

Information and Indicators on Elections in Arab Countries



League of Arab States



Table of Contents

Introduction

(04)

06 First: Information on Elections in:

- 06 The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- 07 The State of the United Arab Emirates
- 08 The Kingdom of Bahrain
- 09 The Republic of Tunisia
- 10 The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
- 11 The Republic of Djibouti
- 12 The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- 13 The Republic of the Sudan
- 14 The Federal Republic of Somalia
- 15 The Republic of Iraq
- 16 The Sultanate of Oman
- 27

Second: Indicators on Elections in Arab Countries

- 27 The Electoral Systems in Arab Countries
- 28 The Implementation of a Women's Quota in Arab Countries
- 29 Types of Electoral Management Bodies in Arab Countries
- 30 International Observation
- 31 Local Observation
- 32 Candidacy Age in Arab Countries



Third: Election Terms

- 17 The State of Palestine
- 18 The State of Qatar
- 19 The Union of the Comoros
- 20 The State of Kuwait
- 21 The Lebanese Republic
- 22 The State of Libya
- 23 The Arab Republic of Egypt
- 24 The Kingdom of Morocco
- 25 The Islamic Republic of Mauritania
- 26 The Republic of Yemen
- 33 Voting Age in Arab Countries
- 34 Absentee (Out of Country) Voting in Arab Countries
- 35 Special Voting in Arab Countries
- 36 Voter Registration in Arab Countries
- 37 Electoral Registers in Arab Countries

Introduction

This booklet presents data and information on legislative elections in the Arab countries that are members of the League of Arab States. It highlights some of the various statistical comparisons and indicators that cover the most important components of the electoral process. The booklet also includes an analysis of the available data and comparisons in accordance with recognized rules and regulations in this regard. This reflects the care and interest the League of Arab States pays to collecting and analysing information related to electoral systems in Arab countries and to comparing this information with what is happening in elections regionally and internationally. In addition, the booklet presents the most important electoral definitions and terminologies used in relation to electoral systems in the Arab World. These differ in form, methods and frameworks from one country to another.

Information and data available on official sites and from official sources of entities involved in elections in Arab countries, as well as information obtained from official electoral entities of Member-States, were used to prepare this booklet.

We hope that this booklet, with the electoral information and comparisons that it includes, will be an important and essential reference for those researching, studying and working in elections in the Arab Region and that it will enable them to get the electoral information that they need in an easy and convenient way.

Hadia Sabry

Hadia Daberry

Director of the Electoral Affairs Department

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	

The Election Law

The Constitution of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan of 1952 Law on the Election of the House of

Representatives of 2016

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Independent Election Commission
Type of EMB	Independent
EMB Membership Term	Permanent
Number of EMB Members	A President and Four Members

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Open-List Proportional Representation
The Electoral Formula	The Largest Remainder
Women's Quota	15 Seats Allocated in the House of Representative
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts

The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts

The Criteria that determine the delimitation of Constituencies	Geographical boundaries - Governorate development rate - Population density
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Small and Medium
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Civil Status and Passports Department
Type of Voter Registration	Automatic
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	17 Years & 3 Months
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	No



Legal Candidacy Age

30 Years

Settlement of Electoral **Disputes**

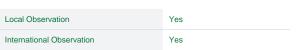


 \bigcirc

Body Responsible for the Settlement of Electoral Disputes

The Courts of Appeal

Observing the Electoral Process



The Parliament

Number of Legislative

Number of



Chambers in the Parliament	Two (the Senate and the House of Representatives)
Council Term	Four Years
Members of the Legislative Council	130 Members

The State of the United Arab Emirates



The Legal Framework



The Constitution

The Election Law

Presidential Decree No. (3) of 2006 and its amendments Executive Instructions for the Election of the Federal National Council	

Constitution of 1971 and its amendments

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The National Election Committee
Type of Voter Registration	Automatic
Type of Electoral Register	Civil Registry
Legal Voting Age	21 Years
Special Voting	Yes
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body

P

Δ



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The National Election Committee
Type of EMB	Semi-Governmental
EMB Membership Term	Election Period Only
Number of EMB Members	14 Members

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Single Non-Transferable Voting System
The Electoral Formula	None
Women's Quota	%50
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts

Presidential Decree No. (3) of 2006

The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	
Constituency/Electoral District Size	At the Emirate Level
Constituency/Electoral District Type	At the Emirate Level



Legal Candidacy Age



25 Years

Settlement of Electoral Disputes



The Judicial Committee under the supervision of the National Election Committee

()

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One
Legislative Council Term	Four Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	40 Members

The Kingdom of Bahrain



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain of 2002
The Election Law	Decree-Law No. (14) of 2002 on the Exercise of Political Rights and its amendments. Decree-Law No. (15) of 2002 on the Shura (Consultative) Council and the House of Representatives and its amendments.

