established in the country in which they carry out their mission. They shall be registered in the supplementary electoral list by the president of the electoral bureau of the polling station and shall vote on the basis of their service passport.

Article 114

[...] 5) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Electoral Authority ensure the information of Romanian citizens with domicile or residence abroad regarding registration in the Electoral Register, the conditions for voting abroad, as well as the places where voting takes place abroad.

c) Law no. 288 of November 19, 2015, on voting by correspondence, as well as amending and supplementing Law No. 208/2015

Article 1

This law regulates the exercise of the right to vote by correspondence in the elections for the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies and in the elections for the President of Romania.

Article 2

For the purposes of this law, the terms below have the following meanings:

- a) voter - the Romanian citizen with the right to vote, having his domicile or residence abroad, according to the law;
- b) exercising the right to vote by correspondence - an alternative equivalent to exercising the right to vote by attending the polling station, where postal services are used.

Article 4

(1) The voter with domicile or residence abroad, who wishes to exercise his/her right to vote by correspondence in the elections for the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies or for the President of Romania, must register as a voter by correspondence. The registration is carried out by entering in an online form, located on the website managed by the Permanent Electoral Authority, the surname, first name, personal identification number, domicile or residence address and e-mail address, as well as the option of sending the vote cast by correspondence in the country or to the diplomatic representation, to which the voter attaches the scanned copy or photograph of the identity document and the document proving the right of residence, issued by the foreign authorities.

Article 12

The National Company "Poșta Română" - SA ensures the sending of the documents provided for in art. 10 para. (1) to voters no later than 25 days before the election date.

Article 16

(1) On voting day after 9:00 p.m., the electoral office for postal voting unseals the ballot boxes one by one and unseals the inner envelopes. [...]

Article 17

Upon completion of the operations provided for in art. 16 , the electoral bureau for postal voting shall record the result of the postal voting in a report, for each type of election, completed in two original copies, which shall include.[...]

d) Law No. 370 of September 20, 2004, for the election of the President of Romania**Article 1**

- (1) This law regulates the organization and conduct of elections for the President of Romania.
- (2) The President of Romania is elected by universal, equal, direct, secret and freely expressed vote, under the terms of this law.
- (3) The candidate who obtained, in the first round of voting, the majority of votes of the voters registered in the permanent electoral lists is declared elected.
- (4) If none of the candidates has achieved the majority required by paragraph (3) , a second round of voting shall be held, in which only the first two candidates, determined in order of the number of votes obtained in the first round, shall participate. The candidate who has obtained the highest number of valid votes cast shall be declared elected.
- (5) The voter has the right to one vote, in each round of voting organized for the election of the President of Romania, according to art. 81 para. (2) and (3) of the Constitution of Romania , republished.
- (6) The voter may vote by mail or at the polling station, under the terms of the law.

Article 2

- (1) For the purposes of this law, the terms below have the following meanings: [...]
- (2) The simple passport, the simple electronic passport and the simple temporary passport may be used to exercise the right to vote only by Romanian citizens who vote abroad or by Romanian citizens residing abroad who vote in Romania.

Article 5

- (1) Election day is Sunday. Elections shall be held no later than 3 months before the month in which the term of office of the President expires. At least 75 days before voting day, the Government shall establish the date of the elections by decision.

Article 8

- (1) Starting with April 1 of the year in which elections for the President of Romania are held by the deadline and until the expiry of no more than 15 days from the start of the electoral period, the voter who wishes to vote abroad in the elections for the President of Romania may register in the Electoral Register as a voter abroad, through an online form, available on the website of the Permanent Electoral Authority, in which he/she will enter his/her name, surname, personal identification number, locality and state where he/she chooses to vote, to which he/she will attach a scanned copy or a photo of his/her identity document.
- (2) In order to vote by correspondence, the voter with domicile or residence abroad must register as a voter by correspondence, according to the law.
- (3) The voters referred to in paragraph (1) are registered in the permanent electoral lists abroad.

(4) The voters referred to in paragraph (2) are registered in the permanent electoral lists abroad for voting by correspondence.

(5) The lists provided for in paragraphs (3) and (4) shall be drawn up by the Permanent Electoral Authority in electronic format and shall be made available to the electoral bureau for polling stations abroad.

Article 9

(1) Supplementary electoral lists are drawn up during the voting period by the president of the electoral bureau of the polling station and/or by the members of the electoral bureau of the polling station designated by him, in order to record the presence of the following categories of voters:

- a) voters who show up to vote and prove that they reside within the respective polling station, but have been omitted from the permanent electoral list of the respective polling station;
- b) members of the electoral bureau of the polling station, persons responsible for maintaining order and computer operators, if they are not registered in the permanent electoral list of the respective polling station;
- c) voters who reside in another locality;
- d) voters with reduced mobility who are not registered in the permanent electoral list of the respective polling station;
- e) voters who vote abroad at a polling station other than the one where they were assigned;
- f) voters who vote abroad without having filed a request in accordance with art. 8 paragraph (1).

(2) The supplementary electoral lists include columns for the name, personal identification number, domicile, series and number of the identity document, polling station number and signature of the voter.

(3) The model of the supplementary electoral list is established by decision of the Permanent Electoral Authority.[...]

SAN MARINO / SAINT MARIN**a) Declaration of the citizens' rights and of the fundamental principles of the San Marino legal system****Article 7**

Suffrage shall be universal, secret and direct. All citizens of voting age who satisfy the conditions prescribed by law shall have the right to vote and to stand for election.

b) Electoral Law**Article 4**

(Art. 4, Electoral Law No. 6/1996, replaced by Art. 2, Qualified Law No. 1/2007)
(Polling areas)

1. Polling areas shall be established in the Townships of Città, Borgo Maggiore, Acquaviva, Chiesanuova, Domagnano, Faetano, Fiorentino, Montegiardino, Serravalle and in Dogana. The number of polling stations within each polling area,¹ as well as the establishment of a special polling station designated for homebound voters,² shall be decided by Delegated Decree, upon proposal of the Electoral Commission. Voters shall exercise their right to vote in the polling areas of their place of residence. Voters moving their residence to a different polling area shall exercise their right to vote in such area. Voters residing outside the territory of the Republic shall exercise their right to vote in one of the polling areas designated for voters residing abroad, which are established in the Townships of Città, Borgo Maggiore and Serravalle. The Electoral Commission shall decide the criteria governing the assignment of voters residing abroad to the designated polling areas.

2. No more than 700 and no less than 150 voters can be assigned to each polling area. No more than 1400 and no less than 300 voters can be assigned to each area designated for voters residing abroad. The number of voters to be assigned to each polling area can be amended by Delegated Decree, upon proposal of the Electoral Commission.

SERBIA / SERBIE**a) Constitution****Article 52***Electoral right*

Every citizen of age and working ability of the Republic of Serbia shall have the right to vote and be elected. Suffrage shall be universal and equal for all, the elections shall be free and direct and voting is carried out by secret ballot in person. Election right shall be protected by the law and in accordance with the law.

b) Law on the Unified Electoral Roll**Article 5**

[...] (2) A voter residing temporarily abroad, who directly files the request to be registered in the electoral roll with the municipal or town administration or through the diplomatic-consular mission of the Republic of Serbia abroad, shall be entered in the electoral roll by the municipal or town administration pursuant to his/her permanent place of residence in the country. [...]

Article 6

[...] (2) A voter temporarily residing abroad shall be registered in the electoral roll according to his/her last permanent place of residence prior to leaving the country, namely, the last place of residence of one of his/her parents; provided, however, that entry shall also be made of his/her temporary place of residence abroad. [...]

Article 7

(1) The following data shall be entered in the electoral roll: voter's name and surname, name of one of voter's parents, voter's unique master citizen number, date and place of voter's birth, voter's gender, voter's place of residence and address, the local self-government unit in which the voter has his/her permanent residence, foreign country in which he/she has temporary residence, place of voter's temporary residence and address abroad, and the temporary place of residence for internally displaced persons.

(2) The name and surname of a voter belonging to a national minority shall be entered in two ways: first, in the Cyrillic script and according to orthography of the Serbian language and then in the script and according to orthography of the language of the member of the national minority.

(3) The electoral roll shall include the fact that in the forthcoming elections the voter shall vote according to his/her place of residence in the country, i.e. the place of temporary residence abroad. Apart from the data that in forthcoming elections the voter shall vote according to his/her permanent residence in the country, the place and address of his/her residence in the country, as well as the local self-government unit in which he/she has the place of residence shall be entered in the electoral roll.

(4) The data referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be registered starting from the day following the day when the elections were called and finalizing no later than five days prior to the electoral roll closure.

(5) Once the elections are over, the data referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be deleted ex officio from the electoral roll within 30 days from the day elections were held.

(6) In the case where the fact that in the forthcoming elections a voter shall vote according to his/her temporary place of residence in the country/abroad is not entered into the electoral roll five days prior to the electoral roll closure, the voter may cast his/her vote only according to his/her permanent residence.

Article 16

(1) One day following the day elections are called, diplomatic-consular missions of the Republic of Serbia shall inform the voters with temporary place of residence abroad that they can, through the diplomatic-consular missions of the Republic of Serbia, and no later than five days prior to the electoral roll closure, file request for entry in the electoral roll of the fact that in the forthcoming elections he/she will vote abroad.

(2) The ministry competent for administration shall be obligated to post this fact on the website of the ministry immediately after the calling of the elections.

(3) Municipal/town administration shall decide on the request referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article according to the voter's permanent place of residence in the country.

(4) Through the diplomatic-consular mission of the Republic of Serbia the voter with a temporary place of residence abroad can file with the municipal/town administration a request to obtain information that concern him/her which has been entered in the electoral roll.

(5) The information referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article may be provided by phone, fax or e-mail.

c) Law on Election of Members of Parliament

Article 38

(1) The member and deputy member of the permanent abroad polling station committee shall be appointed by the Republic Electoral Commission upon the proposal of the ministry responsible for foreign affairs, if possible, from among voters residing abroad, and the president of the polling station committee shall be appointed from among employees of the diplomatic and consular mission of the Republic of Serbia. [...]

Article 56

[...] (2) The Republic Election Commission shall designate polling stations in penal institutions upon the proposal of the ministry responsible for justice and polling stations abroad upon the proposal of the ministry responsible for foreign affairs no later than 20 days before voting day. [...]

Article 85

A voter shall vote at the polling station where he is registered in the excerpt from the electoral roll.

Article 86

(2) An invitation for voting for voter who votes abroad shall be sent by the diplomatic or consular mission.

Article 91

Voting shall last continuously from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

If the opening of the polling station was postponed or if the voting was suspended for more than one hour, the voting shall be extended for as long as the opening of the polling station was postponed, or for as long as the suspension of voting lasted.

The polling station shall close before 8 p.m. when all voters registered in the excerpt from the electoral roll have voted, but the results of voting at that polling station may not be publicly announced or displayed at the polling station before 8 p.m.

The Republic Electoral Commission, taking into account the difference in time zones, shall determine the time of beginning and end of voting at polling stations abroad, so that it lasts 13 hours and ends no later than 8 p.m. in the Republic of Serbia.

The results of voting at polling stations abroad may not be publicly announced or displayed at the polling station before the voting in the Republic of Serbia is completed.

Article 101

The polling board shall establish the results of voting at the polling station itself.

If the voting results cannot be established at the polling station without endangering the safety and health of polling board members and safety of the election material, the Republic Electoral Commission may prescribe that the election material be moved to another place and voting results be established there.

If the election material is moved, the polling board shall be obliged to seal the ballot box opening where ballot papers are inserted, and to put the unused ballot papers and the excerpt from the electoral roll list in special envelopes that shall be sealed.

d) Law on Election of the President of the Republic**Article 8**

The provisions of the law governing the election of members of parliament shall apply mutatis mutandis to the election of the President of the Republic in matters not specifically regulated by this law.

d) Law on the referendum and the People's initiative**Article 3**

The right to vote in a referendum and the right to participate in a people's initiative shall be enjoyed by citizens who, in compliance with the election regulations, have the right to vote and permanent residence or, in case of internally displaced persons, temporary residence, in the territory on which the referendum is called, and are registered in the electoral roll.

Provisions of the law governing Single Electoral Roll shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the exercise of the rights referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, including the possibility of filing an application seeking to enter a note into the electoral roll stating that a citizen shall vote in his/her place of temporary residence abroad, or in his/her chosen place of temporary residence in the country.

SLOVAKIA / SLOVAQUIE**a) Constitution****Article 2**

(1) State power derives from citizens, who exercise it through their elected representatives or directly.

Article 30

(1) Citizens have the right to participate in the administration of public affairs directly or by the free election of their representatives. Foreign nationals with permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic have the right to vote and to be elected to municipal self-government bodies and to the bodies of self-government of higher territorial units.

(2) Elections must be held within time limits not exceeding the regular electoral term laid down by law.

(3) The right to vote shall be universal, equal and direct and shall be exercised by secret ballot. The conditions for the exercise of the right to vote shall be laid down by law.

(4) Citizens shall have access, under equal conditions, to elected and other public offices.

Article 74

(1) Members of Parliament shall be elected by universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot, in accordance with the principles of proportional representation.

(2) Any citizen who has the right to vote, has reached the age of 21, and has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic may be elected as a Member of Parliament.

(3) For elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic, the territory of the Slovak Republic shall constitute a single electoral district.

(4) Details concerning the election of Members of Parliament shall be laid down by law.

Article 93

(1) A constitutional act on entry into a state union with other states, or on withdrawal from such a union, shall be confirmed by a referendum.

(2) Other important matters of public interest may also be decided by a referendum.

(3) Fundamental rights and freedoms, taxes, levies, and the state budget may not be the subject of a referendum.

Article 94

Every citizen of the Slovak Republic who has the right to vote in elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic has the right to participate in a referendum.

Article 101

(1) The head of the Slovak Republic is the President. The President represents the Slovak Republic externally and internally and, by the President's decision-making, ensures the proper functioning of constitutional bodies. The President performs the office according to the President's conscience and convictions and is not bound by orders.

(2) The President shall be elected by citizens of the Slovak Republic in direct elections by secret ballot for a term of five years. Citizens who have the right to vote in elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic have the right to vote for the President.

(3) Candidates for President shall be nominated by at least 15 Members of the National Council of the Slovak Republic or by citizens who have the right to vote in elections to the National Council

of the Slovak Republic, on the basis of a petition signed by at least 15,000 citizens. Nominations for election shall be submitted to the Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic no later than 21 days after the election is called.

(4) The candidate who obtains an absolute majority of the valid votes of eligible voters shall be elected President. If none of the candidates obtains the required majority of voters' votes, a second round of elections shall be held within 14 days. The two candidates who obtained the highest number of valid votes shall proceed to the second round. In the second round of elections, the candidate who obtains the highest number of valid votes of participating voters shall be elected President.

(5) If one of the two candidates who obtained the highest number of valid votes in the first round ceases to be eligible for election as President before the second round of elections, or if that candidate waives the right to stand as a candidate, the candidate who obtained the next highest number of valid votes in the first round shall proceed to the second round. If there are not two candidates for the second round, the second round shall not be held, and the Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic shall call new elections within seven days so that they are held within 60 days of being called.

(6) If only one candidate seeks the office of President, the election shall be held by voting on that candidate; the candidate shall be elected President if the candidate obtains an absolute majority of the valid votes of participating voters.

b) Act 180/2014 on the Conditions for Exercising the Right to Vote and on Amendments and Supplements to Certain Acts

§ 1

Subject matter

This Act regulates the conditions for the exercise of the right to vote and the organisation of elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic, elections to the European Parliament, elections of the President of the Slovak Republic, popular voting on the recall of the President of the Slovak Republic, elections to the bodies of territorial self-government, and the manner of holding a referendum called pursuant to Articles 93 to 99 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as "elections").

§ 8

Polling districts

(5) For postal voting in elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic and in referendums by voters who do not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and by voters who have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic but are staying outside its territory at the time of the elections, the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter the "Ministry of the Interior") shall establish special polling districts (hereinafter a "special district") no later than 51 days before election day and shall designate polling stations. A special district shall be established so as to include, as a rule, 4,000 voters. Special districts shall be designated by serial numbers in a consecutive numerical sequence using Arabic numerals. A special district shall also be designated by a serial number where only one special district has been established.

§ 11a

Special list of voters

(1) For the purpose of postal voting in elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic and in a referendum by voters who do not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and by voters who have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic but are staying outside its territory at the time of the elections, the Ministry of the Interior shall

compile and maintain a special list of voters in electronic form through the information system for postal voting pursuant to § 11b.

(2) Voters shall be entered in the special list of voters on the basis of an application for postal voting after fulfilling the conditions laid down by this Act. An application for postal voting may be submitted electronically or in paper form. An application submitted in any other manner shall be disregarded. The procedure for submitting an application for postal voting is laid down by this Act in its Special Parts.

(3) Voters shall be listed in the special list of voters in alphabetical order by surname.

(4) The following information shall be recorded for each voter entered in the special list of voters:

- a) first name and surname,
- b) birth identification number,
- c) address of permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic in the case of a voter who has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic,
- d) address of the place of residence abroad,
- e) e-mail address of a voter who applied for postal voting electronically through the information system for postal voting.

(5) From the special list of voters, the Ministry of the Interior shall compile a list of voters whose return envelope was delivered to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 12 noon on the last working day before election day. The Ministry of the Interior shall hand over the list of voters referred to in the first sentence in paper form on election day to the competent polling district electoral commission established for the special district. The following information shall be recorded for each voter entered in the list of voters:

- a) first name and surname,
- b) birth identification number,
 - a. country of the place of residence abroad.

(6) In the list of voters referred to in paragraph 5, voters shall be listed in chronological order according to the order in which the return envelopes were delivered.

(7) For the purposes of drawing up the minutes of the district electoral commission on the result of postal voting pursuant to the Special Parts of this Act, the Ministry of the Interior shall, on election day, notify the district electoral commission for postal voting of the number of voters entered in the special list of voters. This number shall not include voters with permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic whose return envelope was not delivered to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 12 noon on the last working day before election day.

(8) The list of voters pursuant to § 9, § 11 and paragraph 1 is a non-public list, and the data contained therein shall not be provided to third parties unless otherwise provided by this Act.

§ 11b

Information system for postal voting

(1) The Ministry of the Interior shall establish and administer an information system for postal voting. Through the information system for postal voting, voters who do not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and voters who have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic but are staying outside its territory at the time of the elections, may apply electronically for postal voting in elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic and in a referendum.

(2) For the purpose of postal voting, the Ministry of the Interior shall process the personal data of voters to the extent specified in § 11a(4).

§ 12

General provisions

(1) Elections shall be administered by the State Commission for Elections and Control of Political Party Financing.

(2) District electoral commissions and polling district electoral commissions shall be established for elections; the establishment of other electoral commissions shall be provided for by this Act in its Special Parts.

