

ELECTIONS FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT - September 25, 2022

VOTING ABROAD BY POSTAL CORRESPONDENCE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS LIVING ABROAD

What are you voting for?

In the Overseas Constituencies, voters will **elect eight members of the Chamber of Deputies and four members of the Senate of the Republic.**

- In the European Constituency, voters will elect three members of the Chamber of Deputies and one Member of the Senate of the Republic.

- In the South American Constituency, voters will elect two members of the Chamber of Deputies and one Member of the Senate of the Republic.

- In the North and Central American Constituency, voters will elect two members of the Chamber of Deputies and one Member of the Senate of the Republic.

- In the Africa, Asia, Oceania and Antarctica Constituency, voters will elect one Member of the Chamber of Deputies and one Member of the Senate of the Republic.

Who can vote abroad?

The following people can vote abroad by postal correspondence:

- Voters registered with AIRE who reside in countries where local conditions allow for postal voting;
- Voters temporarily abroad for work, study or medical treatment who have submitted the option to vote abroad by August 24, 2022, and family members living with them abroad who have also opted to do so.

How do you vote?

Voting is by postal correspondence, as set out in Law no. 459 of December 27, 2001, and in the Presidential Decree no. 104 of 2 April 2003. In particular:

- Consular offices will send each voter, via postal correspondence, an electoral package containing:
 - the electoral card (i.e. the document certifying the right to vote);
 - the lists of candidates pertaining to its constituency (Chamber of Deputies and Senate of the Republic);
 - the ballot papers (one for the Chamber of Deputies and one for the Senate of the Republic);
 - a small all-white envelope;
 - a larger envelope, postage-paid, bearing the address of the relevant Consular Office;
 - this information sheet.
- All voters who are 18 years of age or older as of September 25, 2022 will receive the ballots and lists for the **Chamber of Deputies and the Senate of the Republic**;
- Each voter casts his/her vote by putting a **mark** (e.g. an "X" or a check mark) on the symbol corresponding to the list of his or her choice, or on **the rectangle of the ballot paper surrounding it, and must do so using ONLY** a black or blue ballpoint pen;
- Each voter may cast a vote of preference by writing the candidate's last name on the line next to the checked symbol. The law envisages that the number of preferences varies according to the constituency (maximum two preferences in the constituencies to which two or more members of the Chamber of Deputies or of the Senate of the Republic are assigned, and maximum one preference in the others). Each voter may express as many preferences as there are lines placed next to each symbol;
- The ballot papers must be placed in the small all-white envelope which must be carefully sealed and must **contain only the ballot papers**;
- each voter will insert the **electoral slip** (after detaching it from the electoral certificate along the dotted line) and the **small sealed envelope** with the duly compiled ballot papers **in the postage-paid larger envelope** (bearing the address of the competent diplomatic/consular office);
- This sealed postage-paid envelope must be mailed in time to ensure that it reaches the Consular Office **no later than: 4:00 p.m. (local time) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022**;
- Ballot papers received after the aforementioned deadline cannot be counted, and will be incinerated.

PLEASE NOTE:

- No identifying marks should appear on the ballot paper, the small envelope or the electoral slip.
- The postage-paid envelope must not bear the sender's name.
- The small envelope and ballot papers must be intact.
- The vote is personal, free and secret. Voters are forbidden from voting more than once. Whoever violates these provisions will be punished according to law.
- Voters must personally take charge of any electoral material sent to him/her by the Embassy or Consulate;
- It is absolutely forbidden to give election materials to third parties;
- Those who violate the relevant provisions shall incur the penalties provided by law. Article 18 of L. 459/2001 provides, "1. Whoever commits, in a foreign territory, any of the offenses provided for in the Consolidated Text of Laws containing rules for the election of the Chamber of Deputies, referred to in Presidential Decree No. 361 of March 30, 1957, as amended, shall be punished according to Italian law. In the case of postal voting, the penalties provided for in Article 100 of the aforementioned Consolidated Text, shall be doubled. Whoever, during elections to the Houses of Parliament and referenda, votes both by postal correspondence and at the polling station where he/she was last registered in Italy, or votes more than once by postal correspondence, shall be punished by imprisonment from one to three years, and fined between 52 euros to 258 euros."