Registration and Polling 💎



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Supreme Committee for the Supervision of the Validity of Referendums and Parliamentary Elections
Type of Voter Registration	Automatic
Type of Electoral Register	Interim Methodology
Legal Voting Age	20 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Directorate of Election and Referendum
Type of EMB	Independent
EMB Membership Term	Permanent
Number of EMB Members	Not Mentioned

Running for Election 着

Legal Candidacy Age

30 Years

Settlement of Electoral Disputes



- The High Civil Court of Appeal - The Court of Cassation

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	No

The Parliament



Number of Members of the Legislative Council 40 Members in Each

None

None

None

The Electoral System

The Electoral System

The Electoral Formula

Women's Quota

Electoral Threshold

Constituencies /

Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	A Royal Decree
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Administrative
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Small
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Single Member

Two-Round System

The Republic of Tunisia



The Legal Framework



The Constitution The Election Law

The Constitution of the Republic of Tunisia of 2014 Organic Law of 2014 on Elections and Referenda

Ξ

Electoral Management Body

The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Independent High Authority for Elections
Type of EMB	Independent
EMB Membership Term	Permanent. Its Members change every six years
Number of EMB Members	Nine Members

The Electoral System

The Electoral System	Proportional Representation
The Electoral Formula	Hare (the Largest Remainder)
Women's Quota	The Principle of Equality between Women and Men and the Rule of Rotation (Alternating) among them within the List
Electoral Threshold	%3

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	 The Independent High Authority for Elections only expresses its opinion, but: 1- The Assembly of the Representatives of the People approves the Law 2- The Government determines the number of seats allocated to each Constituency/Electoral District, based on: a- The Criteria Referred to in the Law b- The Annual List for the Census update prepared by the National Institute of Statistics
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	The Number of Residents
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Medium-Sized Constituencies/Electoral Districts inside Tunisia (4-10), Small-Sized Constituencies/ Electoral Districts overseas (1-5)
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Independent High Authority for Elections
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Running for Election



Legal Candidacy Age

23 Years

Settlement of Electoral Disputes



Body Responsible for the Settlement	
of Electoral Disputes	

- The Administrative Tribunal
- The Courts of First Instance
- The Independent High Authority for Elections

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes

The Parliament



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber (the Assembly of the Representatives of the People)
Legislative Council Term	Five Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	217 Members

The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria



The Legal Framework



The Constitution of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria that was amended in March 2016

The Election Law

The Constitution

The Organic Law on the Electoral System of September 2019

Registration and Polling 💎



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Independent National Electoral Authority
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	Full Age of 18 Years on the Ballot Day
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Independent National Electoral Authority
Type of EMB	Independent
EMB Membership Term	Not Mentioned
Number of EMB Members	50 Members

Running for Election 着

Legal Candidac	y Age
----------------	-------

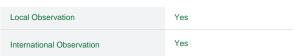
25 Years

Settlement of Electoral Disputes



The Constitutional Council and the Administrative Courts

Observing the Electoral Process



The Parliament

Number of Chambers in the Parliament

Legislative Council Term



Two Chambers (the People's National Assembly and the Council of the Nation)	
Five Years	

Number of Members of the Legislative Council 462 Members in Each Chamber

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Proportional Representation
The Electoral Formula	The Largest Remainder
Women's Quota	Yes
Electoral Threshold	%7

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	The Independent National Election Authority
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Administrative Divisions – Territorial Boundaries – Population Density – Geographical Contiguity
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Medium and Large
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

The Republic of Djibouti



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Constitution of the Republic of Djibouti of 19 which was amended in 2010
The Election Law	Electoral Law No. 1/AN/92 and its amendments