(3) Electoral bodies for the purposes of this Act shall also include:

- a) the Ministry of the Interior,
- b) the Statistical Office,
- c) the district office,
- d) the self-governing region,
- e) the municipality.

§ 57

Method of voting

(1) A voter may vote in the territory of the Slovak Republic

- a) in the polling district in whose list of voters the voter is entered, or
- b) in any polling district on the basis of a voting card.

(2) A voter may vote outside the territory of the Slovak Republic by post.

(3) The following may vote by post:

- a) a voter who does not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic and who has been entered in the special list of voters on the basis of an application,
- b) a voter who has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, is staying outside its territory at the time of the elections, and has been entered in the special list of voters on the basis of an application.

§ 59

Application for postal voting delivered electronically

(1) A voter who does not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and a voter who has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic but is staying outside its territory at the time of the elections, may apply electronically for postal voting through the services of the information system for postal voting or through the Central Public Administration Portal.

(2) In order to submit an application for postal voting, successful verification of the voter's identity is required. The voter's identity shall be verified

- a) by successful authentication, or
- b) by providing the voter's birth identification number and identity card number, or the voter's birth identification number and the number of a travel document issued by the Slovak Republic.

(3) The Ministry of the Interior shall verify the voter's identity pursuant to paragraph 2(b) for the purpose of obtaining data within the scope of § 11a(4)(a) to (c) from the information system of the register of natural persons, the information system of identity card records, and the information system of the central register of travel documents.

(4) In the application for postal voting, the voter shall also state the address of the voter's place of residence abroad to which the voter requests that the voting materials pursuant to paragraph 7 be sent, and the voter's e-mail address. The voter shall submit the application for postal voting no later than 52 days before election day.

(5) After the application for postal voting has been submitted, a request to verify the e-mail address stated in the application for postal voting shall be sent to the voter at that e-mail address. The voter must verify the e-mail address within one hour of the request being sent.

(6) The voter shall be entered in the special list of voters if the voter submitted a complete application for postal voting within the time limit under paragraph 4 and verified the e-mail address within the time limit under paragraph 5. A notification of entry in the special list of voters and of the status of processing of the application for postal voting shall be sent to the voter at the verified e-mail address and to the voter's electronic mailbox.

(7) No later than 40 days before election day, the Ministry of the Interior shall send to the voter who applied electronically for postal voting, at the address of the voter's place of residence abroad:

- a) a voting envelope,
- b) a return envelope,
- c) instructions on the method of voting.

(8) The voter shall print out the ballot paper for postal voting published on the website of the Ministry of the Interior and shall use it for voting. If the information on candidates is stated on several pages, the voter shall print out all pages of the ballot paper for postal voting.

§ 60

Application for postal voting delivered in paper form

(1) A voter who does not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and a voter who has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic but is staying outside its territory at the time of the elections, may apply for postal voting in paper form. The application for postal voting must be delivered to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 52 days before election day. An application that does not contain the data specified in paragraph 2 or the annex specified in paragraph 3, and an application delivered after the prescribed time limit, shall be disregarded.

(2) The application for postal voting must contain:

- a) first name and surname,
- b) birth identification number,
- c) address of the place of residence abroad.

(3) The voter shall attach to the application for postal voting a photocopy of the voter's identity card or a photocopy of the part of the travel document of the Slovak Republic containing personal data within the scope of first name, surname, birth identification number and identity card number or travel document number; the voter shall anonymise other personal data by blacking them out.

(4) No later than 40 days before election day, the Ministry of the Interior shall send to a voter who applied for postal voting in paper form, at the address of the voter's place of residence abroad:

- a) a voting envelope,
- b) ballot papers for postal voting pursuant to the first sentence of § 60a(1),
- c) a return envelope,
- d) instructions on the method of voting.

(5) If a voter has incorrectly marked the ballot paper for postal voting sent to the voter, the voter may use for voting the ballot paper for postal voting published on the website of the Ministry of the Interior, which the voter shall print out. If the information on candidates is stated on several pages, the voter shall print out all pages of the ballot paper for postal voting.

§ 60a

Common provisions on postal voting

(1) Ballot papers for postal voting shall contain the data specified in § 55(3) and an indication that they are ballot papers for postal voting. The Ministry of the Interior shall publish the ballot papers for postal voting on its website no later than 50 days before election day.

(2) On one ballot paper, the voter may indicate which candidates the voter gives preference to by circling the serial number of no more than four candidates listed on that ballot paper.

(3) The voter shall place the ballot paper in the voting envelope and shall place the sealed voting envelope in the return envelope delivered to the voter by the Ministry of the Interior, which the voter shall then send. Postage shall be paid by the voter. The return envelope shall be marked with the words "VOLBA POŠTOU" and shall state the address of the seat of the Ministry of the Interior as the addressee, the voter's address as the sender, and a unique identification code.

(4) A voter whose consignment containing voting materials has been returned to the Ministry of the Interior as undelivered may, no later than ten days before election day, request that the voting

materials be resent to the address of the voter's place of residence abroad, or may cancel the voter's entry in the special list of voters.

(5) Votes on ballot papers delivered to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 12 noon on the last working day before election day shall be included in the result of postal voting. The Ministry of the Interior shall immediately notify the competent municipality of the list of voters with permanent residence in its territory, to the extent of the data specified in § 11c(3), whose return envelope was delivered to the Ministry of the Interior within the time limit specified in the first sentence; the municipality shall remove the voter from the list of voters pursuant to § 11, with a note that the voter voted by post. On election day, the Ministry of the Interior shall hand over the return envelopes to the polling district electoral commissions established for special districts.

(6) On election day, the polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall circle the serial numbers of voters and mark postal voting in the list of voters pursuant to § 11a(5). After opening the return envelopes and removing the envelopes containing ballot papers, the polling district electoral commission established for the special district shall place the envelopes in the ballot box. If a return envelope contains more than one voting envelope, all such envelopes shall be invalid.

(7) The polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall ascertain the results of postal voting on election day from 6 p.m. The provisions of § 29(2) to (4), § 61 and § 62 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the procedure for ascertaining the results of postal voting.

(8) The polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall draw up minutes on the result of postal voting in electronic form through the information system of the Statistical Office. Two counterparts of the printed minutes shall be signed by the chairperson and the other members of the polling district electoral commission established for the special district. If any member of the polling district electoral commission established for the special district has not signed the minutes, the member may state in the minutes the reasons for not signing them. Failure to sign the minutes shall not affect their validity. Immediately after signing the minutes, the polling district electoral commission established for the special district shall send the electronically prepared minutes to the district electoral commission for postal voting.

(9) In the minutes on the result of postal voting, the polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall state:

- a) the number of voters whose return envelope was delivered,
- b) the number of voting envelopes cast,
- c) the number of valid votes cast for each political party or coalition,
- d) the number of voters who exercised the right to a preferential vote for candidates of a political party or coalition,
- e) the number of valid preferential votes cast for individual candidates by political party or coalition.

(10) The polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall immediately deliver to the Ministry of the Interior one counterpart of the printed and signed minutes on the result of postal voting.

(11) The polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall terminate its activities upon instruction from the district electoral commission for postal voting.

(12) The verification of the minutes of polling district electoral commissions established for special districts by the district electoral commission for postal voting shall be governed by § 64 mutatis mutandis.

(13) In the minutes on the result of postal voting, the district electoral commission for postal voting shall state:

- a) the number of special districts and the number of polling district electoral commissions established for special districts that delivered the result of postal voting,
- b) the number of voters entered in the special list of voters,
- c) the number of voters whose return envelope was delivered,
- d) the number of voting envelopes cast,
- e) the total number of valid votes,
- f) the number of valid votes cast for each political party or coalition,

- g) the number of voters who exercised the right to a preferential vote for candidates of a political party or coalition,
- h) the number of valid preferential votes cast for individual candidates by political party or coalition.

(14) The preparation of the minutes of the district electoral commission for postal voting shall be governed by § 32(1) *mutatis mutandis*. The district electoral commission for postal voting shall immediately send the signed minutes on the result of postal voting to the State Commission electronically and shall immediately ensure that one counterpart of the minutes is delivered to the State Commission. The district electoral commission for postal voting shall terminate its activities upon instruction from the State Commission.

PART THREE

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS

§ 72

Right to Vote

1. The right to vote in elections to the European Parliament within the territory of the Slovak Republic is held by a citizen of the Slovak Republic who has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and by a citizen of another Member State of the European Union who has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as “a citizen of another Member State”).
2. A citizen of the Slovak Republic who does not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic or in the territory of another Member State of the European Union has the right to vote in elections to the European Parliament if he or she is present in the territory of the Slovak Republic on the day of the election.
 - (1) A citizen of another Member State who has been deprived of the right to vote in the Member State of the European Union of which he or she is a national shall not have the right to vote in elections to the European Parliament within the territory of the Slovak Republic.
 - (2) A person may vote in elections to the European Parliament in the same election in only one Member State of the European Union.

§ 207

Application for postal voting delivered electronically

- (1) A voter who does not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and a voter who has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic but is staying outside its territory at the time of the referendum, may apply electronically for postal voting through the information system for postal voting or through the Central Public Administration Portal.
- (2) In order to submit an application for postal voting, successful verification of the voter's identity is required. The voter's identity shall be verified
 - a) by successful authentication, or
 - b) by providing the voter's birth identification number and identity card number, or the voter's birth identification number and the number of a travel document issued by the Slovak Republic.
- (3) The Ministry of the Interior shall verify the voter's identity pursuant to paragraph 2(b) for the purpose of obtaining data within the scope of § 11a(4)(a) to (c) from the information system of the register of natural persons, the information system of identity card records, and the information system of the central register of travel documents.
- (4) In the application for postal voting, the voter shall also state the address of the voter's place of residence abroad to which the voter requests that the voting materials pursuant to paragraph 7 be sent, and the voter's e-mail address. The voter shall submit the application for postal voting no later than 52 days before referendum day.

(5) After the application for postal voting has been submitted, a request to verify the e-mail address stated in the application for postal voting shall be sent to the voter at that e-mail address. The voter must verify the e-mail address within one hour of the request being sent.

(6) The voter shall be entered in the special list of voters if the voter submitted a complete application for postal voting within the time limit under paragraph 4 and verified the e-mail address within the time limit under paragraph 5. A notification of entry in the special list of voters and of the status of processing of the application for postal voting shall be sent to the voter at the verified e-mail address and to the voter's electronic mailbox.

(7) No later than 40 days before referendum day, the Ministry of the Interior shall send to the voter who applied electronically for postal voting, at the address of the voter's place of residence abroad:

- a) a voting envelope,
- b) a return envelope,
- c) instructions on the method of voting.

(8) The voter shall print out the ballot paper for postal voting published on the website of the Ministry of the Interior and shall use it for voting.

§ 208

Application for postal voting delivered in paper form

(1) A voter who does not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and a voter who has permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic but is staying outside its territory at the time of the referendum, may apply for postal voting in paper form. The application for postal voting must be delivered to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 52 days before referendum day. An application that does not contain the data specified in paragraph 2 or the annex specified in paragraph 3, and an application delivered after the prescribed time limit, shall be disregarded.

(2) The application for postal voting must contain:

- a) first name and surname,
- b) birth identification number,
- c) address of the place of residence abroad.

(3) The voter shall attach to the application for postal voting a photocopy of the voter's identity card or a photocopy of the part of the travel document of the Slovak Republic containing personal data within the scope of first name, surname, birth identification number and identity card number or travel document number; the voter shall anonymise other personal data by blacking them out.

(4) No later than 40 days before referendum day, the Ministry of the Interior shall send to the voter who applied for postal voting in paper form, at the address of the voter's place of residence abroad:

- a) a voting envelope,
- b) a ballot paper for postal voting pursuant to the first sentence of § 208a(1),
- c) a return envelope,
- d) instructions on the method of voting.

(5) If a voter has incorrectly marked the ballot paper for postal voting sent to the voter, the voter may use for voting the printed ballot paper for postal voting published on the website of the Ministry of the Interior, which the voter shall print out.

§ 208a

Common provisions on postal voting

(1) The ballot paper for postal voting shall contain the data specified in § 204(1) and an indication that it is a ballot paper for postal voting. The Ministry of the Interior shall publish the ballot paper for postal voting on its website no later than 50 days before referendum day.

(2) The voter shall circle the answer "yes" or the answer "no" on the ballot paper.

(3) The voter shall place the ballot paper in the voting envelope and shall place the sealed voting envelope in the return envelope delivered to the voter by the Ministry of the Interior, which the

voter shall then send. Postage shall be paid by the voter. The return envelope shall be marked with the words "VOL'BA POŠTOU" and shall state the address of the seat of the Ministry of the Interior as the addressee, the voter's address as the sender, and a unique identification code.

(4) A voter whose consignment containing voting materials has been returned to the Ministry of the Interior as undelivered may, no later than ten days before referendum day, request that the voting materials be resent to the address of the voter's place of residence abroad, or may cancel the voter's entry in the special list of voters.

(5) Votes on ballot papers delivered to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 12 noon on the last working day before referendum day shall be included in the result of postal voting. The Ministry of the Interior shall immediately notify the competent municipality of the list of voters with permanent residence in its territory, to the extent of the data specified in § 11c(3), whose return envelope was delivered to the Ministry of the Interior within the time limit specified in the first sentence; the municipality shall remove the voter from the list of voters pursuant to § 11, with a note that the voter voted by post. On referendum day, the Ministry of the Interior shall hand over the return envelopes to the polling district electoral commissions established for special districts.

(6) On referendum day, the polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall circle the serial numbers of voters and mark postal voting in the list of voters pursuant to § 11a(5). After opening the return envelopes and removing the envelopes containing ballot papers, the polling district electoral commission established for the special district shall place the envelopes in the ballot box. If a return envelope contains more than one voting envelope, all such envelopes shall be invalid.

(7) The polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall ascertain the results of postal voting on referendum day from 8 p.m. The provisions of § 29(2) to (4), § 209 and § 210 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the procedure for ascertaining the results of postal voting.

(8) The polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall draw up minutes on the result of postal voting in electronic form through the information system of the Statistical Office. Two counterparts of the printed minutes shall be signed by the chairperson and the other members of the polling district electoral commission established for the special district. If any member of the polling district electoral commission established for the special district has not signed the minutes, the member may state in the minutes the reasons for not signing them. Failure to sign the minutes on the result of voting shall not affect their validity. Immediately after signing the minutes, the polling district electoral commission established for the special district shall send the electronically prepared minutes to the district electoral commission for postal voting.

(9) In the minutes on the result of postal voting, the polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall state:

- a) the number of voters whose return envelope was delivered,
- b) the number of voting envelopes cast,
- c) the number of ballot papers cast,
- d) the number of valid ballot papers cast,
- e) the number of "yes" votes and the number of "no" votes.

(10) For ascertaining turnout in the referendum, the decisive number shall be the number of voters whose return envelope was delivered to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 12 noon on the last working day before referendum day.

(11) The polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall immediately deliver to the Ministry of the Interior one counterpart of the printed and signed minutes on the result of postal voting.

(12) The polling district electoral commission established for a special district shall terminate its activities upon instruction from the district electoral commission for postal voting.

(13) The verification of the minutes of polling district electoral commissions established for special districts by the district electoral commission for postal voting shall be governed by § 212 mutatis mutandis.

(14) In the minutes on the result of postal voting, the district electoral commission for postal voting shall state:

- a) the number of special districts and the number of polling district electoral commissions established for special districts that delivered the result of postal voting,
- b) the number of voters entered in the special list of voters,
- c) the number of voters whose return envelope was delivered,
- d) the number of voting envelopes cast,
- e) the number of valid ballot papers,
- f) the number of “yes” votes and the number of “no” votes.

(15) The preparation of the minutes of the district electoral commission for postal voting shall be governed by § 32(1) *mutatis mutandis*. The district electoral commission for postal voting shall immediately send the signed minutes on the result of postal voting to the State Commission electronically and shall immediately ensure that one counterpart of the minutes is delivered to the State Commission. The district electoral commission for postal voting shall terminate its activities upon instruction from the State Commission.

SLOVENIA / SLOVENIE**a) Constitution****Article 43***Right to Vote*

The right to vote shall be universal and equal.

Every citizen who has attained the age of eighteen years has the right to vote and be elected.

The law may provide in which cases and under what conditions foreigners have the right to vote.

The law shall provide measures for encouraging the equal opportunity of men and women in standing for election to state authorities and local community authorities.

b) Voting Rights Register Act**Article 1***(content of the law)*

(1) This Act regulates the content and maintenance of the electoral register, the determination of the address for exercising the right to vote, access to the electoral register, the compilation of electoral rolls, the registration of special methods of exercising the right to vote, and the issuance of voting cards.

Article 2*(application of the Act)*

(1) The provisions of this Act shall apply to elections to the National Assembly, the President of the Republic, Members of the European Parliament from the Republic of Slovenia and voting in referendums at the national level.

(2) The provisions of this Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to local elections and voting in local referendums.

Article 15*(Determination of the address for exercising the right to vote)*

(1) The address for exercising the right to vote shall be determined on the basis of the voter's permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia, or, if a citizen of the European Union does not have permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia, on the basis of his or her temporary residence in the Republic of Slovenia.

(2) The address for the exercise of voting rights by citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who do not have permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia and citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who, in the process of determining their actual permanent residence on the basis of the law governing this process, deleted from the register of permanent residents, shall be determined ex officio by the administrative unit on the basis of his last permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia. If this is not possible because he did not have permanent residence in the territory of the Republic of Slovenia, the administrative unit shall officially determine the address for the exercise of voting rights based on the last permanent residence of the mother in the Republic of Slovenia, and if this is not possible because the mother does not have or did not have permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia, then based on the last permanent residence of the father in the Republic of Slovenia.

(3) If the administrative unit cannot determine the address for exercising voting rights ex officio, a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia may choose the address for exercising voting rights themselves on the basis of a request submitted to any administrative unit or diplomatic mission or consulate of the Republic of Slovenia abroad.

(4) The diplomatic mission or consulate of the Republic of Slovenia abroad shall forward the received request to the administrative unit in whose area the address for exercising the right to vote has been chosen.

Article 20

(Types of electoral rolls and competence for compilation)

(1) Electoral rolls shall be compiled for each election or vote on the basis of the electoral register.

(2) Electoral registers are:

1. the general electoral register;
2. special electoral roll;
3. electoral register of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who are members of the indigenous Italian and Hungarian national communities;
4. electoral register of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who are members of the Roma community.

Article 24

(Use and content of the special electoral register)

(1) A special electoral roll shall be compiled for elections or voting at polling stations at diplomatic missions or consulates of the Republic of Slovenia abroad.

(2) If the law stipulates that they have the right to vote, citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who do not have permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia shall be entered in the special electoral register.

(3) Instead of being entered in the general electoral register referred to in Article 21 of this Act, citizens of the Republic of Slovenia with permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia shall also be entered in a special electoral register if, on the basis of the Act governing elections to the National Assembly, they have notified that they will exercise their right to vote at a polling station at a diplomatic mission or consulate of the Republic of Slovenia abroad.

