

CONSTITUTION
OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

ARTICLES 56, 57 and 59

As amended by Constitutional Amendment Law 19 October 2020, no. 1: “Amendments to Articles 56, 57 and 59 of the Constitution on the reduction of the number of Members of Parliament” (published in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale* no. 261 of 21 October 2020) (*)

Article 56

The Chamber of deputies shall be elected by universal direct suffrage.

The number of deputies shall be four hundred, eight of which shall be elected in overseas constituencies.

All voters who have attained the age of twenty-five on the day of elections shall be eligible to be deputies.

The division of seats among the constituencies, with the exception of the seats of the overseas constituency, shall be calculated by dividing the number of inhabitants of the Republic, as per the latest general census, by three hundred and ninety-two and by distributing the seats in proportion to the population in every constituency, on the basis of whole shares and highest remainders.

(*) Under Article 4 of Constitutional Amendment Law 19 October 2020 no. 1, amendments to Articles 56, 57 and 59 of the Constitution “shall become effective after the first dissolution of Parliament following the date of entry into force of this Law and no earlier than sixty days after such date”.

Article 57

The Senate of the Republic shall be elected on a regional basis, with the exception of the seats of the overseas constituencies.

The number of senators to be elected shall be two hundred, four of whom shall be elected in the overseas constituencies.

No Region or Autonomous Province may have fewer than three Senators; Molise shall have two, Aosta Valley one.

The division of seats among Regions or Autonomous Provinces, in accordance with the provisions of Article 56 above, shall be calculated in proportion to the population of each Region or Autonomous Province as per the latest general census, on the basis of whole shares and highest remainders.

Article 59

Former Presidents of the Republic shall be ex officio life Senators unless they renounce the office.

The President of the Republic may appoint as life Senators five citizens who have honoured the Nation through their outstanding achievements in the social, scientific, artistic and literary fields. At any given time, there may not be in excess of five serving Senators appointed by the President of the Republic under this Article.