Djibouti of 1992,

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Ministry of Interior
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	Yes
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body



The Independent National Electoral Commission - The Ministry of Interior - The Constitutional

The Authority Supervising the Election Process
Type of EMB
EMB Membership Term
Number of EMB Members

The Electoral System



Temporary Commission

The Electoral System	Mixed (Majority System - Proportional Representation System)
The Electoral Formula	Highest Averages
Women's Quota	Not less than 25%
Electoral Threshold	%10

Council Mixed

14 Members

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts

The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	According to the Administrative Boundaries of the States i.e. each State represents a Constituency/an Electoral District
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Varied in Size
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

Running for Election Legal Candidacy Age



Settlement of Electoral **Disputes**

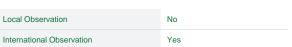


 \bigcirc

Body Responsible for the Settlement of Electoral Disputes

The Constitutional Council

Observing the Electoral Process





Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber (the National Assembly)
Legislative Council Term	Five Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	65 Members

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Basic Law of Governance
The Election Law	Law of Municipal Councils Promulgated by Royal Decree No. (61) dated 4/10/1435 AH and its Implementing Regulations

Electoral Management Body

The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs – The General Secretariat for Municipal Council Affairs – The General Electoral Commission
Type of EMB	Mixed (Government + Citizens)
EMB Membership Term	It is formed to supervise the Elections (from the beginning of the Electoral Process until its end) and until the Decisions to Form the Councils are issued. The Department of Election Affairs at the General Secretariat for Municipal Council Affairs continues to prepare, document and develop the Electoral Process.
Number of EMB Members	Between 12 and 15 Members

The Electoral System

The Electoral System	The Majority (One Man, One Vote System)
The Electoral Formula	None
Women's Quota	None
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts
Constituency/Electoral District Size

Constituency/Electoral District Type



The General Electoral Commission, which is approved by the Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs

Population - Contiguous Constituencies / Electoral Districts

Medium and Large - the smallest has Nine Members and the largest has 30 Members

Multimember

Registration and Polling

Body Responsible for Voter Registration



nission/FI

Body Responsible for voter Registration	Committees in the Elections Centres/Polling Stations)
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Hijri Years on Polling Day
Special Voting	Voting by Prisoners, the Sick and People with Physical Disabilities
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	No



Legal Candidacy Age



Settlement of Electoral **Disputes**



- The Committee for the Adjudication of Appeals and Electoral Irregularities.
 - The Administrative Courts of Appeals at
 - the Board of Grievances

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Obsevation	Yes
International Obsevation	No

The Parliament

Number of Ch

Legislative Cou

Number of Mer



nambers in the Parliament	284 Municipal Councils
uncil Term	Four Years
mbers of the Legislative Council	3156 Members

These Information are related to the Local Elections.

The Republic of the Sudan



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	
The Election Law	

The Interim National Constitution of the Republic of the Sudan of 2005 The Electoral Law No. (11) of 2008, which was amended in 2011 and 2014

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The National Elections Commission
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	Yes
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The National Elections Commission
Type of EMB	Independent
EMB Membership Term	Six Years
Number of EMB Members	Nine Members

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Mixed System (Majority System and Proportional Representation Lists)
The Electoral Formula	The Largest Remainder
Women's Quota	%30
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts

The Body Responsible for Delimitation

of Constituencies/Electoral Districts



The National Elections Commission

The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Administrative Boundaries - Geographic - State Boundaries - Population
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Relatively Large
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Various for the Lists, Individual Geographically

Settlement of Electoral

Legal Candidacy Age

Disputes

Running for Election



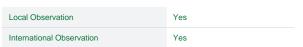
 \bigcirc

Body Responsible for the Settlement of Electoral Disputes

The Judicial Authority

21 Years

Observing the Electoral Process



The Parliament



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	Two Chambers (the National Assembly and the Council of States)
Legislative Council Term	Five Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	426 Members

The Federal Republic of Somalia



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia
The Election Law	It is still going through the procedures

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The National Independent Electoral Commission
Type of Voter Registration	This will be specified in the Elections Law
Type of Electoral Register	Biometric
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	This will be specified in the Elections Law