(4) The special electoral register shall be compiled by country abroad and shall contain the following information:

1. the name of the electoral register
2. date of compilation;
3. name of the country;
4. the serial number of the voter's entry in the electoral roll;
5. personal name of the voter;
6. the voter's date of birth and gender;
7. the voter's permanent residence;
8. the voter's citizenship;
9. address for exercising voting rights in the Republic of Slovenia;
10. space for comments;
11. space for the voter's signature;
12. conclusion with an indication of the number of voters upon confirmation of the electoral register.

(5) Special electoral registers shall also be compiled for use by district electoral commissions, namely by areas of individual electoral units, districts and polling stations, and shall contain:

1. the name of the electoral register;
2. date of compilation;
3. the electoral unit and electoral district;
4. the country;
5. the current serial number of the voter's entry in the electoral register;
6. the serial number of the voter's entry in the electoral register referred to in point 4 of the fourth paragraph of this Article;
7. the voter's personal name;
8. the voter's date of birth and gender;

9. the voter's permanent residence;
10. the voter's nationality;
11. the address for exercising the right to vote in the Republic of Slovenia;
12. space for comments;
13. space for the voter's signature;
14. conclusion with an indication of the number of voters upon confirmation of the electoral roll.

Article 26

(Deadlines for the preparation, confirmation and delivery of special electoral registers)

(1) The Ministry shall compile special electoral rolls for the conduct of elections or voting with data on voters in the electoral register 15 days before the day of voting or 12 days before the day of elections or voting, if the deadline for calling elections in the event of a repeat vote for the President of the Republic and in the event of repeat or subsequent elections or votes does not allow for the compilation of electoral registers with data on voters in the electoral register 15 days before the date of the vote.

Article 34

(Special ways to exercise the right to vote)

(1) Special ways of exercising the right to vote, which are set out in the law governing elections to the National Assembly and are recorded in the register of voting rights, are:

1. voting by post from abroad for citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who do not have permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia;
2. voting by post from abroad for citizens of the Republic of Slovenia with permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia;
3. voting at a polling station at a diplomatic mission or consulate of the Republic of Slovenia abroad for citizens of the Republic of Slovenia with permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia;
4. voting by post in the Republic of Slovenia;
5. voting at home;
6. voting outside the district of permanent residence.

(2) Special methods of exercising voting rights shall be entered in the voting rights register by the State Electoral Commission or the competent electoral commission that received the voter's notification.

(3) The provisions of this Article shall apply mutatis mutandis to the entry of special methods of exercising the right to vote for the conduct of local elections and voting in local referendums

c) Law about the elections to the National Assembly

Article 7

The right to vote and be elected as a member of parliament is granted to citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who have reached the age of eighteen on the day of voting.

The right to vote is exercised by the voter in the electoral unit in which he or she has permanent residence.

A voter who does not have permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia exercises the right to vote in the electoral unit in which he or one of his parents had his last permanent residence. If this cannot be determined, the voter decides for himself in which electoral unit and electoral district he will exercise his right to vote.

Article 9

Voters vote in person. No one may vote by proxy.

Voting is by secret ballot.

A person entered in the electoral register may not be deprived of the right to vote or prevented from voting.

Article 82

Voters who are registered in the register of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who do not have permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia may vote by post or at a diplomatic or consular mission of the Republic of Slovenia, if the country in which they reside allows such voting, or if this is provided for by an international agreement. These voters will be sent a ballot paper with an attached voting card in due time.

Voters who are temporarily residing abroad on voting day may vote by post or at a diplomatic or consular mission of the Republic of Slovenia, if they notify the State Electoral Commission no later than 30 days before voting day and if the country in which they reside allows such voting, or if this is enabled by an international agreement.

If a voter votes by mail, the ballot is considered valid if a handwritten ballot paper is attached to the envelope with the ballot.

The provisions applicable to voting in the Republic of Slovenia apply *mutatis mutandis* to voting by mail abroad and at diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Slovenia.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 73 and 74 of this Act, voting may be conducted using an official blank ballot paper containing the designation of the electoral unit and electoral district and instructions on the method of voting. The voter shall express his/her will by writing in the space on the ballot paper, in his/her own handwriting or in another manner, the name and surname of the candidate for whom he/she is voting, or the name of the list of candidates for whom he/she is voting.

Article 87

The district electoral commission determines for the area of the electoral district how many voters are registered in the electoral register, how many voted at polling stations according to the electoral register and how many voted with certificates, how many voted by mail, how many ballots were invalid, and how many votes were received by individual candidates and how many votes were received by individual lists of candidates.

When determining the outcome of postal voting, the electoral commission shall take into account ballots that have arrived by post to the district electoral commission by 7 p.m. on the day of voting, ballots that have arrived by post from the Republic of Slovenia by 12 p.m. on the day following voting, and ballots that have arrived by post from abroad by 12 p.m. on the eighth day following voting.

Envelopes with ballots that arrived by post to the competent electoral commission after 7 p.m. on voting day must have a postmark with a date or must be accompanied by documents showing that the ballot was mailed before 7 p.m. on voting day.

Ballots that arrive by post at the competent electoral commission after 7 p.m. on voting day, whose envelopes are not equipped in a way that shows that they were mailed before 7 p.m. on voting day, are invalid.

Article 89a

The State Electoral Commission shall determine for the territory of the country how many votes were received by individual candidates from the list by electoral district, how many votes were received by lists by electoral units and the total number of votes cast for all lists of candidates in the territory of the country. In doing so, the Electoral Commission shall also take into account the results of voting at diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Slovenia and by mail from abroad, which have reached the State Electoral Commission within the deadline referred to in Article 87 of this Act. The State Electoral Commission shall determine the results of voting referred to in the previous sentence by electoral district.

The State Electoral Commission shall notify the electoral commissions of the constituencies of the final result of the vote for each constituency.

Based on the established voting results for the territory of the country, the State Electoral Commission determines which candidate lists or lists of candidates with the same name received at least 4% of the total number of votes cast for all lists in the territory of the country and are taken into account when distributing mandates.

SPAIN / ESPAGNE**a) Constitution****Section 23**

(1) Citizens have the right to participate in public affairs, directly or through representatives freely elected in periodic elections by universal suffrage. {...}

Section 68

(1) The Congress shall consist of a minimum of three hundred and a maximum of four hundred Members, elected by universal, free, equal, direct and secret suffrage, under the terms to be laid down by the law.

(2) The electoral constituency is the province. The cities of Ceuta and Melilla shall be represented by one Member each. The total number of Members shall be distributed in accordance with the law, each constituency being allotted a minimum initial representation and the remainder being distributed in proportion to the population.

(3) The election in each constituency shall be conducted on the basis of proportional representation.

(4) The Congress is elected for four years. The term of office of Members thereof ends four years after their election or on the day on which the Congress is dissolved.

(5) All Spaniards entitled to the full exercise of their political rights shall be electors and may be elected. The law shall recognize, and the State shall facilitate the exercise of the right of vote by Spaniards who are outside Spanish territory.

(6) Elections shall take place between thirty and sixty days after the end of the previous term of office. The Congress so elected must be convened within twenty-five days following the holding of elections.

b) Organic Law no. 5/1985 on the General Electoral Regime (as amended)**Article 1**

1. This Organic Law is applicable:

- a) To the elections of Deputies and Senators to the Cortes Generales without prejudice to the provisions of the Statutes of Autonomy for the designation of Senators provided for in article 69.5 of the Constitution.
- b) To the elections of the members of the Local Corporations.
- c) To the elections of the Members of the European Parliament.

Article 8

1. The purpose of the Electoral Administration is to guarantee, in accordance with the terms of this Law, the transparency and objectivity of the electoral process and the principle of equality.

2. The Electoral Administration comprises the Central, Provincial, Regional and, where applicable, Autonomous Community Electoral Boards, as well as the Electoral Tables.

3. The Central Electoral Board has its headquarters in Madrid, the Provincial Electoral Boards in the provincial capitals, and the Zone Electoral Boards in the towns that are the head of the judicial districts mentioned in section 6.

4. The Ceuta and Melilla District Councils shall consolidate the functions corresponding to the Provincial Electoral Boards in their respective districts.

5. The Boards hold their sessions in their own premises and, failing that, in those where the respective Secretaries hold their offices.

6. For the purposes of this Law, the judicial districts coincide with those of the 1979 Local Elections.

Article 31

1. The electoral register contains the registration of those who meet the requirements to be an elector and are not deprived, permanently or temporarily, of the right to vote.
2. The electoral roll is composed of the roll of voters resident in Spain and the roll of resident-absent voters living abroad. No voter may be registered simultaneously on both rolls.
3. The Electoral Census is unique for all types of elections, without prejudice to its possible extension for municipal and European Parliament elections in accordance with the provisions of articles 176 and 210 of this Organic Law.

Article 36*Updating the Census of Residents Abroad.*

1. To update the census of absent resident voters living abroad, Consulates will process, in accordance with the same procedure as City Councils, the registration and deregistration of Spaniards living in their district, as well as changes of address within that district or requests to change their affiliation to a new constituency. The latter will only be accepted if there is sufficient and justified cause for doing so.
2. The closed census for each election will not take into account changes in allocation from one constituency to another that occurred in the year prior to the date of the call.

Article 75*Voting rights by persons residing abroad.*

1. In the elections for Deputies, Senators, members of the Legislative Assemblies of the Autonomous Communities, members of the Assemblies of the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla and Deputies of the European Parliament, when in the latter case the election in Spain is chosen, the Provincial Delegations of the Electoral Census Office will send the following documentation to the registration address of each person of Spanish nationality registered in the census of resident-absent voters living abroad:

- a) The voting envelope or, where applicable, the voting envelopes for each process called, with adequate security systems.
- b) Two identical certificates of registration in the census of absent resident voters living abroad, except in the case of concurrent elections with counting in different electoral boards, in which the corresponding ones will be sent based on said electoral concurrence.
- c) The envelope or envelopes on which the address of the competent Electoral Board must appear and the envelope on which the address of the Career Consular Office or Consular Section of the Diplomatic Mission in which he is registered appears,
- d) An information sheet on how to exercise the right to vote and the address of the official website where the final candidacies will be displayed, and where the downloadable ballot sets will be available, with all the competing candidacies, as well as any other information on the electoral processes in progress, and
- e) The list of centers authorized for the deposit of votes in ballot boxes within the scope of their consular demarcation.

2. The ballot or ballots for voters registered on the census of absent residents living abroad for each election shall correspond to the official ballot, as well as a downloadable ballot template approved by the Electoral Board. The information sheet accompanying the documentation referred to in the previous section shall contain instructions for obtaining a set of ballots electronically and in an accessible manner, including all the competing candidates, as well as the means by which voters can learn about the proclaimed candidates.

In order to guarantee the secrecy of the vote, only the complete set of ballots may be downloaded electronically.

Public administrations will guarantee the material and technical means to facilitate voters' access to information about the electoral process and downloadable ballots.

3. The electoral documentation referred to in the first section must be sent by certified mail from the eighteenth day and before the twenty-fifth day after the call for elections.

The Provincial Delegations of the Electoral Census Office will also send official ballots to the registration address of absent resident voters living abroad, starting on the twenty-ninth and no later than the thirty-third day after the call for elections, in those provinces where the proclamation of candidates has not been challenged, and in the remaining provinces, no later than the thirty-ninth.

Downloadable ballots will be available after the appeals filed against the proclamation of candidacies have been resolved and no later than five days after the proclamation of candidacies. Public Administrations shall provide the necessary means in each case to ensure that the shipments provided for in sections 1, 3, and 8 of this article are carried out as quickly, safely, and effectively as possible, including the use of diplomatic pouches and forwarding via the internal mail of the corresponding country, to the extent that the Electoral Census Office and the consular administration deem it necessary and possible.

4. Voters who choose to cast their vote in a ballot box will do so between the eighth and third day, inclusive, before election day, personally delivering the envelopes to the Embassies, Offices, or Consular Sections where they are registered, or to the places designated for this purpose, during morning and afternoon hours, including honorary Spanish consulates abroad. To this end, all Embassies, consular offices, and other authorized locations will have a ballot box or boxes guarded by an official authorized for this purpose. This period is non-extendable to ensure that the votes arrive in time to be counted by the Electoral Boards. The consular administration will ensure the availability of official ballots at the designated polling stations, adequately publicized, as well as sufficient ballot envelopes and the necessary computer resources to download the remaining documentation required for voting on the days designated for in-person voting.

5. The voter shall prove his or her identity to the consular official by means of his or her passport or National Identity Document issued by the Spanish authorities or a certificate of nationality, or failing that, the certificate of registration in the Consular Registry issued by the Career Consular Office or the Consular Section of the Spanish Diplomatic Mission in the country of residence and, after showing and delivering one of the certificates of registration in the census of absent residents that he or she has received, shall deposit the envelope addressed to the competent Electoral Board for its scrutiny, once the consular official has signed the back of said envelope and stamped it with the seal of the Consular Office showing the date of its deposit.

6. During the days designated for voting in the ballot box, consular officials must establish measures to facilitate voters' voting, as well as those deemed necessary for the proper safekeeping and custody of the ballot boxes. These measures will include their signature on the final ballot box report and their sealing at the end of each day. The sealing, counting, and preparation of the ballot box report will be public.

Representatives of candidates running in the elections may be present at authorized consular offices during the days when ballots are cast in the ballot box. The duties of representatives of candidates running in electoral processes abroad shall be similar to those provided for observers and representatives in Articles 76 to 79 of this Law.

7. Voters who choose to vote by mail must include in the envelope addressed to the corresponding Electoral Board, in addition to the voting envelope(s), one of the certificates of registration in the census, the back of which must include the voter's signature and passport or National Identity Document number, a photocopy of the passport or National Identity Document issued by the Spanish authorities, or a certificate of nationality or, failing that, a certificate of registration in the Consular Registry issued by the Career Consular Office or the Consular Section of the Spanish Diplomatic Mission in the country of residence. All of this must be placed in the envelope addressed to the Career Consular Office or Consular Section of the Diplomatic Mission to which each voter is assigned, and the other certificate of registration in the census must be included in this envelope. The documentation thus ordered shall be sent personally by the voter by registered mail when possible, to the Career Consular Office or Consular Section of

the Diplomatic Mission to which each voter is assigned, no later than the fifth day before election day.

Envelopes received by mail at the Career Consular Office or Consular Section of the Diplomatic Mission before the final announcement of candidacies will not be valid. Envelopes received after the second day before the election will also not be valid. This deadline cannot be extended to ensure that the votes arrive in time to be counted by the Electoral Boards.

8. Once the deadline for depositing votes in the ballot box has passed, the consular official will issue a report containing any relevant incidents that may have occurred, as well as the number of envelopes received by mail and those deposited in the ballot box. The envelopes deposited by voters and those received by mail, along with the report issued by the consular official, must be immediately forwarded, by electoral mail, via diplomatic bag, to the Office established for this purpose within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation. The latter will then urgently forward said envelopes to the corresponding Electoral Boards.

9. In all cases regulated in this article, it will be essential for the validity of these votes that the seal of the Career Consular Office or Consular Section of the corresponding Diplomatic Mission be clearly stated on the envelope addressed to the corresponding Electoral Board, certifying, without doubt, compliance with the time requirement contemplated in each case.

10. On the day of the general scrutiny, and before proceeding to it, the competent Electoral Board shall constitute itself as an Electoral Table, at eight o'clock in the morning, with the observers designated for this purpose by the competing candidates.

11. The President then proceeds to place the ballot envelopes of the absent residents received up to that day into the ballot box or boxes, and the Secretary records the names of the voters on the corresponding list.

Once the votes have been counted, the Board incorporates the results into the general count.

12. The procedure provided for in this article shall be free of charge for voters. For this purpose, postal boxes shall be set up to allow free delivery of documentation addressed to Career Consular Offices and Consular Sections of Spanish Diplomatic Missions.

Where these PO boxes cannot be opened, the necessary measures will be taken to ensure that the voter is reimbursed for the shipping costs.

13. Exceptionally, the Government, upon receiving a favorable report from the Central Electoral Board, may adjust the criteria and adapt the circumstances of application of this article, as well as establish other procedures for voting by absent residents living in foreign States where the provisions of this article are not practicable.

14. At the end of the vote count, the Central Electoral Board will publish the voting data of Spanish citizens residing abroad submitted by each consulate, broken down by province, as well as the data on the votes received by each Provincial Electoral Board, broken down by consulate of issue.

First Additional Provision

(...)

2. In accordance with the powers reserved for the State under the Constitution, the following articles of Title I of this Organic Law shall also apply to elections to the Legislative Assemblies of the Autonomous Communities called by those Assemblies: 1 to 42; 44; 44 bis; 45; 46.1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8; 47.4; 49; 50.1, 2 and 3; 51(2) and (3); 52; 53; 54; 58; 59; 60; 61; 62; 63; 65; 66; 68; 69; 70(1) and (3); 72; 73; 74; 75; 85; 86(1); 87.2; 90; 91; 92; 93; 94; 95.3; 96; 103.2; 108.2 and 8; 109 to 119; 125 to 130; 131.2; 132; 135 to 152.

c) Order EHA/642/2011, dated March 25, establishing technical guidelines for the monthly update of the Electoral Roll

Article 4

Determination of the municipality of registration in Spain for electoral purposes for the compilation of the census of residents living abroad.

1. The municipality of registration in Spain for electoral purposes shall be determined according to the following criteria:
 - a) For those who have resided in Spain, the municipality of their last residence.
 - b) For those who have not resided in Spain, the municipality with the strongest ties, either their own or that of one of their ancestors.
2. Voters who request registration in a municipality other than that of their last residence in Spain must submit a statement explaining their choice, providing supporting documents.
3. In the absence of such a declaration, the municipality of registration in Spain for electoral purposes shall be determined ex officio by the Consular Office based on the information available to it.
4. The municipality of registration in Spain for electoral purposes thus determined shall remain unchanged unless the circumstances that led to it are modified or unless it has been determined ex officio by the Consular Offices.

d) Instruction 1/2023, of March 30, of the Central Electoral Board, on the voting procedure for voters registered in the Electoral Census of Absent Residents (CERA), following the amendment made by Organic Law 12/2022.

[...] First, the electoral documentation that the Electoral Census Office must send to voters registered with the CERA.

In accordance with the provisions of sections 1 and 3 of article 75 of the LOREG, as amended by Organic Law 12/2022, the Electoral Census Office must, "in the fastest, safest and most effective manner, even using the diplomatic pouch and forwarding by internal mail of the corresponding country, to the extent that the Electoral Census Office and the Consular Administration consider it necessary and possible", send a double mailing to each voter registered in the CERA:

- From the eighteenth day and before the twenty-fifth day after the election is called: the ballot envelopes for each election called; two identical certificates of registration with the CERA (National Electoral Commission), except in the case of concurrent elections in which the vote count must be carried out by different electoral boards, in which case the corresponding ones will be sent based on the electoral turnout; the envelope addressed to the competent electoral board and the envelope containing the address of the consular office corresponding to the voter; an information sheet on the exercise of the right to vote and the address of the official website where the proclaimed candidates, downloadable ballots, and other information on the electoral process are published; and the list of centers authorized for the deposit of votes in ballot boxes within the consular jurisdiction.
- Between the twenty-ninth and thirty-third day after the call for elections, in those provinces where the proclamation of candidates has not been judicially challenged, and no later than the thirty-ninth in the remaining provinces: a second mailing of official ballots must be sent to the voter.

Second. Ballots and electoral documentation downloadable electronically.

1. The Administration convening the electoral process must publish on the official website of the electoral process, immediately and, in any case, no later than five days after the proclamation of the candidacies, the candidacies definitively proclaimed in each constituency and the downloadable sets of ballots for all the candidacies competing in said process, as established in sections 1 d), 2 and 3 of Article 75 of the LOREG. To guarantee the secrecy of the vote, this must be done in such a way that only the complete set of ballots can be downloaded electronically in the constituency, although the voter may subsequently print only the ballot of their choice.
2. Consular offices shall guarantee the availability of paper ballots and envelopes at voting centers for voters who request them. If ballots are downloaded and printed for later delivery to voters, they must be given the complete set of ballots for the candidates running in the

constituency, ensuring the confidentiality of their vote. Printing only the ballot chosen by the voter will only be possible when the voter prints it themselves and in a separate location, ensuring their right to the confidentiality of their vote.

3. Consular offices must have the necessary electronic means to download and deliver to voters who request them the CERA registration certificates necessary for exercising their right to vote. In such cases, the certificate must indicate that it is a duplicate. This fact will be recorded in the consular record.

Third. The procedure for depositing votes in the ballot box and its guarantees.

1. Between the eighth and third days, inclusive, prior to voting day, consular offices authorized for ballot deposit must remain open and accept ballot deposit during the special morning and afternoon hours established by each consulate. These hours, which must be announced well in advance, must allow voters to come and cast their ballots at the end of the regular working day in that country.
2. Representatives of electoral parties or candidacies may accredit their representation to the Central Electoral Board in electoral operations carried out by consular offices and must request this up to seven days before the start of the ballot deposit period. These representatives shall have the right to be present at consular offices throughout election day, as well as to inspect, outside of election day hours, the premises where the ballot boxes containing the votes and the envelopes mailed by voters will be kept. Their functions shall be similar to those provided for inspectors and representatives in Articles 76 to 79 of the LOREG (Organic Law of the Spanish Organic Law of the Spanish Civil Registry), as provided in Article 75.6 of said law.
3. Voters registered with the CERA, when they choose to cast their vote in the ballot boxes located at consular missions, must do so in the envelope provided to them, sealed and addressed to the corresponding electoral board. To ensure that the envelope is properly sealed and to address any questions voters may have, consular missions will have at least one official available at all times to address any issues they may have.
4. Voters must prove their identity to the consular official by means of their passport or national identity card issued by the Spanish authorities, or a certificate of nationality, or, failing that, a certificate of registration in the Consular Registry issued by the competent consular authority in their country of residence. After presenting and delivering one of the certificates of registration in the CERA, they must place the envelope addressed to the competent electoral board in the ballot box for counting. The consular official must sign the back of the envelope and affix the seal of the consular office, indicating the date of deposit (Article 75.5 of the LOREG).
The consular officer must carry a numbered list of voters who cast their ballots in the ballot box.
5. To the extent that the envelopes delivered or sent by voters must be properly sealed, it is not the responsibility of consular mission officials to assess the contents of such envelopes or correct any defects that may be observed.
6. The ballot boxes referred to in Article 75.5 of the LOREG (Organic Law on Voting Rights) must be sealed and sealed at the end of each voting day. The seal must bear the signatures of the corresponding consular official and any duly accredited representatives of the electoral parties who wish to do so, in order to prevent any possible manipulation of the contents of the ballot box. In any case, the ballot box used must be made of a resistant and transparent material, and once assembled, it must be tamper-evident, making it impossible to tamper with once closed and sealed, nor to access the envelopes deposited inside or to insert new ones through any place other than the slot provided for this purpose. Consular officials must implement the necessary measures for the proper safekeeping and custody of ballot boxes, in accordance with Order AUC/306/2023, of March 28, which establishes the conditions for the designation of authorized centers abroad for the deposit of ballots in ballot boxes in electoral processes held in Spain.
7. Consular offices must guarantee voters the availability of paper ballots and official envelopes, as well as the necessary electronic means to download the rest of the required documentation, in accordance with the terms indicated in the third point of this Instruction.
8. The sealing process for ballot boxes will be public, as well as their subsequent opening to continue the delivery of votes on subsequent days, or to conduct their counting once the deadline for depositing votes in the ballot box has ended. Representatives accredited to the consular office will be present at these events and may make any complaints or observations they deem appropriate, which will be recorded in the consular record.

Fourth. Mailing of votes by voters registered with the CERA.

1. Voters who choose to vote by mail must include in the envelope addressed to the corresponding electoral board, in addition to the voting envelope(s), one of the certificates of

registration in the electoral census, the back of which must include the signature and passport or national identity card number of the voter; they must also include a photocopy of their passport or national identity card issued by the Spanish authorities, or a certificate of nationality, or, failing that, a certificate of registration in the Consular Registry. All of this must be placed in the envelope addressed to the consular office, which must also include the other certificate of registration in the electoral census. The documentation thus ordered must be sent to the consular office by the voter in person by postal mail, which must be certified whenever possible. This must be sent after the date of the final announcement of the candidacies and up to five days before the election.

2. Envelopes received at the consular office containing the votes of voters registered with the CERA who have opted to submit their votes by mail must be stamped with the date of receipt and a consecutive number. They must also be kept and safeguarded by consular officials in the same manner as ballots cast in ballot boxes, until they are counted after the deadline for depositing ballots in the ballot box has ended.

3. Voters registered with the CERA who are in Spain during an election may vote by mail using the ordinary procedure, provided that the application for documentation, submitted in Spain, states that they are registered with the CERA, indicates their address in Spain, and that the postal vote is sent to the competent electoral board and not to any polling station.

In any case, to avoid double voting, when these voters also receive the documentation at their registration address abroad, the Electoral Census Office will include among the files for counting the votes of CERA voters a file with the voters who have had their electoral documentation sent to an address in Spain after requesting it at a Spanish Post Office.

Fifth. The counting of votes received by the consular office and the preparation of the electoral documentation to be submitted to the Electoral Boards.

1. Once the deadline for depositing votes in the ballot box has passed, the consular officer will proceed in a public ceremony, in the presence of the accredited representatives of the candidates, to open the ballot box and count the envelopes submitted by the voters. The envelopes submitted by mail will also be counted during the same ceremony. Finally, the consular certificate will be issued.

If the consular officer, during this count, finds that a voter has cast a ballot twice, he or she must record this in the consular record and submit this documentation separately to the corresponding electoral board, without mixing it with other votes, also indicating this circumstance on the separate envelopes.

2. The consular record must contain an indication of the number of census certificates received, the number of envelopes received by mail up to that point, and, where applicable, any incidents that may have occurred during the voting days. It must also include any duplicate census certificates that may have been provided to the consular office. The record must also include the number of votes received, broken down by province, as established in Article 75.14 of the LOREG (Loreg).

3. In the case of elections to the Congress of Deputies, the Senate, or the European Parliament, the original of said minutes must be sent to the Central Electoral Board. A copy of the minutes, along with the electoral documentation, must also be sent to each of the electoral boards that must count this vote. In the case of elections to the Legislative Assemblies of the Autonomous Communities, the original of these minutes must be sent to the corresponding Autonomous Community Electoral Board and, if one does not exist or if several autonomous elections are being held simultaneously, to the Central Electoral Board. The aforementioned copy of the consular minutes may be sent electronically.

4. Once this documentation has been prepared, the envelopes deposited by the voters and those received by mail together with the minutes, or a copy thereof, must be sent immediately, by electoral mail by diplomatic bag, to the Office established for these purposes in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, which, in turn, will proceed to the urgent dispatch of said envelopes to the corresponding electoral boards in charge of carrying out their scrutiny, as provided for in article 75.8 of the LOREG.

The certificates of registration in the census of absent residents submitted must remain in the custody of the consular office or section until the dissolution of the electoral boards (100 days after the elections).

5. Article 75.7 of the LOREG (Organic Law of Electoral Regulation) states that votes received after the second day before the election will not be valid. However, electoral documentation received after the second day before the election must be sent by the consular office to the corresponding electoral board, certifying that it was received outside the legally established deadline.

Sixth. The counting of the votes of voters registered with the CERA.

1. On the day of the general vote count, and before proceeding with it, the competent electoral board must assemble at the polling station at 8:00 a.m. with the representatives of the candidates participating in the electoral process for the purpose of counting the votes of the voters registered with the CERA.

Once the polling station has been established, the president of the electoral board will proceed to place the ballot envelopes received up to that day into the ballot box, after verifying their registration in the CERA (National Electoral Commission) using the certificate that must accompany the ballot envelope, and ensuring compliance with the other requirements set forth in Article 75 of the LOREG (Organic Electoral Law). Once these votes have been counted, the Electoral Board will incorporate the results into the general count.

2. During the counting of these votes, the electoral board will not place in the ballot box any votes that, pursuant to Article 75 of the LOREG (Organic Law of Electoral Regulation), cannot be considered valid due to the voter's failure to present identification documents or because they were submitted to the consular office prior to the final announcement of the candidacies or after the second day before the election. However, votes sent by ordinary mail to the corresponding consular office will be considered valid, provided that the legally established deadlines are met. When counting the votes cast, electoral boards must flexibly interpret compliance with formal requirements regarding the format of ballots when they have been downloaded electronically by the voter.

In the event that the electoral board becomes aware of a case of double voting, either because it has been notified by the consular office or because it has counted the vote of the same voter, it must only place in the ballot box the vote that was cast earlier, all without prejudice to any criminal liability that the voter may incur, in accordance with the provisions of Article 142 of the LOREG.

3. The electoral board responsible for carrying out this count must record the data on the votes received, broken down by consulate of issue, and send a copy of said record to the Central Electoral Board, so that it can carry out the publication provided for in section 14 of article 75 of the LOREG.

In the case of regional elections, a copy of the minutes shall be sent to the Electoral Board of the Autonomous Community, if one exists, so that it may, by delegation of the Central Electoral Board, carry out the publication provided for in the aforementioned section 14.

Seventh. Publication and effects.

Given its general nature, this Instruction will be published in the Official State Gazette (Boletín Oficial del Estado) in accordance with the provisions of Article 18.6 of the LOREG (Lorgan of the Spanish Organic Law of the Spanish Civil Registry) and will be applicable from the day following its publication in the aforementioned official journal. It replaces and repeals Instructions 2/2009 of the Central Electoral Board (Boletín Oficial del Estado) of April 2, 2009, on ensuring the personal exercise of postal voting by absent resident voters, Circular of the Central Electoral Board for the General Directorate of Consular Affairs of November 10, 2011, and Instruction 2/2012 of the Central Electoral Board (Boletín Oficial del Estado) of September 20, on the interpretation of Article 75.4 of the LOREG (Lorgan of the Spanish Organic Law of the Spanish Civil Registry).

SWEDEN / SUEDE**a) Constitution****Chapter 3 Art. 4.**

Every Swedish citizen who is currently domiciled in Sweden or who has ever been domiciled in Sweden, and who has reached the age of eighteen, is entitled to vote in an election to the Riksdag.

Only a person who is entitled to vote may be a member or alternate member of the Riksdag.

The question of whether a person has the right to vote is determined on the basis of an electoral roll drawn up prior to the election.

b) Elections Act**Chapter 3. Election authorities, etc.
Election authorities****Section 1**

There shall be a central election authority that has overall responsibility for matters concerning elections.

**Chapter 4. Constituencies and electoral districts, etc.
Constituencies****Section 25**

The central election authority shall decide the Swedish foreign missions at which there shall be voting places following consultation with the Government Offices (Ministry for Foreign Affairs).

**Chapter 5. Electoral rolls and voting cards
Electoral rolls****Section 1**

In connection with elections the central election authority shall for each electoral district prepare a list of those who are entitled to vote in the election (electoral roll).

The electoral rolls shall be based on the information that, 30 days prior to the election day, is contained in the population registration database in accordance with the Act on the Processing of Personal Data in the Swedish Tax Agency's Population Registration Activities (2001:182) and in the land register in accordance with the Land Registration Act (2000:224).

Section 2

Swedish citizens who are no longer registered as resident in Sweden shall be included in the electoral roll for ten years from the date when their population registration ceased. Thereafter they shall, for ten years at a time, only be included in the electoral roll if they give written notice of their address to the Swedish Tax Agency.

Section 4

Voters shall be included in the electoral roll for the electoral district within which they are registered as resident according to the provisions of Section 1, second paragraph.

Those who are not registered as resident at any land unit or not registered as resident in Sweden shall be included in the electoral roll for the electoral district within which they were last registered as resident. If no information is available about population registration enabling them to be referred to a particular electoral district but there is information about the municipality in which they were last registered as resident, the county administrative board shall decide which electoral roll they shall be included in.

Voting cards

Section 8

The central election authority shall issue a voting card for every voter. For voters who do not have a known address or who are not registered as resident in Sweden, a voting card shall only be issued if they request one.

Voting cards referred to in the first paragraph shall be sent out in sufficiently good time that they may be expected to be received by voters no later than 18 days prior to the election day. For extraordinary elections and re-elections, voting cards shall instead be sent out in sufficiently good time that they may be expected to be received by voters no later than 10 days prior to the election day.

For every voter who is not registered as resident in Sweden, the central election authority shall issue an expatriate voting card. These cards shall be sent to voters no later than 50 days prior to the election day. For extraordinary elections and re-elections, the voting cards shall instead be sent out as soon as possible once the date on which the election will be held is decided.

Chapter 7. General provisions on voting

The different ways of voting

Section 1

Voting takes place at vote reception points. Voters shall in the first instance vote at their polling stations on the election day. They can also vote prior to or during the election day at voting places set up by the municipalities or foreign missions. Voters may also in certain cases give their votes to specially appointed voting clerks (mobile voting clerks) or vote by messenger or letter.

Postal voting

Who may vote by post

Section 11

Voters who are staying abroad or onboard a vessel in foreign traffic may vote by post.

When may postal votes be prepared?

Section 12

Postal votes may be prepared no earlier than 45 days prior to the election day.

However, for elections other than general elections to the Riksdag and to regional and municipal assemblies and elections to the European Parliament, postal votes may only be prepared after the date on which the election will be held has been decided.

How postal votes are prepared

Section 13

Voters who wish to vote by post shall: 1. in the presence of two witnesses, insert the vote envelopes that have been prepared into an outer envelope for postal votes; 2. stick the outer envelope down; and 3. on the envelope: a) certify that they have prepared vote envelopes and the outer envelope in this way and that vote envelopes have not been prepared earlier than allowed, and that this was done abroad or onboard a ship in foreign traffic; and b) state their name and their personal identity number.

On the outer envelope, the witnesses shall state their: 1. names, 2. personal identity numbers or the corresponding identifying information and 3. addresses, and certify that the voter has personally done what is prescribed in the first paragraph and that they are not aware of anything that indicates that the information provided by the voter is not correct.

A witness shall have attained the age of 18.

How postal votes are sent

Section 14

When the outer envelope has been prepared, the voters shall:

1. insert the envelope into a cover envelope for postal votes;
2. insert either a voting card or an expatriate voting card, or if the voter does not have access to either, an address card on which the voter has personally written their personal identity number and name;
3. stick this envelope down; and
4. from abroad or a vessel in foreign traffic, send the envelope to an election authority.

Further processing of postal votes

Section 15

When the central election authority has received cover envelopes for postal votes, these shall be delivered to the election committee in the municipalities where the voters are included in the electoral roll.

If a voter is not, and should not be, included in the electoral roll or if it is not possible to find out which electoral roll a voter is included in because their personal identity number is missing or is incomplete, the central election authority shall retain the cover envelope. The envelopes that are retained by the authority shall be stored in a secure way until the election has entered into final force. The envelopes including their content shall thereafter be destroyed without voting secrecy being jeopardised.

The central election authority shall keep notes of anything that is implemented pursuant to this section.

Chapter 10. Vote reception at voting places

Section 1

In addition to the general provisions on voting and reception of votes in Chapters 7 and 8, the provisions of this Chapter shall apply for vote reception at voting places. If the provisions of this chapter deviate from those in Chapters 7 and 8, the provisions of this Chapter shall apply instead.

When vote reception may take place**Section 2**

For ordinary elections to the Riksdag and regional and municipal assemblies and elections to the European Parliament, vote reception may commence: 1. at voting places that a municipality has arranged: no earlier than on the eighteenth day prior to the election day; and 2. at a foreign mission: no earlier than on the twenty-fourth day prior to the election day.

Chapter 14. Distribution of seats**Conclusion of the election****Election to the Riksdag and election to the European Parliament****Section 25**

When the central election authority has distributed seats between the parties and appointed members and substitutes, the election results shall be made public by being announced on the authority's physical notice board and published on the authority's website. The election is thereby concluded.

Public notice shall also be given in the same way when new members and substitutes are appointed under Sections 18–20 and 24.

The Act on Public Notice in Cases and Matters before Government Agencies, etc. (1977:654) applies with regard to such notice.

SWITZERLAND / SUISSE**a) Constitution****Article 39***Exercise of political rights*

- 1 The Confederation regulates the exercise of political rights in federal matters; the cantons regulate them in cantonal and municipal matters.
- 2 Political rights are exercised at the place of residence. The Confederation and the cantons may provide for exceptions.
- 3 No one may exercise political rights in more than one canton.
- 4 The cantons may provide that new residents may exercise the right to vote in cantonal and municipal matters only after a waiting period of no more than three months following their settlement

Article 40*Swiss citizens living abroad*

- 1 The Confederation promotes relations among Swiss citizens living abroad and between them and Switzerland. It may support organizations that pursue this objective.
- 2 It shall issue regulations concerning the rights and duties of Swiss citizens living abroad, particularly with regard to the exercise of political rights at the federal level, the fulfillment of the duty to perform military or alternative service, support, and social insurance.

Article 136*Political rights*

- 1 All Swiss citizens who have reached the age of 18 and who have not been declared legally incompetent due to mental illness or mental disability are entitled to political rights in federal matters. All citizens have the same political rights and duties.
- 2 They may participate in National Council elections and federal referendums, and may initiate and sign popular initiatives and referendums on federal matters.

b) Federal Act of 17 December 1976 on Political Rights (SR 161.1)**Title 1: Right to vote and casting of votes (Articles 1- 9)****Article 3***Political residence*

- 1 Voting takes place at the voter's political residence, namely in the municipality where the voter lives and is registered. Travellers vote in their home municipality.¹¹ [...]