Electoral Management Body The Authority Supervising the Election The National Independent Electoral Commission

Independent
Six Years
Nine Members





The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Proportional Representation System
The Electoral Formula	This will be specified in the Elections Law
Women's Quota	%30
Electoral Threshold	This will be specified in the Elections Law

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	The National Independent Electoral Commission
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	This will be specified in the Elections Law
Constituency/Electoral District Size	This will be specified in the Elections Law
Constituency/Electoral District Type	This will be specified in the Elections Law

Settlement of Electoral Disputes



The National Independent Electoral Commission

()

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes

The Parliament



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	Two Chambers (the Senate and the House of the People)
Legislative Council Term	Four Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	275 Members

These Information are related to a draft Elections law in Somalia.

The Republic of Iraq



The Legal Framework

The Constitution	The Constitution of the Republic of Iraq of 2005
The Election Law	Elections Law No. (45) of 2013 and its amendments

Electoral Management Body



Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC)
Type of Voter Registration	Automatic / Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	Yes
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC)		
Type of EMB	Independent	Running for Election	n 🚔
EMB Membership Term	Permanent / Five Years	Running for Election	
Number of EMB Members	Nine Members	Legal Candidacy Age	30 Years When Running

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Proportional Representation System (Open List)
The Electoral Formula	The Sainte-Lagué Method
Women's Quota	%25
Electoral Threshold	

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	The Parliament
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Administrative Boundaries
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Large-Sized Constituencies/Electoral Districts
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

Settlement of Electoral Disputes



Body Responsible for the Settlement of Electoral Disputes

The IHEC Board of Commissioners

Ø

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Obserrvation	Yes
International Observation	Yes



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One
Legislative Council Term	Four Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	329 Members

The Sultanate of Oman



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	
The Election Law	

Royal Decree No. (101) of 1996 Promulgating the Basic Statute of the State Royal decree N:58 of 2013 Election law of the Shura Council Members

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Civil Status and Passports Department
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	21 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Higher Committee for Elections
Type of EMB	Governmental
EMB Membership Term	Permanent
Number of EMB Members	Seven Members

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Absolute Majority
The Electoral Formula	None
Women's Quota	None
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	The Ministry of Interior
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Administrative
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Varied in size
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember



```
Legal Candidacy Age
```



Settlement of Electoral Disputes



The Judicial Authority

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	No
International Observation	No

The Parliament



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	
Legislative Council Term	

Two (the State Council and the Shura Council)

(`)

Four Years

The information on Oman was obtained from the internet and not the EMB itself.

The State of Palestine



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Basic Law that was amended in 2003
The Election Law	The Elections Law of 2007

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Central Elections Commission
Type of EMB	Independent
EMB Membership Term	Four Years
Number of EMB Members	Nine Members

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Proportional Representation System
The Electoral Formula	The Sainte-Lagué Method
Women's Quota	Yes
Electoral Threshold	%1.5

Constituencies / **Electoral Districts**



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	The Ministry of Local Government
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	The Approved Administrative Boundaries
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Varied in size
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Central Elections Commission
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	No





Settlement of Electoral Disputes



Body Responsible for the Settlement of Electoral Disputes

The Election Appeals Court

Ø

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber
Legislative Council Term	Four Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	132 Members

The State of Qatar



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	
The Election Law	

Decree No. (17) of 1998 Regulating the Election of Members

The Constitution of the State of Qatar 2004

of the Central Municipal Council

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	A Committee for Preparing Voter Registration Lists formed by the Ministry of Interior
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	No

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Ministry of Interior
Type of EMB	Governmental
EMB Membership Term	Permanent.
Number of EMB Members	A president and seven members

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	The Simple Majority System (First Past the Post)
The Electoral Formula	
Women's Quota	None
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts

The Body Responsible for Delimitation

of Constituencies/Electoral Districts



The Council of Ministries

The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Population Density – Municipal Boundaries – Population Mobility – Social Fabric
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Small
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Single-Member



```
Legal Candidacy Age
```



Settlement of Electoral Disputes

Body Responsible for the Settlement

of Electoral Disputes



- The State Courts - The Appeals and Complaints Committee, which is formed by a Decision of the Minister and is chaired by a Judge