Article 4*Voter register*

- 1 Voters shall be entered in the voter register at their political domicile. Entries and deletions shall be made ex officio.

¹¹ Swiss citizens who due to their traditional way of living have no fixed residence

2 Prior to an election or referendum, entries shall be made no later than the fifth day preceding the election or referendum date, provided it is established that the requirements for participation on the day of the vote are met.

3 The electoral register is open for inspection by voters

Article 5

Principles of voting

1 Official ballot papers and voting slips must be used for voting. Cantonal registration forms for electronic data processing are treated as equivalent to these.

2 Ballot papers and voting slips without pre-printed text must be completed by hand. Voting slips with pre-printed text may only be amended by hand.

3 Voters may cast their vote in person at the ballot box or by postal voting. Voting in pilot projects for electronic voting is governed by Article 8a.

4 and 5 (...)

6 A ballot paper may be placed in the ballot box by a third party, provided that cantonal law permits this for cantonal referendums and elections. Voters who are unable to write may have their ballot paper completed by a voter of their choice, in accordance with their instructions.

7 The secrecy of the vote must be preserved.

Article 7

Early voting

1 The cantons shall allow early voting on at least two of the last four days preceding the day of the vote.

2 For early voting, cantonal law shall provide that all or some ballot boxes remain open during a specified period, or that voters may submit their ballots in a sealed envelope at an official office.

3 If the cantons provide for early voting on a broader scale, this shall also apply to federal referendums and elections.

4 The cantons shall enact the provisions necessary for the recording of all votes, for safeguarding the secrecy of the ballot, and for preventing abuse.

Article 8

Postal voting

1 The cantons shall ensure that a simple procedure is in place for postal voting. In particular, they shall adopt provisions to guarantee the verification of voting eligibility, the secrecy of the ballot and the recording of all votes, and to prevent abuse.

2 Postal voting is permitted from the date of receipt of the documents required under cantonal law for a valid vote.

Title 2: Voting (Articles 10-15)

Article 14

Voting record

1 A record of the result of a vote shall be drawn up at each polling station, stating the total number of eligible voters and the number of eligible Swiss citizens living abroad, the number of voters, the number of blank, invalid and valid ballot papers, and the number of 'yes' and 'no' votes.

2 and 3 (...)

Title 3: Election of the National Council (Articles 16-57)
Chapter 4 Publication of results and Verifications of Elections

Article 52

Notification of Election; Publication of Election Results

- 1 Once the results have been determined, the cantonal government shall immediately notify the elected candidates of their election in writing and inform the Federal Council of their names.
- 2 The canton shall publish the results for all candidates and, where applicable, all lists, together with a reference to the right of appeal, in the cantonal gazette no later than eight days after polling day.
- 3 The results of general, by-elections and replacement elections shall be published in the Federal Gazette. The publication shall also be made in the electronic version in full.
- 4 The canton shall forward the election record to the Federal Chancellery without delay once the appeal period has expired (Art. 77 para. 2). The ballot papers shall be sent to the location designated by the Federal Chancellery within ten days of the expiry of the appeal period.

Title 7: Common provisions (Articles 83-87)

Article 84

Use of technical aids

- 1 The Federal Council may authorise the cantonal governments to issue provisions deviating from this Act for the determination of election and referendum results using technical means.
- 2 Election and referendum procedures using technical means require the approval of the Federal Council.

c) Federal Act on Swiss Citizens and Institutions Abroad (Swiss Abroad Act)

Title 1: General provisions (Articles 1-8)

Article 1

Scope

- 1 This Act governs:
 - a. measures aimed at supporting, informing and promoting links between the Swiss Abroad, their political rights, social assistance that may be granted to them and support for specific institutions;
 - b. consular protection and other consular services granted by Switzerland.

Article 3

Definitions

In this Act, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- a. Swiss citizens abroad: Swiss citizens who are not resident in Switzerland and are entered in the Register of Swiss Citizens Abroad;
 - b. Register of Swiss Abroad: the information system 'Networked Administration of Swiss Abroad (E-VERA)' of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and the paper files;
 - c. host state: a foreign state in which a representation is established or recognised, or in which the person concerned is staying;
 - d. representation: a diplomatic mission, a consular post or any other Swiss representation abroad that is authorised to perform consular duties.
- 3 This is subject to any contrary provisions in international treaties applicable to Switzerland..

Title 2: Swiss citizens living abroad (Articles 9-38)
Chapter 2 Register of Swiss citizens living abroad**Article 11***Entry in the register of Swiss citizens living abroad*

- 1 Any person who holds Swiss nationality and is not resident in Switzerland must register with the competent representation for entry in the register of Swiss citizens living abroad.
- 2 Entry in the register is a prerequisite for the exercise of the rights and obligations of Swiss citizens living abroad and for the provision of services by Swiss authorities under this Title. This does not apply in cases where urgent social assistance is required.

Article 12*Registration*

- 1 Entry in the register of Swiss citizens living abroad is obtained by registering with the competent representation.
- 2 The competent representation is that at the place of residence of the Swiss citizen abroad. The Federal Council may provide for exceptions.
- 3 Any person who was entered in the register of Swiss citizens living abroad as a minor shall, upon reaching the age of majority under Swiss law, be requested by the competent representation to confirm their registration.
- 4 Swiss municipalities shall notify the FDFA of any deregistration of Swiss nationals moving abroad.

Article 18*Exercise of the right to vote*

- 1 Swiss citizens living abroad shall exercise their right to vote in the municipality where they were last resident.
- 2 If they have no such municipality, they shall exercise their right to vote in their home municipality. If they have more than one home municipality, they shall exercise it in the home municipality they specified when registering in accordance with Article 12.
- 3 Votes may be cast in person, by post or, provided the conditions are met, electronically.
- 4 The Federal Council, in agreement with interested cantons and municipalities, shall promote the conduct of trials on electronic voting for Swiss citizens living abroad in accordance with Article 8a of the Federal Act of 17 December 1976 on Political Rights.

Article 19*Entry and removal from the electoral register*

- 1 Swiss citizens living abroad who wish to exercise their political rights must notify their electoral municipality via the competent representation. The electoral municipality shall enter them in the electoral register.[...]

Article 20*Maintenance of the electoral register for Swiss citizens living abroad*

- 1 The canton shall maintain the electoral register for Swiss citizens living abroad centrally at the cantonal administration or at the administration of its capital.
- 2 It may maintain the electoral register for Swiss citizens living abroad on a decentralised basis if the data:
 - a. are harmonised across the canton and recorded electronically; or
 - b. are regularly consolidated electronically at a central location.

**d) Ordinance of 7 October 2015 on Swiss Nationals and Institutions Abroad
(Ordinance on Swiss Nationals Abroad, SR 1995.11)**

Title 1: Swiss citizens living abroad (Articles 1-46)

Chapter 2 Register of Swiss citizens living abroad

Article 4

Registration (Art. 12 para. 1 of the Swiss Abroad Act)

1 Persons moving from Switzerland to a foreign country must register with the competent representation within 90 days of deregistering in Switzerland. They must provide proof that they have deregistered with their last municipality of residence in Switzerland.

Chapter 3 Political Rights

Section 1 Entry and Removal from the Electoral Register

Article 7

Registration to exercise political rights

(Art. 19(1), first sentence, of the Swiss Abroad Act)

1 Swiss citizens living abroad who wish to exercise their political rights must register with the relevant diplomatic mission either in writing or in person.

Article 8

Constituency

(Art. 18(1) and (2) of the Swiss Abroad Act)

1 The constituency is the last municipality of residence in Switzerland.

2 For Swiss citizens living abroad who have never been resident in Switzerland, the municipality of origin is deemed to be the constituency. If they have more than one home municipality, they shall select one of them as their electoral municipality when registering.

3 Where cantonal law provides for a central electoral register in accordance with Article 20(1) of the Swiss Abroad Act, the authority responsible for maintaining the register shall perform the function of the electoral municipality.

Article 9

Entry in the electoral register

(Art. 19 para. 1, second sentence, Swiss Abroad Act)

1 Upon receipt of the application, the electoral municipality shall enter the Swiss citizen living abroad in its electoral register.

2 The electoral municipality shall confirm the entry in the electoral register to the Swiss citizen living abroad.

3 If the electoral municipality intends to refuse entry, it shall notify the person concerned and the representation directly, stating the reasons.

Section 2 Exercise of political rights

Article 12

Dispatch of voting materials

(Art. 18 Swiss Abroad Act)

1 The electoral municipality or the canton shall send the official voting materials and the Federal Council's explanatory notes directly to the voter's address abroad

Article 13

Voting at the polling station
(Art. 18(3) Swiss Abroad Act)

- 1 Swiss citizens living abroad who wish to cast their vote in person at the polling station and collect their voting materials directly from the electoral municipality must notify the electoral municipality of this in writing or in person.
- 2 The polling station shall retain the voting materials provided that it receives such notification at least six weeks before the ballot.

Article 14

Signing of federal referendums
(Art. 16(1) Swiss Abroad Act)

- 1 Swiss citizens living abroad who sign federal referendum petitions or popular initiatives must state their voting municipality and its canton on the signature list.
- 2 As their place of residence, they shall state the address abroad (including the country and municipality) to which they receive their voting materials.

TUNISIA / TUNISIE**a) Constitution****Article 39**

Les droits d'élire, de voter et de se porter candidat sont garantis dans les conditions fixées par la loi.

b) Loi organique n° 2014-16 du 26 mai 2014, relative aux élections et aux référendums**Article 5**

Est électeur toute tunisienne ou tunisien, inscrit (e) au registre des électeurs, âgé (e) de dix-huit (18) ans révolus le jour précédant celui du scrutin, jouissant de ses droits civils et politiques et n'étant dans aucun cas d'incapacité prévu par la présente loi.

Article 7 bis

Ajouté par la loi organique n° 2017-7 du 14 février 2017 – Sont inscrits et mis à jour sur le registre électoral tous les Tunisiens qui remplissent les conditions légales et apportent la preuve de l'adresse de résidence effective conformément à ce qui sera fixé par l'Instance.

Chaque électeur a une adresse de résidence effective unique qui ne peut être changée qu'en apportant la preuve d'une nouvelle adresse de résidence effective.

Les électeurs inscrits peuvent demander la mise à jour de leur adresse sur le registre électoral en adoptant l'adresse de leur lieu de résidence effective. En ce qui concerne les électeurs inscrits et qui n'ont pas actualisé leur adresse, c'est l'adresse du dernier centre de vote auquel l'électeur était affecté qui sera retenue par l'Instance.

Pour les élections législatives et locales, l'inscription la plus récente de l'électeur liée à son adresse effective est retenue. Toutefois, l'électeur peut, à titre exceptionnel, dans le cas où des élections Présidentielles ou un référendum sont organisés, choisir le centre de vote dans lequel il désire voter.

Section 3 – Les listes électorales**Article 10**

Les listes électorales sont établies par l'Instance dans toute circonscription électorale. Les listes électorales concernant les tunisiens établis à l'étranger, sont également établies et révisées par l'Instance avec l'assistance des missions diplomatiques ou consulaires tunisiennes à l'étranger, conformément aux conditions et procédures prévues par la présente loi et les textes d'application pris par l'Instance.

Chapitre V – Du scrutin, du tri et de la proclamation des résultats**Section première – Dispositions générales relatives au scrutin****Article 103**

Nonobstant les dispositions relatives à la date du scrutin prévues à l'article 102, le vote des Tunisiens à l'étranger concernant les élections et le référendum, se déroule sur trois jours successifs, le dernier étant le jour du scrutin sur le territoire de la République.

Section 2 – Du mode de scrutin**Sous-section première – Des élections législatives****Article 106 ter**

Ajouté par le décret- loi n° 2022-55 du 15 septembre 2022

Le nombre des sièges réservés aux circonscriptions électorales dans le territoire tunisien est fixé à 151 sièges répartis sur 151 circonscriptions électorales conformément au tableau « A » annexé au présent décret-loi. Le nombre des sièges réservés aux circonscriptions électorales à l'étranger est fixé à 10 sièges répartis sur 10 circonscriptions électorales conformément au tableau « B » annexé au présent décret-loi.

Sous-section 3 – Du référendum**Article 114**

Les tunisiens à l'étranger répondant aux conditions prévues aux articles 5 et 6 de la présente loi, participent au référendum.

TÜRKIYE

a) Constitution

Article 67

Right to vote, to be elected and to engage in political activity

In conformity with the conditions set forth in the law, citizens have the right to vote, to be elected, to engage in political activities independently or in a political party, and to take part in a referendum.

(As amended on July 23, 1995; Act No. 4121) Elections and referenda shall be held under the direction and supervision of the judiciary, in accordance with the principles of free, equal, secret, direct, universal suffrage, and public counting of the votes. However, the law determines applicable measures for Turkish citizens abroad to exercise their right to vote.

(As amended on May 17, 1987; Act No. 3361, and on July 23, 1995; Act No. 4121) All Turkish citizens over eighteen years of age shall have the right to vote in elections and to take part in referenda.

The exercise of these rights shall be regulated by law. (As amended on July 23, 1995; Act No. 4121, and on October 3, 2001; Act No. 4709) Privates and corporals at arms, cadets, and convicts in penal execution institutions excluding those convicted of negligent offences shall not vote. The necessary measures to be taken to ensure the safety of voting and the counting of the votes in penal execution institutions and prisons shall be determined by the Supreme Board of Election; such voting is held under the on-site direction and supervision of authorized judge.

(Paragraph added on July 23, 1995; Act No. 4121) The electoral laws shall be drawn up so as to reconcile the principles of fair representation and stability of government.

(Paragraph added on October 3, 2001; Act No. 4709) Amendments to the electoral laws shall not apply to the elections to be held within one year from the entry into force date of the amendments.

b) The Law on Basic Provisions on Elections and Voter Registers (Law No. 298, as amended by the Law on Amending the Law on the Basic Provisions of Elections and Electoral Registers (Law No. 5749, 13/3/2008))

Electoral Boards

Article 10

(Amended: 17 May 1979 – Article 2234/1)

In Ankara, there shall be a Supreme Electoral Board; in each electoral district, a provincial electoral board; in each district, a district electoral board; and for each polling station to be established in the electoral districts, a polling station committee. (Added clause: 13/3/2008-5749/1) An Overseas District Electoral Board, subordinate to the Ankara Provincial Electoral Board, shall be established to manage electoral matters relating to the voting of citizens residing abroad. Where necessary, more than one overseas district electoral board may be established. In provincial centres, a central district electoral board shall also be established.

In districts with a population exceeding 200,000 according to the latest census, more than one district electoral board shall be established, based on village and neighbourhood boundaries (electoral districts) and, as far as possible, ensuring equality in population numbers.

Apart from provincial and district municipalities, other municipalities within the district (including the central district) are attached, without being divided, as a whole together with their neighbourhoods to one of the district electoral boards.

Article 14

(Amended: 17 May 1979 – Law No. 2234, Article 1)

The duties and powers of the Supreme Electoral Board are as follows: [...]

13. (Amendment: 13/3/2008-5749/2) To make the necessary arrangements for the establishment of the Overseas District Election Committee and to ensure that citizens residing abroad are able to cast their votes. ^[6]

14. (Amendment: 9/5/2012-6304/1) To appoint, where deemed necessary and following consultation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, personnel from that Ministry at a level of at least head of office to carry out the duties assigned by the Overseas District Election Board during the election calendar period in relation to overseas election matters and procedures.[...]

Missions and authorities of Overseas District Election Board:**Article 20/A**

(Addition: 9/5/2012-6304/2 art.)

Here are the missions and authorizations of Overseas District Election Board:

1. To provide proper execution of voting of citizens registered to Overseas voters registry and to take all necessary precautions.
2. To establish Overseas ballot box committees.
3. To transmit ballot papers and stamped vote envelopes and other electoral materials to diplomatic missions via Ministry of Foreign Affairs at latest seven days prior to beginning of voting or when considered necessary to demand locally the purchase of ballots and voting booths from Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
4. To examine and decide on objections against transactions and decisions of Overseas District ballot box committees.
5. To answer the questions of presidencies of Overseas District ballot box committees immediately on the execution of electoral works.
6. To finalize objections made directly or through consulates during the pending duration regarding the overseas voter registry, to transmit the decisions to the General Directorate of Civil Registrations and Nationality, and to have the necessary registration and correction procedures carried out in accordance with these decisions.
7. For the voters who are registered to Overseas voters registry but who are inside the country for pending duration for any reason, to approve their address declaration forms transmitted directly or via District Election Boards for registration to Overseas registry and to send such forms to General Directorate of Civil Registrations and Nationality.
8. For the ones discharged from military service and whose limitations are lifted, to accept their applications either directly or via District Election Boards and provide their registrations to Overseas electoral register.
9. To decide on suspending the registration of voters under military service (even they are off duty), military students and voters who are limited by a finalized court order, even they are registered to Overseas electoral register.
10. For the voters who do not take place in Overseas electoral register even their applications are accepted to be registered to Overseas electoral register, to decide on their participation to register without considering whether electoral registers are finalized and to send this information to General Directorate of Electoral Register.
11. To open and to count the sealed sacks after voting process has been completed in line with general principles by establishing ballot box committee composed of one president, one public officer member and permanent and reserve members from three political parties which take the highest three voting amounts in recent parliamentary elections, to make the written proceedings and to undertake combining transactions and furthermore, to combine the results coming from temporary customs gate election boards and to transmit such results to Ankara Provincial Election Board.
12. To perform other duties assigned by Law.

Article 33

(Amended: 17 May 1979 – Law No. 2234, Article 1)

(Amended first paragraph: 13/3/2008-5749/4) The electoral register shall be reorganised annually in accordance with the procedures and principles to be determined by the Supreme Electoral Board, based on the residential address information in the address registration system, and shall be updated during each election period through continuous data collection. [14]

The rules, methods and techniques for the organisation, continuous updating and general supervision of the Voter Register, as well as the information processing principles, rules and methods of the General Directorate of the Voter Register, shall be determined by a circular to be issued by the Supreme Election Board.

Information collected during registration and verification, including changes to voter data such as corrections to name, surname, age and gender; loss of voting eligibility (restriction, disqualification from public service) or its reinstatement, information indicating the loss or restoration of citizenship, and information confirming death, as well as data on changes of residence occurring within and outside the electoral district, and other documents to be collected in accordance with the rules and methods determined by the Supreme Election Board, the electoral register is established and updated.

(Added fourth paragraph: 31/3/2022-7393/8) In the general local authority elections to be held pursuant to the Law No. 2972 of 18 January 1984 on the Election of Local Authorities, Neighbourhood Heads and Elders' Councils, updating procedures shall be carried out based on the electoral register established in accordance with the first paragraph, using the address of the place of residence as of three months prior to the start date of the election. Overseas electoral registry and voter lists

Article 35

(Change: 13/3/2008-5749/5 art.)