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes

The Parliament



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One chamber
Legislative Council Term	Four Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	45 Members, 30 of them are elected in a Direct, Secret Ballot

16

The Union of the Comoros



The Legal Framework

The Constitution

The Election Law



The Constitution (Fundamental Law) of the Union of Comoros that was adopted on 23 December 2001 and its amendments

- Organic Law Related to the Elections Law 2014 - Organic Law Related to the implementation of the election law 2014 - Law Related to the organization of the work of the political parties 2013

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Ministry of Interior manages the Elections under the supervision of the Independent National Electoral Commission
Type of EMB	Mixed and Permanent
EMB Membership Term	Six Years
Number of EMB Members	13 Members
EMB Membership Term	Mixed and Permanent Six Years

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Absolute Majority System (Two Rounds)
The Electoral Formula	None
Women's Quota	None
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts



Constituency/Electoral District Type





Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration:	The Independent National Electoral Commission in cooperation and coordination with the Ministry of Interior
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	Yes.
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	No





Settlement of Electoral **Disputes**



The Supreme Court and the National Council

for Press and Audio-Visual Media

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber
Legislative Council Term	Five Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	24 Members

The State of Kuwait



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The 1962 Constitution
The Election Law	Law No. (35) of 1965

Law No. (35) of 1965

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Elections Affairs Department
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	21 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	No

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Elections Affairs Department
Type of EMB	Governmental
EMB Membership Term	Not Mentioned
Number of EMB Members	Not Mentioned

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Single Vote System
The Electoral Formula	
Women's Quota	None
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	The National Assembly
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	The Geographic Location
Constituency/Electoral District Size	
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember



Legal Candidacy Age



Settlement of Electoral Disputes



Body Responsible for the Settlement of Electoral Disputes

The Constitutional Court

 \bigcirc

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	They are welcomed



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber
Legislative Council Term	Four Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	50 Members

The Lebanese Republic



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Lebanese Constitution that was adopted on 23 May 1926 and its amendments
The Election Law	Law No. (44) dated 17 June 2017

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Ministry of Interior and Municipalities
Type of EMB	Governmental
EMB Membership Term	Permanent
Number of EMB Members	11 members

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	The Proportional System
The Electoral Formula	The Largest Remainder
Women's Quota	None
Electoral Threshold	The Electoral Quotient

Constituencies / Electoral Districts

Т



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	The Parliament
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Administrative / Demographic
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Varied in size
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The General Directorate of Personal Status
Type of Voter Registration	Automatic inside Lebanon and Optional Overseas
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent (It is regularly reviewed every year)
Legal Voting Age	21 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes



Settlement of Electoral Disputes



Q

Body Responsible for the Settlement of Electoral Disputes

The Constitutional Council (receives appeals and issues decisions regarding them)

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber
Legislative Council Term	Four Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	128 Members

The State of Libya



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Cons its amend
The Election Law	Electoral

Constitutional Declaration of August 2011 and nendments oral Law No. (10) of 2014

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The High National Elections Commission
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	Yes (Policemen and Oil Field Employees)
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body



The Electoral System

Constituencies / Electoral Districts

The Body Responsible for Delimitation

of Constituencies/Electoral Districts
The Criteria that Determine the

Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts

Constituency/Electoral District Size

Constituency/Electoral District Type

16%

None

The Electoral System

The Electoral Formula

Women's Quota

Electoral Threshold

		Members
ra	I System	* 0
	Both the Individual Non-Transferable \	and the Lists Systems – Single /ote

Varies from one Law to another depending on the Election System

The House of Representatives

Population and Geographic Area

Various in size

Multimember



```
Legal Candidacy Age
```

25 Years

Settlement of Electoral Disputes



- Crir	nin	al C	ourt		
-					

- Court of First Instance

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes

The Parliament



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber
Legislative Council Term	Interim State Le

```
Number of Members of the Legislative Council
```

Interim State Legislative Authority during the Transitional Phase

200 Members

The Arab Republic of Egypt



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Constitution of the Arab Republic of Egypt
The Election Law	 Decree-Law No. 45/2014 Promulgating the Law on the Regulation of the Exercise of Political Rights. Decree-Law No. 46/2014 Promulgating the Law on the House of Representatives.