Overseas electoral roll is created by basing on residential area information in address registration system within the framework of procedures and principles to be determined by Supreme Election Council.

(Addendum clause: 9/5/2012-6304/3 art.) Overseas voter lists (...) are created by Supreme Election Council by basing on overseas electoral roll and are announced in electronic environment.

Article 36

(Amended: 17 May 1979 – Law No. 2234, Article 1)

(Amended first paragraph: 13 March 2008 – Law No. 5749, Article 6)

The electoral register shall be compiled and updated annually on the basis of information from the address registration system. (Additional sentences: 31/3/2022-7393/9) No voter may be deprived of their right to vote on the grounds of the register's organisation. Those who do not appear in the address registration system due to their address having been closed shall be registered in the electoral roll based on the most recent valid address registration information held by the General Directorate of Population and Citizenship Affairs. Where necessary, the Supreme Electoral Board shall decide that a census shall be conducted simultaneously throughout Turkey on the second Sunday of April, for the purpose of collecting the information required for the voter register to be updated every four years and audited every two years.

On the day of the roll call, from 05.00 onwards until the completion of the roll call is announced by the customary means, no one other than officials is permitted to leave their posts.

However, the roll call and verification process must in any event be completed by 19.00 on the same day.

The Supreme Election Board shall apply other methods, techniques and rules specified in circulars in accordance with the requirements set out in this Act during the compilation and recording of the electoral register.

District chairpersons of political parties, as announced by the Supreme Election Board in accordance with the fourth paragraph of Article 14 of this Act, may appoint a representative to assist the recording officer.

The names of the representatives shall be submitted in a list within the timeframe specified upon the request of the district electoral board. The representatives of the political parties whose names have been submitted shall perform their representative duties with the document they receive from the chair of the district electoral board. The names and posts on this list shall not be altered subsequently.

(Amendment: 30/5/1997-Decree Law No. 572/Article 26) During the compilation of the electoral register, if a voter has a disability that would prevent them from casting their vote, this shall be recorded on the form.

Voting methods and general principles for overseas voters

Article 94/A

(Added: 13/3/2008-5749/10)

(Amended first paragraph: 9 May 2012 - Law No. 6304, Article 5) Regarding the voting of overseas voters, the Supreme Election Board shall decide, after consulting the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the application of polling stations, voting at customs checkpoints or electronic voting methods, either jointly or separately, depending on the type of election and the circumstances of the foreign country. In matters and procedures relating to the casting of votes by voters registered in the overseas voters' register, use may be made of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' IT infrastructure. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall take the necessary measures to establish and ensure the security of the IT infrastructure to be used, in accordance with the procedures and principles determined by the Supreme Election Board.

In general parliamentary elections, on the combined ballot papers printed on specially manufactured paper bearing the Supreme Election Board's watermark, there shall be a blank circle with a diameter of two centimetres beneath the section allocated to each political party, alongside the party's distinctive symbol, abbreviated name and full name.

Overseas voters may cast their votes in general parliamentary elections, presidential elections and referendums.

Overseas voters may only vote for political parties participating in the election.

Election campaigning is prohibited abroad and at overseas missions.

Voting by post for overseas voters

Article 94/B

(Amended: 13/3/2008-5749/10)

The Supreme Electoral Board sends ballot papers specially produced by it and ballot envelopes printed in a special colour to the Overseas District Electoral Board. The Overseas District Electoral Board sends the ballot papers, the reverse side of which is sealed with its own seal, and the ballot envelopes to the address where the voter is registered abroad, seventy-five days prior to the day on which the elections are to be held.

Of the special envelopes sent to the voter for casting their vote, the ballot paper is placed into the small envelope bearing the seal of the Overseas District Electoral Board on one corner. This envelope is placed into the second, medium-sized envelope bearing the inscription 'Overseas District Electoral Board Ankara/TURKEY', and this second envelope is placed into the third, large envelope bearing the voter's overseas address.

Upon receiving the letter, the voter opens the envelope bearing their own address, marks the circle in the column of their chosen political party on the ballot paper inside the sealed small

envelope, or marks the relevant section (X) on the ballot paper prepared for the presidential election or referendum, places only the ballot paper into the small envelope, and seals it. They place this envelope into the second envelope bearing the address "Overseas District Electoral Board, Ankara/TURKEY", seal it, and post it so that it arrives at the Overseas District Electoral Board by 17:00 on election day.

The procedures and principles regarding the dispatch, security and identification of letters are determined by the Supreme Electoral Board, following consultation with the General Directorate of the Post and Telegraph Organisation. Postage costs are covered by the Supreme Electoral Board.

Upon arrival at the Overseas District Electoral Board, the letter is opened by the polling station committee after the voter's identity has been verified and their name located in the electoral register; the envelope containing the ballot paper is then placed into the ballot box without being opened. The ballot box is opened daily at 17:00 by the authorised polling station committee; the envelopes are compared with the number of voters who cast their votes, and their conformity is recorded in a minutes document. The ballot envelopes, without being opened, are placed in a bag together with a copy of the minutes, the bag is sealed, and it is handed over to the Overseas District Electoral Board by the polling station committee.

Letters arriving after 17:00 on election day are recorded in a minutes document and then incinerated.

From 17:00 on the day of the election, the ballot bags are opened by the Overseas District Election Committee, and the counting, tabulation and consolidation procedures are carried out, with the results being forwarded to the Ankara Provincial Election Committee. This Committee also draws up a consolidation record and sends it to the Supreme Election Board.

The total number of valid votes cast by overseas voters is added to the total number of valid votes cast across Turkey by the Supreme Election Board, thereby determining the total number of votes at the national level and the number of valid votes each party received nationwide.

In this way, the total votes forming the basis of Article 33 of the Law No. 2839 on the Election of Members of Parliament are determined.

In each electoral district, the total valid votes are increased by the ratio obtained by dividing the total votes received by the Ankara Provincial Election Board from the Overseas District Election Board by the votes received from other election boards. The difference between the total votes cast in that electoral district and the total votes calculated in this manner is distributed among the parties in proportion to their share of the votes received from the Ankara Provincial Election Board, and the resulting figures are added to the valid votes they received in that electoral district. Thus, the total number of valid votes cast in the electoral district as defined in Article 34 of the Law on the Election of Members of Parliament and the total number of valid votes received by the parties are determined.

NB: 94/B article was cancelled in terms of voting by letter with 29/5/2008 dated and E.: 2008/33, K.: 2008/113 decision of Constitutional Court.

Article 94/C

(Added: 13 March 2008 – Law No. 5749, Article 10)[52]

(Amended first paragraph: 9 May 2012 – Law No. 6304, Article 6) Voters registered in the overseas electoral roll may cast their votes at polling stations established at our overseas missions and, where necessary, at other locations deemed appropriate by local authorities, starting from forty-five days prior to the day of the election, in accordance with the voting schedule established by the Supreme Electoral Board, until 17:00 on the third day prior to the election day. However, taking into account the number of voters in the foreign country, the voting period may be shortened by the Supreme Electoral Board following consultation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Voting hours are between 08:00 and 17:00 local time. Taking into account the situation in the foreign country, the Supreme Election Board, after consulting the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, shall decide at which overseas missions and locations voters may cast their votes for twenty-four hours, including public holidays, and at which locations for a shorter period; this decision shall be published electronically. (Repealed final sentence: 25/4/2018-7140/1) (...)52

(Amended second paragraph: 9/5/2012-6304/6) The overseas mission and locality where a polling station is to be established, and the composition of the polling station committee, shall be determined by the Supreme Election Board following consultation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In accordance with this determination, the election of the chairperson and members of the polling station committee shall be conducted by the Overseas District Election Board. The polling station committee shall consist of a chairperson, one public official as a member, and one nominee each from the three political parties that received the highest number of votes nationwide in the last general parliamentary election, and an alternate member shall be selected in the same manner. If political parties fail to nominate members, the vacancy shall be filled by a member selected from among public officials or voters. The election of the chairperson and members of the polling station committee abroad is carried out primarily from among public officials and voters stationed at the location where the polling station is to be established.

(Added paragraph: 25/4/2018-7140/1) Political parties may nominate a separate polling station committee member for each polling day abroad.

The chairperson and members of the polling station committee take the oath in accordance with the provisions of Article 70 and assume their duties.

Polling station committees shall prepare a sufficient number of enclosed voting booths to ensure the secrecy and freedom of voting.

(Amended fifth paragraph: 9/5/2012-6304/6) The Supreme Electoral Council shall send ballot papers specially produced by it and ballot envelopes printed in a special colour to the Overseas District Electoral Council. The dimensions and all other characteristics of the ballot boxes, voting booths and other voting equipment to be used abroad, as well as the number of voters per ballot box, may be determined differently by the Supreme Election Board, taking into account the situation in the foreign country and after consulting the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(Amended sixth paragraph: 9/5/2012-6304/6) When a voter arrives to cast their vote, the chair of the polling station committee verifies the voter's identity using their identity card bearing the Turkish Republic identity number or their passport, and checks via the Computer-Supported Central Voter Register System whether they have already voted using other methods. A voter found not to have voted enters the polling booth to cast their vote, taking the ballot paper and ballot envelope stamped with the polling station committee's seal, along with a stamp marked 'Yes' or 'Preference'. The voter is required to sign the register at the entry where their name appears.

(Amended seventh paragraph: 9/5/2012-6304/6) The ballot boxes are opened by the polling station committees at 17:00, the scheduled closing time for voting each day, or at any other closing time that may have been determined, in accordance with the procedures set out in this Act. The number of ballot envelopes, the number of voters who have cast their votes, and the correspondence between these figures are recorded in a minutes document before the envelopes are opened.

(Amended eighth paragraph: 9 May 2012 – Law No. 6304, Article 6) In each overseas mission, the following persons shall be responsible for safeguarding the votes and delivering the sealed ballot bags to the Overseas District Election Board using methods determined by the Supreme Election Board: a polling station committee is established by the Overseas District Election Board, following consultation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, comprising the head of mission or the most senior official as chair, a public official serving at that mission as a member, and members nominated by the three political parties that received the highest number of votes nationwide in the last general parliamentary election; substitute members are selected in the same manner. If political parties fail to nominate members, the vacancy shall be filled by a member selected from among public officials.

The sealed ballot envelopes, without being opened, are placed in a bag together with the original minutes, the bag is sealed with the ballot committee's seal, and is handed over by the chair of the ballot committee to the relevant commission for safekeeping. The ballot bags are sent by the commission to the Overseas District Election Committee by the fastest means available. A copy of the minutes is kept at the relevant overseas mission.

(Changed tenth clause: 9/5/2012-6304/6 art.) After voting period ends inside the country, Overseas Election Board has ballot box committees open vote bags coming from abroad as their

strings are sealed, according to general principles and under supervision of Overseas Election Board and has them count and tabulate the votes and write them to minutes. The minute regarding combining operations is arranged basing on these minutes and results are transmitted to Ankara Provincial Election Board. In addition, the results in the temporary combining minute coming from temporary customs gate election boards are combined in their own scope and these results are transmitted to Ankara Provincial Election Board. Ankara Provincial Election Board combines the results coming from overseas ballot boxes and the results coming from customs gates and the minute issued is sent to Supreme Election Council through the fastest mean. Evaluation of the votes being cast in overseas ballot boxes is made as per related provisions of article 94/B.

Voting by overseas voters via electronic means

Article 94/D

(Amended: 13/3/2008-5749/10)

The Supreme Election Board is authorised to establish the necessary technical infrastructure to enable citizens residing abroad, as determined under Article 35, to cast their votes electronically using their Turkish Republic identity number; and to take measures such as passwords or similar security precautions for voters to ensure secure voting, as well as measures to prevent duplicate voting.

Voters abroad may cast their votes electronically within the specified period, commencing thirty days prior to the date of the election, up until 17:00 Turkish time on election day.

Votes cast electronically are verified by the Overseas District Election Committee from 17:00 on the day of the election, following which counting, tabulation and consolidation procedures are carried out, and the results are forwarded to the Ankara Provincial Election Committee. This Committee then draws up a consolidation report and sends it to the Supreme Election Board.

The evaluation of votes cast electronically is carried out in accordance with the relevant provisions of Article 94/B.

Voting of Overseas voters at custom stations

Article 94/E

(addition: 13/3/2008-5749/10 art.)

Voters registered in Overseas electoral roll, beginning with forty five days prior to elections, until 17.00 (...) on election day, may vote at the ballots that will be located on custom gates.

Supreme Election board send specially manufactured ballot papers and envelopes in special colours to related district boards at latest three days prior to election.

At the custom gates which are determined by Supreme Election Council, voting can be exercised from 08.00 on forty fifth day prior to elections to 17.00 on election date. Supreme Election Council is authorized to determine at which gates voting can be exercised for 24 hours including holidays and at which gates in less hours.

Supreme Election Council previously determines numbers of temporary custom gate election board and ballot box committees that will work during election period, numbers of members and reserves and definitions of their missions.

Ballot box committees, prepare adequate numbers of closed voting places to provide the freedom and confidentiality of voting. Related administrative authorities provide all necessary assistance to ballot box committees.

Propaganda is not allowed at custom gates.

(Changed seventh clause: 9/5/2012-6304/7 art.) When a voter comes to customs gate to exercise his voting right, president of the ballot box committee determines his identification with official documents or passport including the identification number delivered by Republic of Türkiye and on Computer Supported Central electoral roll controls whether the voter has exercised his vote electronically and after determination he hasn't, he is given ballot paper sealed with stamp of

ballot box committee and “Yes” or “Preference” stamp, enters into closed voting area and completes his voting process according to general principles.

(Repealed first sentence: 9/5/2012-6304/7 art.) (...) Voter, who has exercised his vote, signs and completes voting process on the schedule.

During the voting process, at the change times of ballot box committees, ballot is opened in the method described by Law, the numbers of envelopes and numbers of voters are compared and convenience is determined with minute book.

Ballot papers and one copy of the minute book are put into bag and sealed and delivered to temporary custom gate election board by the president of ballot box committee.

(Changed eleventh article: 9/5/2012-6304/7 art.) Beginning with 17.00 on election date, bags are opened in line with the general principles and they are counted and determined by temporary customs gate boards. Temporary customs gate board arranges combination minute book and along with other necessary electoral documents, they are sent to Overseas District Election Board with fastest possible means.

Evaluation of votes exercised at customs gates, is being undertaken according to the provisions of article 94/B.

UKRAINE

a) Constitution

Article 38

Citizens have the right to participate in the administration of state affairs, in All-Ukrainian and local referendums, to freely elect and to be elected to bodies of state power and bodies of local self-government.

Article 69

The expression of the will of the people is exercised through elections, referendum and other forms of direct democracy.

Article 70

Citizens of Ukraine who have attained the age of eighteen on the day elections and referendums are held, have the right to vote at the elections and referendums.

Citizens deemed by a court to be legally incompetent do not have the right to vote.

b) Electoral Code of Ukraine (as revised 2023)

Article 5

Voting Day

1. The day when an election is held shall be the voting day during the respective election (the election day). The voting day (repeat voting day) during an election shall be a Sunday.

Special, repeat, first, additional local elections and local by-elections shall be held twice a year – on the last Sunday of March and the last Sunday of October.

If a special, additional, first local election or local by-election has been called for a last Sunday in March or a last Sunday in October which falls on a public holiday or a religious feast recognised as a non-business day by labour law, such local election shall be held on the following Sunday.

In a year of regular local elections, all local elections shall be held once a year on the day of regular local elections, which shall fall on the last Sunday of October of the fifth year of the mandate of local councils and village, town, city mayors elected in the previous regular local elections.

{Part 1 of Article 5 as revised by Law No. 805-IX of 16 July 2020}

2. The voting day during an election shall be determined in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code. In cases specified by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Code, the voting day during an election shall be determined by the entity calling it.

{Part 2 of Article 5 as revised by Law No. 805-IX of 16 July 2020}

3. A repeat voting day shall be provided in this Code for certain types of elections.

Article 7

Universal Suffrage

1. Elections in Ukraine shall be universal. Ukrainian citizens who have turned 18 on or before the voting day shall have the right to vote.

2. A citizen who has been declared incompetent by a court shall not have the right to vote.

3. Ukrainian citizens who have the right to vote shall be voters.

4. A voter shall exercise their right to vote in elections on the basis of being included in the voter list at an election precinct in accordance with this Code.

Article 17*Personal Voting*

1. Every voter shall vote in person. Voting for others or transferring the right to vote to any other person shall be prohibited.
2. Assisting a voter who cannot fill out the voting ballot or cast it in the ballot box by himself/herself due to disability and/or state of health in performing these actions in accordance with his/her will expression in cases established by this Code shall not be deemed a violation of the personal voting requirement.

Article 25*The System of Territorial Organisation of Elections*

1. The system of territorial organisation of national elections shall consist of the following elements:
 - 1) the single nationwide constituency;
 - 2) territorial constituencies;
 - 3) election precincts.
2. The system of territorial organisation of local elections shall be established by this Code.
3. The system of territorial organisation of every type of elections shall be established by this Code.

Article 26*The Single Nationwide Constituency*

1. The single nationwide constituency (hereinafter the nationwide constituency) shall comprise the whole of Ukraine and the foreign constituency.
 2. The nationwide constituency shall be used for preparation, organisation and conduct of national elections.
 3. The foreign constituency shall include all foreign election precincts established under this Code.
- No decision shall be needed to establish the foreign constituency.

Article 31*Foreign Election Precinct*

1. A foreign election precinct shall exist for the purpose of organising and conducting voting for voters residing or staying in the respective territory of a foreign state on the voting day.
2. Foreign election precincts shall be established by the Central Election Commission at Ukraine's diplomatic institutions abroad and military units (formations) deployed outside Ukraine.
3. A foreign election precinct shall have its voting premises located at a diplomatic institution of Ukraine or at the location of a military unit (formation) deployed outside Ukraine.
4. A foreign election precinct shall have its index number, address of the voting premises, and address of the premises of the precinct election commission of a foreign election precinct.
5. Foreign election precincts shall be used to prepare and conduct voting in national elections.

Article 33*Status of Election Commissions*

1. Election commissions shall be special collegial bodies authorised to organise the preparation and conduct of elections and to ensure the free exercise of voting rights by citizens of Ukraine, the observance and equal application of election law.
2. The status of the Central Election Commission shall be determined by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Code, the Law of Ukraine "On the Central Election Commission" and other laws.

The Central Election Commission shall head the system of election commissions that ensure the organisation of the preparation and conduct of national elections, and shall be the superior commission for all constituency and precinct election commissions and all election commissions established for all local elections. The Central Election Commission shall exercise the powers of a constituency election commission in the foreign constituency during national elections

Article 46

Procedure for Compiling and Correcting of Voter Lists for Foreign Election Precincts

1. The State Voter Registry authority in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall compile provisional voter lists for every foreign election precinct according to the Law of Ukraine "On the State Voter Registry". The form for the provisional voter list shall be prescribed by the Central Election Commission.