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The National Electoral Commision
Type of EMB	Independent
EMB Membership Term	Six Years
Number of EMB Members	10 (Board of Directors) + Four (Executive Body)

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	The Majority System
The Electoral Formula	A Majority and the Highest Number of Votes
Women's Quota	Yes
Electoral Threshold	5% of the voter base and applies only in the case of a single candidate or single list

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation of Constituencies/Electoral Districts	The House of Representatives
The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Population – Administrative Boundaries
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Varied in size
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The National Electoral Commision
Type of Voter Registration	Automatic
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes



Settlement of Electoral Disputes





Both Levels of the State Council(the Administrative Judiciary and the Supreme Administrative Court)

Q

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber
Legislative Council Term	Five Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	596 Members

The Kingdom of Morocco



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The Constitution of the Kingdom of Morocco of 2011
The Election Law	Organic Law No. 27-11 on the House of Representatives (2011)

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	An Administrative Committee chaired by the president of urban, rural & provisional council
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	An Electoral Register that is reviewed annually and that is also reviewed when Elections take place
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Ministry of Interior
Type of EMB	Governmental
EMB Membership Term	
Number of EMB Members	

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	Proportional Representation
The Electoral Formula	The Largest Remainder
Women's Quota	Yes
Electoral Threshold	3%

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation The Government by Government Decree of Constituencies/Electoral Districts

The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts	Demographic Balance the size of the area - Contiguity of the Constituencies/Electoral Districts
Constituency/Electoral District Size	Small and Medium
Constituency/Electoral District Type	Multimember

Running for Election

Legal Candidacy Age



Settlement of Electoral Disputes

Body Responsible for the Settlement of Electoral Disputes



- For Disputes regarding Electoral Lists Registration, the Court of First Instance or the Administrative Court, according to Territorial Jurisdiction - For Disputes regarding Nomination, the Court of
- First Instance - For Disputes regarding the Electoral Process and
- Voting Results, the Constitutional Court



Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes

The Parliament



Number of Members of the Legislative Council





395 Members

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania



The Legal Framework



The Constitution	The 1991 Constitution and its amendments
The Election Law	Law No. (028) of 1991 and its amendments with regard to the Legislative Elections

Electoral Management Body



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Independent National Electoral C	commission
Type of EMB	Independent and Permanent	
EMB Membership Term	Five Years	
Number of EMB Members	11 Members	

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	A Mixed System (combining a Majority, Two-Round System and a Proportional Representation)
The Electoral Formula	The largest remainder of the votes.
Women's Quota	In the Parliamentary Elections, there is a Special National List for Women (20 Seats). There is also a mechanism that determines the position of Women in the other candidate lists.
Electoral Threshold	

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



The Body Responsible for Delimitation The Council of Ministers of Constituencies/Electoral Districts The Criteria that Determine the The Administrative Boundaries for each Delimitation of Constituencies / Constituency/Electoral District Electoral Districts Constituency/Electoral District Size Varies from one seat to two seats to three seats and more for the Constituencies/Electoral Districts in the Regions and 20 Seats for both Nationwide Constituencies/Electoral Districts (the one for Women and the mixed one) Constituency/Electoral District Type Multimember

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Independent National Electoral Commission
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	There is a Mandatory Civil Registry that includes data on all citizens and there is a Voluntary Electoral Register that is updated annually or completely renewed when periodic Elections take place
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	Yes
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes





Settlement of Electoral **Disputes**



()

Body Responsible for the Settlement	- The Independent National Electoral Commission
of Electoral Disputes	- The Constitutional Council.

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes



Number of Chambers in the Parliament	One Chamber
Legislative Council Term	Five Years
Number of Members of the Legislative Council	157 members

The Republic of Yemen



The Legal Framework

The Constitution

The Election Law



The Constitution of 1991 and its amendment of 1994

Law No. (13) of 2001 and its amendments on general Elections

Registration and Polling



Body Responsible for Voter Registration	The Supreme Commission for Referendums and Elections
Type of Voter Registration	Voluntary
Type of Electoral Register	Permanent
Legal Voting Age	18 Years
Special Voting	No
Absentee/Out of Country Voting	Yes

Electoral Management Body

and referenda



The Authority Supervising the Election Process	The Supreme Commission for Referendums and Elections
Type of EMB	Independent
EMB Membership Term	Six Years
Number of EMB Members	Seven Members

The Electoral System



The Electoral System	The Majority System
The Electoral Formula	None
Women's Quota	None
Electoral Threshold	None

Constituencies / Electoral Districts



 The Body Responsible for Delimitation
 The Supreme Commission for Referendums and Elections

 The Criteria that Determine the
 Equality between population - Geographical

 The Criteria that Determine the Delimitation of Constituencies / Electoral Districts
 Equality between population - Geographical and social factors

 Constituency/Electoral District Size
 Small

 Constituency/Electoral District Type
 Single-Member



Legal Candidacy Age



25 Years

Settlement of Electoral Disputes



The court of first instanceThe Court of appealThe supreme court

Observing the Electoral Process

Local Observation	Yes
International Observation	Yes

The Parliament

Legislative Council Term

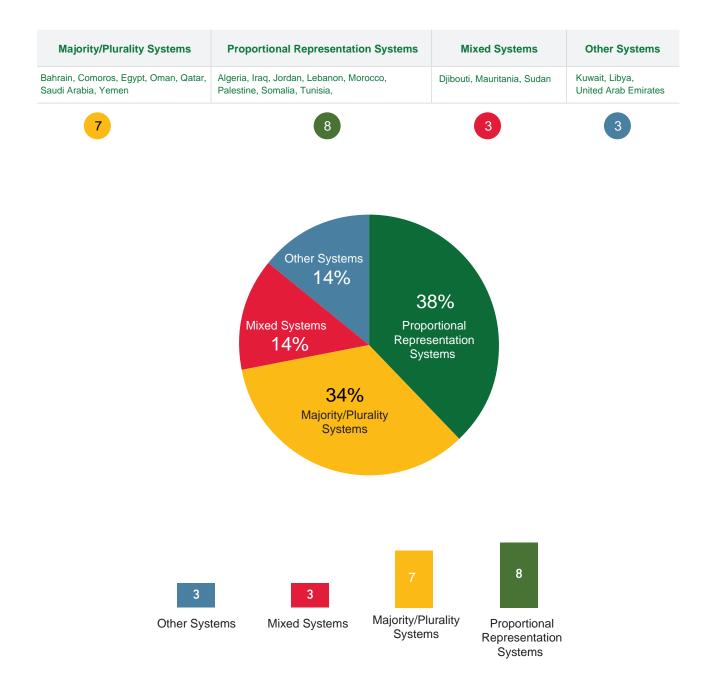
Number of Chambers in the Parliament





Number of Members of the Legislative Council 301 Members

The Electoral Systems in Arab Countries



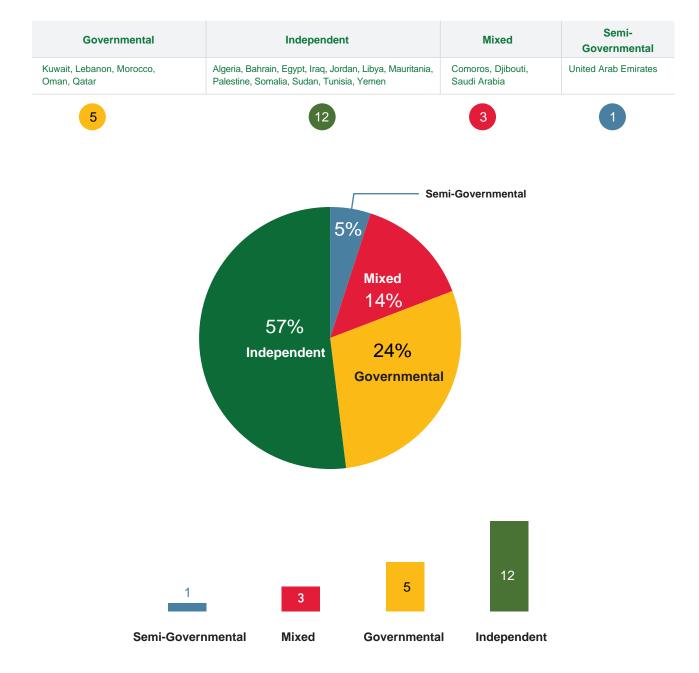
The Implementation of Women's Quota in Arab Countries