2. The provisional voter list for a foreign election precinct shall include the citizens of Ukraine who have reached or, as of the voting day will have reached, eighteen years of age, have the right to vote, and whose election addresses are located outside Ukraine.

Voter information in the voter list for a foreign election precinct shall be indicated in a manner convenient for conducting voting.

3. Not later than eleven days prior to the voting day, the provisional voting list of a foreign election precinct shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commission in an electronic form.

{Part 3, Article 46 as amended by Law No. 805-IX of 16 July 2020}

4. On the day following the day of the receipt of the provisional voter list, the precinct election commission of a foreign election precinct shall make it available for public examination on the premises of the precinct election commission in a paper copy.

5. A voter shall have the right to personally submit, not later than five days prior to the voting day (Kyiv time), to the respective precinct election commission a request to correct inaccuracies in the provisional voter list for a foreign election precinct, to which request the required documents (copies of documents) shall be attached, and the request shall be considered by the election commission within one day. Any requests made after the expiry of the aforementioned period shall not be considered.

6. A voter's request made under part 5 of this Article shall be without delay delivered through the respective foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine to the State Voter Registry authority at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

The foreign diplomatic institution of Ukraine shall also deliver a copy of such request to the State Voter Registry authority at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine via technical means of communication.

7. Based on the information submitted pursuant to the Law of Ukraine "On the State Voter Registry" and after considering the voter's requests, the State Voter Registry authority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall produce the corrected voter list.

not later than two days prior to the voting day, the corrected voter lists shall be delivered to the respective precinct election commission of foreign election precincts in paper copies and electronic form.

8. On the day preceding the voting day, after making changes in accordance with this Article, the voter list for a foreign election precinct shall be closed by striking out blank spaces in the voter list (designated for entering voters' last names) in a way that makes it impossible to add any more voters to the list; it shall then be signed by the chairperson or the deputy chairperson and the secretary of the precinct election commission and certified with the seal of the precinct election commission.

9. No changes to the corrected voter list for a foreign election precinct may be made on the voting day.

10. On the voting day the chairperson, the deputy chairperson and the secretary of the precinct election commission of a foreign election precinct shall correct inaccuracies and clerical errors in the corrected voter list, such as incorrect spelling of a last name, a given name (all given names), or a patronymic (if available), incorrect date of birth or number of the building and/or apartment where the voter resides, if it is obvious, in spite of such clerical errors, that the voter who came to

the election precinct for voting is the same individual who was included in the voter list. Such correction shall be certified in the column Notes by the signature of the chairperson or the deputy chairperson or the secretary of the precinct election commission.

Article 117

Preparations for Voting on the Election (Repeat Voting) Day

1. Voting on the election day and on the repeat voting day shall be carried out from 8 am till 8 pm. Voting at foreign election precincts shall be held according to the local time of the country where such precincts are established.
2. The precinct election commission shall notify voters about the hours and place of voting at least seven days prior to it, or in exceptional cases, where election precincts have been formed according to part 5 of Article 30 of this Code, on the eve of the election day.

c) Law about the all-Ukrainian referendum

Article 62

Procedure for compiling and updating voter lists at foreign polling stations of the all-Ukrainian referendum

1. The body maintaining the State Register of Voters at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine shall compile preliminary lists of voters for each foreign polling station for the all-Ukrainian referendum in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the State Register of Voters". The form of the preliminary list of voters for a foreign polling station for the all-Ukrainian referendum shall be established by the Central Election Commission.
2. The preliminary list of voters at a foreign polling station for an all-Ukrainian referendum includes citizens of Ukraine who have reached or will reach eighteen years of age on the day of voting, who have the right to vote and whose electoral address is located outside Ukraine. Information about voters in the voter list at a foreign polling station for an all-Ukrainian referendum is indicated in an order convenient for conducting voting.
3. The preliminary list of voters for a foreign polling station for the all-Ukrainian referendum shall be transmitted to the relevant polling station commission for the all-Ukrainian referendum in electronic form no later than thirteen days before voting day.
4. The polling station commission of a foreign polling station for an all-Ukrainian referendum shall, on the day following receipt of the preliminary voter list, make it available for public inspection in the premises of the polling station commission in paper form.
5. A voter may personally submit a statement about an inaccuracy in the preliminary voter list at a foreign polling station for the All-Ukrainian referendum, to which the necessary documents (copies of documents) are attached, to the relevant polling station commission for the All-Ukrainian referendum no later than five days before the voting day (Kyiv time), which shall be considered by the commission within one day. An application submitted after the specified deadline shall remain without consideration.
6. The voter's application, provided for in Part Five of this Article, shall be immediately transmitted through the relevant foreign diplomatic mission of Ukraine to the body maintaining the State Register of Voters at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. The foreign diplomatic mission of Ukraine shall also transmit a copy of such application to the body maintaining the State Register of Voters at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine using technical means of communication.
7. Taking into account the information submitted in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the State Register of Voters", based on the results of consideration of voters' applications, the body maintaining the State Register of Voters at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine prepares an updated list of voters.

The updated voter lists are transferred to the relevant commissions of foreign polling stations for the all-Ukrainian referendum no later than two days before voting day in paper form and in electronic form.

8. On the day preceding voting day, after making changes in accordance with this article, the voter list at a foreign polling station shall be closed by crossing out the empty columns for entering the names of voters in such a way as to prevent the entry of additional voters into the list, signed by the chairman or deputy chairman and secretary of the precinct commission for the all-Ukrainian referendum, and affixed with the seal of the precinct commission for the all-Ukrainian referendum.

9. On voting day, no changes shall be made to the updated list of voters at a polling station abroad for the all-Ukrainian referendum.

10. The chairman or deputy chairman or secretary of the precinct commission of a foreign precinct for an all-Ukrainian referendum on the day of voting shall correct inaccuracies and technical typos in the updated voter list - incorrect spelling of the surname, first name (all first names), patronymic (if any), date of birth, house number, apartment of residence), - if, despite such technical typos, it is clear that the voter list includes exactly the voter who arrived at the precinct for an all-Ukrainian referendum to vote. Such a correction shall be certified by the signature of the chairman or deputy chairman or secretary of the precinct election commission in the "Notes" column.

Article 63

Temporary change of voting place of a voter without changing the electoral address

1. Upon the application of a voter, including a voter for whom the State Voter Register contains an official note on leaving the relevant territory, the body maintaining the State Voter Register may temporarily (for the period of the all-Ukrainian referendum process) change the voter's place of voting (all-Ukrainian referendum precinct) without changing his electoral address. Such an application may be submitted by the voter to the body maintaining the State Voter Register no later than five days before the voting day in paper form or in electronic form using electronic identification means specified by law. The procedure for submitting and considering an application for a temporary change of a voter's place of voting shall be established by the Central Election Commission.

2. The procedure for temporarily changing a voter's voting location does not apply to special polling stations for the all-Ukrainian referendum.

d) Law about the Presidential Elections of Ukraine

Article 2

Universal suffrage

1. The elections of the President of Ukraine are universal. The right to vote in the elections of the President of Ukraine is granted to citizens of Ukraine who have reached the age of eighteen on election day.

2. The document confirming citizenship of Ukraine is:

- 1) passport of a citizen of Ukraine;
- 2) passport of a citizen of Ukraine for traveling abroad;
- 3) diplomatic passport;
- 4) service passport;

{ Clause 5 of Part Two of Article 2 was excluded pursuant to Law No. 879-VII of March 13, 2014 }

{ Clause 6 of Part Two of Article 2 was excluded on the basis of Law No. 879-VII of March 13, 2014 }

7) military ID card (exclusively for military personnel on conscription);

{Clause 7 of Part Two of Article 2 as amended by Law No. 879-VII of March 13, 2014 }

8) temporary identity card of a citizen of Ukraine;

9) card (certificate) of a penal institution or remand prison, which must contain: surname, first name, patronymic, date, month, year of birth, citizenship, photo of the person, signature of the head and seal of the institution - for persons who are in penal institutions or remand prisons.

{Clause 9 of Part Two of Article 2 as amended by Law No. 879-VII of March 13, 2014 }

The documents specified in paragraphs 1, 7, and 8 of part two of this article are the basis for obtaining a ballot and may be used at regular and special polling stations.

{Part two of Article 2 is supplemented with a paragraph in accordance with Law No. 879-VII of March 13, 2014 }

The document specified in paragraph 9 of part two of this article is the basis for obtaining a ballot and may be used at a special polling station established in the relevant penal institution or remand prison.

{Part two of Article 2 is supplemented with a paragraph in accordance with Law No. 879-VII of March 13, 2014 }

The documents specified in paragraphs 2-4 of part two of this article are the basis for obtaining a ballot and may be used at foreign polling stations, as well as at special polling stations established on ships sailing under the State Flag of Ukraine, and at the polar station of Ukraine.

{Part two of Article 2 is supplemented with a paragraph in accordance with Law No. 879-VII of March 13, 2014 }

3. Citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote may participate in the work of election commissions as their members, as well as in conducting election campaigning, observing the conduct of the elections of the President of Ukraine, and in other activities in accordance with the procedure established by this and other laws of Ukraine.

4. Any direct or indirect privileges or restrictions on the electoral rights of citizens of Ukraine on the grounds of race, skin color, political, religious and other beliefs, gender, ethnic and social origin, property status, place of residence, language or other grounds are prohibited. No restrictions on the participation of citizens in the electoral process are allowed, except for the restrictions provided for by the Constitution of Ukraine and this Law.

5. A citizen recognized by a court as incompetent shall not have the right to vote.

{The provision of part six of Article 2 has lost its force as unconstitutional in terms of determining the presence of Ukrainian citizens on consular registration as a condition for exercising the right to vote in the elections of the President of Ukraine on the basis of the Decision of the Constitutional Court No. 26-rp/2009 of 19.10.2009 }

6. The exercise of the right to vote in the elections of the President of Ukraine by citizens of Ukraine who reside or are outside Ukraine during the period of preparation and holding of the elections shall be ensured by their inclusion in the voter list at the relevant foreign election precinct established in accordance with this Law.

{Part Six of Article 2 as amended by Laws No. 1616-VI of 08/21/2009 , No. 879-VII of 03/13/2014 }

UNITED KINGDOM**a) Elections Act 2022****Section 2****14 Extension of franchise for parliamentary elections: British citizens overseas**

(1) For sections 1 and 2 of the Representation of the People Act 1985 substitute—

“1 Extension of parliamentary franchise

- (1) A person is entitled to vote as an elector at a parliamentary election in a constituency if—
 - (a) on the declaration date, the person—
 - (i) qualifies as an overseas elector in respect of that constituency (see section 1A),
 - (ii) is not subject to any legal incapacity to vote (age apart), and
 - (iii) is a British citizen, and
 - (b) on the date of the poll, the person—
 - (i) is not subject to any legal incapacity to vote,
 - (ii) is a British citizen, and
 - (iii) is registered in a register of parliamentary electors for that constituency.
- (...)

1A Qualification as an overseas elector in respect of a constituency

(1) For the purposes of this Act and the principal Act, a person qualifies as an overseas elector in respect of a constituency on the declaration date if—

- (a) on that date the person is not resident in the United Kingdom, and
- (b) the person satisfies the previous registration condition or the previous residence condition.

(2) A person satisfies the previous registration condition if—

- (a) the person has at some time in the past been entered in an electoral register in respect of an address at a place that is situated within the constituency, and
- (b) subsequent to that entry ceasing to have effect, the person has not been included in any electoral register (whether in respect of the address mentioned in paragraph (a) or any other address).

(3) A person satisfies the previous residence condition if—

- (a) the person has at some time in the past been resident in the United Kingdom,
- (b) on the last day on which the person was resident in the United Kingdom, the person—
 - (i) was resident at an address at a place that is situated within the constituency, or
 - (ii) was not so resident but could have made a declaration under section 7B of the principal Act (a “declaration of local connection”) in respect of such an address, and
- (c) subject to section 1B(4), the person has not at any time been included in any electoral register (whether in respect of the address mentioned in paragraph (b) or any other address).

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3)(b)(ii), it is to be assumed that section 7B of the principal Act was in force on the last day on which the person was resident in the United Kingdom.

(5) In this section—

“declaration date” has the same meaning as in section 1;

“electoral register” means—

- (a) a register of parliamentary electors, or
- (b) a register of local government electors (including a register of electors prepared for the purposes of local elections (within the meaning of the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962)).

1B British citizens overseas: entitlement to be registered

- (1) A person is entitled to be registered in a register of parliamentary electors in pursuance of a declaration made by the person under and in accordance with section 1C (an “overseas elector’s declaration”) if the following two conditions are satisfied.
- (2) The first condition is that the register is for the constituency or part of the constituency within which is situated the place of the address specified in the declaration by virtue of—
 - (a) section 1C(2)(a) (where the person is seeking to be registered in reliance on the previous registration condition), or
 - (b) section 1C(3)(a) or (4) (where the person is seeking to be registered in reliance on the previous residence condition).
- (3) The second condition is that the registration officer concerned is satisfied that, on the date on which the person makes the declaration, the person qualifies as an overseas elector in respect of the constituency.
- (4) Where—
 - (a) a person applies to be registered in a register of parliamentary electors in reliance on the previous residence condition, and
 - (b) the registration officer concerned considers that insufficient evidence is available for the purpose of determining whether the person has at any time been included in any electoral register (within the meaning of section 1A),the officer may disregard section 1A(3)(c) in determining whether the person satisfies the previous residence condition.
- (5) An overseas elector’s declaration made by a person is of no effect unless received by the registration officer concerned within the period of 3 months beginning with the date on which the person makes the declaration.
- (6) For the purposes of section 1A, where a person is registered in a register of parliamentary electors for a constituency or part of a constituency in pursuance of an overseas elector’s declaration, it is to be conclusively presumed that the person was not resident in the United Kingdom on the date on which the person made the declaration.
- (7) See also sections 10ZC and 10A of the principal Act, which (among other things) contain provision about the making of applications for registration.

1C Overseas elector’s declaration

- (1) An overseas elector’s declaration must—
 - (a) give the full name of the person making the declaration (“the declarant”),
 - (b) state the date of the declaration,
 - (c) state that the declarant is a British citizen,
 - (d) state that the declarant is not resident in the United Kingdom on the date of the declaration,
 - (e) state whether the declarant is seeking to be registered in reliance on the previous registration condition or the previous residence condition,
 - (f) contain any other prescribed information and satisfy any other prescribed requirements (which may include requirements for the declaration to be attested), and
 - (g) state that the declarant believes the matters stated in the declaration to be true.
- (2) Where the declarant is seeking to be registered in reliance on the previous registration condition, the declaration must also—
 - (a) specify—
 - (i) the address in the United Kingdom in respect of which the declarant was included in an electoral register, and
 - (ii) when the declarant was last included in such a register in respect of that address, and
 - (b) state that since the declarant’s entry in that register in respect of that address ceased to have effect, the declarant has not been included in any electoral register (whether in respect of that or any other address).

- (3) Where the declarant is seeking to be registered in reliance on the previous residence condition by virtue of section 1A(3)(b)(i), the declaration must also—
- (a) specify—
 - (i) the address in the United Kingdom at which the declarant was resident, and
 - (ii) when the declarant was last resident at that address, and
 - (b) state that since being resident at that address, the declarant has not been resident at any other address in the United Kingdom.
- (4) Where the declarant is seeking to be registered in reliance on the previous residence condition by virtue of section 1A(3)(b)(ii), the declaration must also specify an address in respect of which the declarant could have made a declaration of local connection on the last day on which the declarant was resident in the United Kingdom.
- (5) An overseas elector's declaration that specifies an address in Northern Ireland under subsection (2)(a), (3)(a) or (4) may, instead of or in addition to including a statement under subsection (1)(c), state that the declarant is an Irish citizen who—
- (a) was born in Northern Ireland, and
 - (b) qualifies as a British citizen (whether or not the declarant identifies as such).
- (6) If the declarant—
- (a) makes an overseas elector's declaration that specifies more than one address under subsection (2)(a), (3)(a) or (4), or
 - (b) makes two or more overseas elector's declarations that bear the same date and specify different addresses in the United Kingdom under subsection (2)(a), (3)(a) or (4),
- the declaration or declarations are void.
- (7) The declarant may at any time cancel an overseas elector's declaration made by the declarant.
- (8) In this section—
“electoral register” has the same meaning as in section 1A;
“registered” means registered in a register of parliamentary electors.
- (9) A person found abandoned in Northern Ireland as a new-born infant is, unless the contrary is shown, deemed for the purposes of subsection (5) to have been born in Northern Ireland.

1D Duration of entitlement to be registered

- (1) Where a person is registered in a register of parliamentary electors in pursuance of an overseas elector's declaration, the person is entitled to remain so registered until—
- (a) the third 1 November following the date when the person's entry on the register first takes effect (subject to any extension under subsections (2) and (3)), or
 - (b) if sooner, the occurrence of an event mentioned in subsection (4).
- (2) Subsection (3) applies if—
- (a) at any time during the 6 months ending with the last day of the initial registration period or of any further registration period, the registration officer concerned receives a declaration made by the person under and in accordance with section 1E (a “renewal declaration”), and
 - (b) the registration officer is satisfied that, on the date on which the person makes the renewal declaration, the person is entitled to remain registered in the register in pursuance of the overseas elector's declaration.
- (3) The person is entitled to remain registered in the register in pursuance of the overseas elector's declaration until—
- (a) the third 1 November following the day after the last day of the initial registration period or of the further registration period in question (subject to any further extension), or
 - (b) if sooner, the occurrence of an event specified in subsection (4).
- (4) The events referred to in subsections (1)(b) and (3)(b) are—
- (a) the registration officer determines in accordance with regulations that the person was not entitled to be registered or to remain registered (as the case may be);
 - (b) the registration officer determines in accordance with regulations—

- (i) that the person was registered as the result of an application under section 10ZC or 10A(1) of the principal Act made by some other person, or
- (ii) that the person's entry has been altered as the result of an application under section 10ZD or 10A(4) of that Act made by some other person;
- (c) the overseas elector's declaration is cancelled (see section 1C(7));
- (d) another entry made in respect of the person in any electoral register takes effect (in the case of a register of parliamentary electors, whether or not in pursuance of an overseas elector's declaration).
- (5) A renewal declaration made by a person is of no effect unless received by the registration officer concerned within the period of 3 months beginning with the date on which the person makes the declaration.
- (6) In this section—
“electoral register” has the same meaning as in section 1A;
“initial registration period” means the period for which the person is entitled by virtue of subsection (1)(a) to remain registered;
“further registration period” means a period for which the person is entitled by virtue of subsection (3)(a) to remain registered.
- (7) Where a person is entitled to remain registered in a register of parliamentary electors for a constituency or part of a constituency by virtue of subsections (2) and (3), it is to be conclusively presumed for the purposes of section 1A that the person was not resident in the United Kingdom on the date on which the person made the renewal declaration in question.
- (8) Where a person's entitlement to remain registered in a register of parliamentary electors terminates by virtue of subsection (1) or (3), the registration officer concerned must remove the person's entry from the register.

1E Renewal declaration

- (1) A renewal declaration must—
 - (a) give the full name and date of birth of the person making the declaration (“the declarant”),
 - (b) state the date of the declaration,
 - (c) state that the declarant is a British citizen,
 - (d) state that the declarant is not resident in the United Kingdom on the date of the declaration,
 - (e) contain any other prescribed information and satisfy any other prescribed requirements, and
 - (f) state that the declarant believes the matters stated in the declaration to be true.
- (2) A renewal declaration must also—
 - (a) specify the address in respect of which the declarant is registered, and
 - (b) state that since the declarant was registered in respect of that address, no other entry has been made in respect of the declarant in any electoral register (whether in respect of the address mentioned in paragraph (a) or any other address).
- (3) A renewal declaration that specifies an address in Northern Ireland under subsection (2)(a) may, instead of or in addition to the statement under subsection (1)(c), state that the declarant is an Irish citizen who—
 - (a) was born in Northern Ireland, and
 - (b) qualifies as a British citizen (whether or not the declarant identifies as such),(and section 1C(9) applies as it applies for the purposes of section 1C(5)).
- (4) If the declarant—
 - (a) makes a renewal declaration that specifies more than one address under subsection (2)(a), or
 - (b) makes two or more renewal declarations that bear the same date and specify different addresses under subsection (2)(a),the declaration or declarations are void.
- (5) In this section—
“electoral register” has the same meaning as in section 1A;

“registered” means registered in a register of parliamentary electors in pursuance of an overseas elector’s declaration.”

(2) Schedule 7 contains amendments and transitional provision relating to this section.

Schedule 4

1 RPA 1983 is amended as follows. [...]

(3)After subsection (3A) insert—

“(3B)A person (“P”) is also guilty of an offence if P votes as proxy—

(a)for more than four electors—

(i)at a parliamentary election;

(ii)where the polls for two or more parliamentary elections are held on the same day, at those elections taken together;

(iii)at a local government election in England;

(iv)where the polls for two or more local government elections in England are held on the same day, at those elections taken together;

(b)for more than two electors—

(i)at a parliamentary election, or

(ii)where the polls for two or more parliamentary elections are held on the same day, at those elections taken together,

where P knows that more than two of those electors are registered in a register of parliamentary electors otherwise than in pursuance of an overseas elector’s declaration or a service declaration;

(c)for more than two electors—

(i)at a local government election in England, or

(ii)where the polls for two or more local government elections in England are held on the same day, at those elections taken together,

where P knows that more than two of those electors are registered in a register of local government electors otherwise than in pursuance of a service declaration.”

Schedule 7

Postal voting

15 (1) This paragraph applies where, immediately before the commencement date, a person to whom paragraph 14 applies has an entitlement to vote by post (whether as elector or proxy) at parliamentary elections in England and Wales or Scotland.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), the person’s entitlement to vote by post ends on the last day of the period of 12 months beginning with the date when the person’s entry in the register of parliamentary electors first takes effect (unless it ends sooner).

(3) Where—

(a) as a result of paragraph 14(3)(b) the person remains registered in a register of parliamentary electors until the time referred to in that provision, and

(b) the person’s entitlement to vote by post would (as a result of sub-paragraph (2)) otherwise end before that time,
the entitlement ends at that time.

(4) As soon as practicable after the commencement date, the registration officer must alter the record kept under paragraph 3(4) or 7(6) of Schedule 4 to RPA 2000 (as the case may be) so as to reflect any change resulting from sub-paragraph (2) or (3) in the period for which the person’s entitlement to vote by post lasts.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE**a) Constitution****Article 1**

[...] (2) The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

b) Twenty-Sixth Amendment**Section 1**

The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

c) H.R.4393 - Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act**SEC. 102. STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.**

Each State shall—

- (1) permit absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in general, special, primary, and runoff elections for Federal office;
- (2) accept and process, with respect to any general, special, primary, or runoff election for Federal office, any otherwise valid voter registration application from an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter, if the application is received by the appropriate State election official not less than 30 days before the election; and
- (3) permit overseas voters to use Federal write-in absentee ballots (in accordance with section 103) in general elections for Federal office.

SEC. 103. FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR OVERSEAS VOTERS IN GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR FEDERAL OFFICE.

[...] (b) SUBMISSION AND PROCESSING. — Except as otherwise provided in this title, a Federal write-in absentee ballot shall be submitted and processed in the manner provided by law for absentee ballots in the State involved. A Federal write-in absentee ballot of an overseas voter shall not be counted—

- (1) if the ballot is submitted from any location in the United States;
- (2) if the application of the overseas voter for a State absentee ballot is received by the appropriate State election official less than 30 days before the general election; or
- (3) if a State absentee ballot of the overseas voter is received by the appropriate State election official not later than the deadline for receipt of the State absentee ballot under State law. [...]

(f) CERTAIN STATES EXEMPTED. — A State is not required to permit use of the Federal write-in absentee ballot, if, on and after the date of the enactment of this title, the State has in effect a law providing that—

- (1) a State absentee ballot is required to be available to any voter described in section 107(5)(A) at least 90 days before the general election involved; and
- (2) a State absentee ballot is required to be available to any voter described in section 107(5) (B) or (C), as soon as the official list of candidates in the general election is complete.

SEC. 107. DEFINITIONS.

[...] (5) “overseas voter” means—

(A) an absent uniformed services voter who, by reason of active duty or service is absent from the United States on the date of the election involved;

(B) a person who resides outside the United States and is qualified to vote in the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States; or

(C) a person who resides outside the United States and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States. [...]

ARGENTINA / ARGENTINE**a) Constitution****Section 37**

(1) This Constitution guarantees the full exercise of political rights, in accordance with the principle of popular sovereignty and with the laws derived therefrom. Suffrage shall be universal, equal, secret and compulsory. [...]

Section 45

(1) The House of Deputies shall be composed of representatives directly elected by the people of the provinces, of the City of Buenos Aires, and of the Capital City in case of its moving, which for this purpose are considered as constituencies of a single state, and by simple plurality of votes.

Section 54

(1) The Senate shall be composed of three senators from each province, and three from the City of Buenos Aires, who shall be jointly and directly elected, corresponding two seats to the most voted political party, and the other seat to the political party following in number of votes. Each senator shall have one vote.

b) Law 24.007 of 1991 on the Creation of the Registry of Electors Resident Abroad**Article 1**

Argentine citizens who, effectively and permanently residing outside the territory of the Argentine Republic, are national voters in accordance with the provisions of the National Electoral Code and who register in the Registry of Voters Residing Abroad established in the following article, may vote in national elections.

Article 2

The Registry of Voters Residing Abroad is hereby created. Registration shall be carried out in the manner and within the timeframe established by the regulations, at Argentine diplomatic or consular offices in the voter's country of residence, which for these purposes shall be subordinate to the National Electoral Chamber.

Article 3

Citizens who, in accordance with the provisions of ARTICLE 1, choose to register in the Registry of Voters Residing Abroad must prove their last address in the Argentine Republic in order to be included or ratified in the Electoral Roll of the corresponding district to which the votes cast will be allocated in due course. [...]

In each diplomatic or consular representation receiving votes, the relevant vote count will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the National Electoral Code.

Article 4

This law is hereby incorporated into the National Electoral Code, which shall apply as a supplement to all matters not provided for herein.

Article 5

The National Executive Branch shall issue the regulations for this law, which must provide the necessary facilities to ensure a simple, expeditious, and free process for those wishing to comply with its provisions, both with regard to registration in the Registry of Voters Residing Abroad and the act of casting their vote.

Article 5 bis

Voters abroad will be cast using the Single Ballot established in the National Electoral Code, which will be identical for all countries. Voters abroad may freely exercise their right to vote by choosing to vote in person at consular offices or by postal vote. The National Electoral Chamber will be responsible for implementing both options.

c) Decree 239/2025 approving the Regulations of Law No. 24.007**Article 1**

The Regulations of Law No. 24.007 and its amendment, which form an integral part of this measure as ANNEX (IF-2025-32667904-APN-SSAPO#JGM), are hereby approved.

Article 2

Decree No. 1138 of June 4, 1993, is hereby repealed.

d) Regulation of Law No. 24.007 and its amendments on the Creation of the Registry of Electors Resident Abroad**Article 1***Voter*

An Argentine citizen who is sixteen (16) years of age or older and resides abroad shall be considered a voter.

Residence abroad shall be evidenced by the corresponding change of address registered on the National Identity Document, except as provided in Article 9 of these Regulations.

For the sole purpose of voting, an elector's status shall be proven by inclusion in the Registry of Voters Residing Abroad or in the Special Registry of the Nation's Foreign Service. These registries shall be maintained by the National Electoral Chamber.

Article 2*Elector Requirements*

To exercise their right to vote abroad, citizens must meet the following requirements:

- a) Have their address registered on their National Identity Document within the territory of the corresponding consular jurisdiction, except as provided in Article 9 of these Regulations;
- b) Be able to exercise their political rights in accordance with Argentine law.

Article 3*Right to vote*

Argentine citizens residing outside the territory of the ARGENTINE REPUBLIC are entitled to vote in all instances of national elections that determine office under the same conditions as citizens residing in the country.

The vote of voters residing abroad is optional. [...]

Article 4

Registry of Voters Residing Abroad

The Registry of Voters Residing Abroad shall be permanent and shall be compiled by the NATIONAL ELECTORAL CHAMBER.

The NATIONAL ELECTORAL CHAMBER shall compile a list by country of residence, which shall be classified as follows:

- a) By consular jurisdiction;
- b) By district where the votes are allocated, in accordance with Article 3 of Law No. 24.007;
- c) In alphabetical order. [...]

Article 6

Allocation of the Voting District. Dissemination of the Voter Registry

To determine the district to which the votes cast will be allocated, the last registered address in the Argentine Republic will be taken into account. If the last registered address in the Argentine Republic cannot be verified, the address of the place of birth in the country will be considered. If the latter cannot be verified, the last registered address of the parents will be taken into account. The NATIONAL ELECTORAL CHAMBER, through the MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, INTERNATIONAL TRADE, AND WORSHIP, ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY (120) days before each election, will provide Representative Offices and voters with online access to the Registry of Voters Residing Abroad. In the same manner or by secure electronic means, it will provide Representative Offices with access to the list of excluded voters, providing the reason for their exclusion.

Diplomatic or consular representations, as appropriate, must disseminate the registries by all available means so that citizens can verify their correct inclusion. [...]

Article 7

Voter Registry

For the purposes of the election, the Registry of Voters Residing Abroad will be used as the registry, with the new entries registered up to ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) days before the election and observations regarding anomalies or errors received up to NINETY (90) days before the election. The registry will be printed by the representations or by the NATIONAL ELECTORAL CHAMBER, if the latter so requires. [...]

Article 11

Option to vote by mail

Argentines residing abroad may express their desire to vote by mail. To this end, they must register in the digital registry enabled by the NATIONAL ELECTORAL CHAMBER. Registration to vote by mail will be carried out from ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) to ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120) calendar days prior to the election date.

Article 12

Voter registration by mail

The voter registration of Argentines residing abroad by mail will be made up of registrations received up to ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120) calendar days prior to the election date, in accordance, as applicable, with the provisions of Chapter IV, Title I of the NATIONAL ELECTORAL CODE. The voters included in this registry will be removed from the general registry mentioned in Article 7 of these Regulations. [...]

Article 22*Electoral Authorities and Polling Station Authorities*

[...] The assignment of polling station officials will be the responsibility of the diplomatic or consular official serving as the electoral authority for the election. They will designate them from among the members of the electoral roll, requesting the cooperation of the registered voters.

Article 24*Voting Place*

Elections shall preferably be held at the headquarters of the Republic's Representations abroad, as appropriate. (...)

JAPAN / JAPON**a) Constitution****Article 15**

- (1) The people have the inalienable right to choose their public officials and to dismiss them. [...]
(3) Universal adult suffrage is guaranteed with regard to the election of public officials.
(4) In all elections, secrecy of the ballot shall not be violated. A voter shall not be answerable, publicly or privately, for the choice he has made.

Article 43

- (1) Both Houses shall consist of elected members, representative of all the people. [...]

Article 47

- (1) Electoral districts, method of voting and other matters pertaining to the method of election of members of both Houses shall be fixed by law.

b) Act No. 100 of 1950 Public Offices Election Act (Consolidated version)**Article 2**

1. This Act applies to elections for members of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors, as well as members and heads of local public entity assemblies.

Article 9

1. Japanese nationals who are 18 years of age or older have the right to vote for members of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors.
2. Any Japanese national who has reached the age of eighteen and has continuously resided within the jurisdiction of a municipality for three months or more shall have the right to vote for members of the assembly and the head of the local public entity to which he or she belongs.
3. Any Japanese national who is at least eighteen years of age and who has had a residence for at least three consecutive months within the territory of a municipality to which he or she belongs, and who have continued to have a residence within the territory of said prefecture, shall have the right to vote for members of the assembly and the governor of said prefecture, notwithstanding the residence requirements prescribed in the preceding paragraph. [...]

Article 30-2

1. Municipal election management committees shall prepare and maintain an overseas voter register in addition to the electoral register. [...]
3. Municipal election management committees shall register overseas voters based on an application pursuant to Article 30-5, Paragraph 1, and transfer registrations to overseas voter registers (meaning the simultaneous deletion of a name from the voter register and registration of an overseas voter; the same applies hereinafter) based on an application pursuant to Paragraph 4 of the same Article. [...]

Article 30-4

1. Registration on overseas voter rolls (excluding transfers of registration to overseas voter rolls; the same applies hereinafter) shall be made for Japanese nationals aged 18 years or older who are not registered on the overseas voter roll (excluding those who are ineligible to vote pursuant

to the provisions of Article 11, Paragraph 1, Article 252, or Article 28 of the Political Funds Control Act; the same applies in the following paragraph and the following Article), who have applied pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 1 of the same Article, and who have continuously resided for three months or more within the jurisdiction (meaning the area specified by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Ordinance or Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ordinance as the jurisdiction of a consular officer for matters related to overseas voter rolls; the same applies hereinafter) of the consular officer (including the head of an embassy or legation performing consular duties or his/her representative; the same applies hereinafter) who has jurisdiction over the person's address for matters related to overseas voter rolls.

2. Transfer of registration to an overseas voter roll shall be made to Japanese nationals aged 18 years or older who are not registered on the overseas voter roll and are registered on the voter roll of the city, town or village where their last known address is located, who have filed an application pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 4 of the following Article, and who have a residence overseas.

Article 30-5.

1. A Japanese national aged 18 years or older who has a residence within the jurisdiction of the consular officer who has jurisdiction over that person's residence for matters related to the overseas voter roll may apply in writing for registration on an overseas voter roll to the election management committee of the city, town or village where their last known address is located (or, in the case of a person who has never been recorded in the basic resident register of any city, town or village, to the election management committee of the city, town or village where their permanent domicile is located at the time of the application), pursuant to the provisions of Cabinet Order.

2. Applications under the provisions of the preceding paragraph must be made, as provided for by Cabinet Order, through the consular officer with jurisdiction over the address of the person making the application for matters related to overseas voter registers (or, in areas specified by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Ordinance or Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ordinance as areas where it is extremely difficult to make the application through such a consular officer, through a person specified by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Ordinance or Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ordinance; the same applies hereinafter in this Chapter). [...]

Article 30-6

1. If a person who has filed an application pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (1) of the preceding Article is eligible to be registered on the overseas voter roll of that city, town or village, the municipal election commission must register the person who filed the application on the overseas voter roll without delay.

(...)

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs, a municipal election management committee shall not register a person on an overseas voter roll or transfer a registration to an overseas voter roll during the period from the date of public notice or announcement of the date of an election for members of the House of Representatives or House of Councillors to the date of the election itself.

Article 49-2

With respect to voting by electors registered in the Overseas Voter Registry (excluding, among such electors, those who are also registered in the regular voter registry and specified by Cabinet Order; hereinafter the same applies in this Article) who intend to vote in an election for members of the House of Representatives or the House of Councillors, in addition to the methods provided for in Article 48-2, paragraph 1 and paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, voting may, pursuant to Cabinet Order and notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 44, 45 paragraph 1, 46 paragraphs 1 through 3, 48, and the following Article, be conducted by either of the following methods:

1. In the case of a general election for members of the House of Representatives or a regular election for members of the House of Councillors, during the period specified in (a), and in the case of a by-election or special election for members of either House, on the date specified in (b), the voter personally goes to a place designated for recording votes under the control of the head of an overseas diplomatic mission (excluding those heads of overseas diplomatic missions designated by the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications in consultation with the Minister for Foreign Affairs for each election; hereinafter the same applies in this item), presents the overseas voter certificate and passport or other documents specified by Cabinet Order, records the vote on the ballot paper, places it in an envelope, and submits it to the head of the overseas diplomatic mission.
 - (a) From the day following the public announcement date of the election until six days before election day (or, where special circumstances exist such as the overseas diplomatic mission being located in an area requiring considerable time for ballot transmission, until a date designated in advance by the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications in consultation with the Minister for Foreign Affairs), excluding any dates designated in advance by the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications in consultation with the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
 - (b) During the period from the day following the official notice date of the election until six days before election day, on dates designated in advance by the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications in consultation with the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
 2. A method whereby the voter records the vote on the ballot paper at the voter's current location and sends it by mail or equivalent means.
2. With respect to the application, to domestic voting by electors registered in the Overseas Voter Registry who intend to vote in elections for members of the House of Representatives or House of Councillors, of the provisions listed in the left-hand column of the following table, the terms and phrases listed in the middle column of that table shall be deemed to be replaced by the corresponding terms and phrases listed in the right-hand column.
3. Regarding domestic voting by electors registered in the Overseas Voter Registry who intend to vote in elections for members of the House of Representatives or House of Councillors, where the election administration commission of the municipality to which the Overseas Voter Registry belongs establishes a common polling place pursuant to Article 41-2, paragraph 1, voting may be conducted at a common polling place designated by that municipal election administration commission. In such cases, with respect to the application of the provisions listed in the left-hand column of the following table, the terms and phrases listed in the middle column shall be deemed replaced by the corresponding terms and phrases listed in the right-hand column, and paragraph 2 shall not apply.
4. Regarding domestic voting under Article 48-2, paragraph 1, by electors registered in the Overseas Voter Registry who intend to vote in elections for members of the House of Representatives or House of Councillors, with respect to the application of the provisions listed in the left-hand column of the following table, the terms and phrases listed in the middle column shall be deemed replaced by the corresponding terms and phrases listed in the right-hand column, and paragraph 2 shall not apply.
5. With respect to voting by electors registered in the Overseas Voter Registry who intend to vote in elections for members of the House of Representatives or House of Councillors, the provisions of paragraphs 2 through 9 of the preceding Article shall not apply.

URUGUAY

n/a