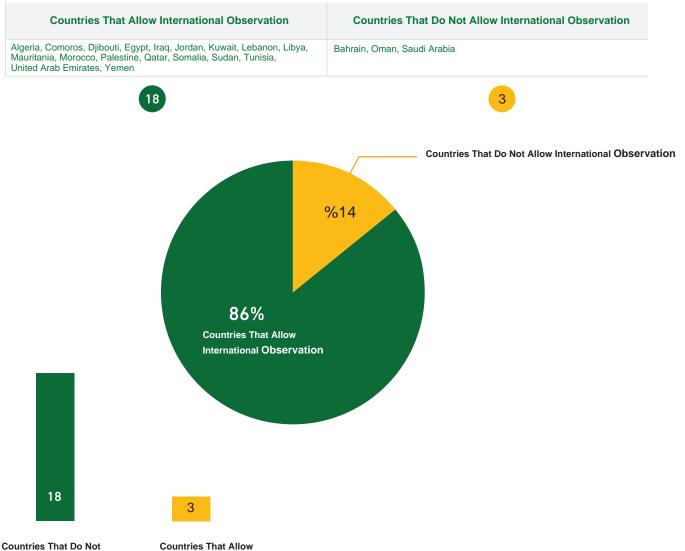
A quota means allocating a percentage of seats or a specific number of seats in Parliament to certain groups in society. There are various types of quotas, but a women's quota is the most well-known form. Countries use a quota for women to promote women's participation in public life and to guarantee women's access to decision-making positions. A quota is considered one of the temporary solutions to this situation and the electoral law, usually, specifies the year in which the quota applies.

In the Arab World, there is a women's quota in 62% of the Arab countries (13 countries). However, the countries vary in the way they apply the quota. Some countries specify a percentage of seats in the legislature, while others specify a certain number of those seats. On the other hand, 38% of Arab countries (8 countries) do not apply a quota system.

Types of the Electoral Management Bodies in Arab Countries



International Observation

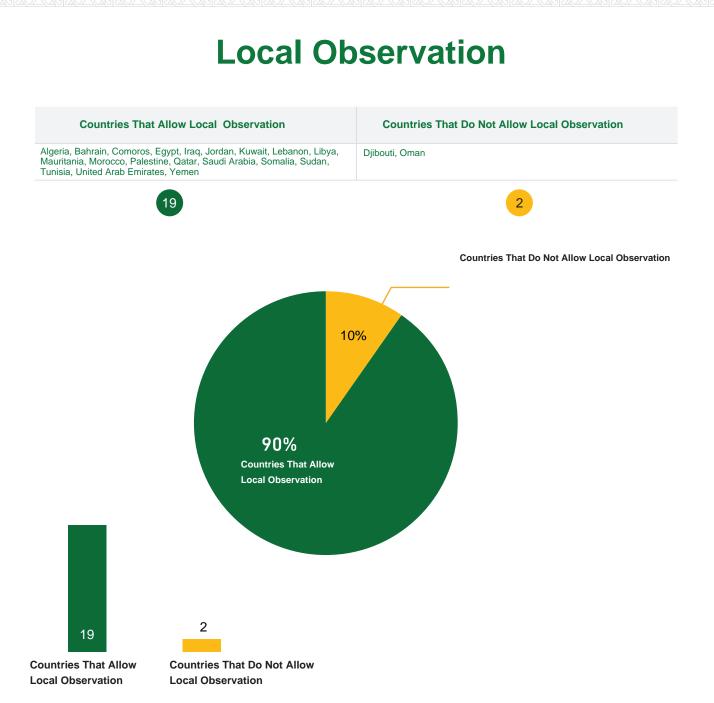


Allow International Observation International Observation

Today, International Observation enjoys universal acceptance. It is considered as one of the most important mechanisms that help to strengthen voters' trust in the election process and to promote the participation of political parties, candidates and other stakeholders in the Electoral process. It also encourages commitment to the legal framework that governs elections. International Observation has also a positive impact on the work taking place to modernise and develop election processes through the recommendations that the Observers make.

The graph above shows that most Arab countries pay attention to the issue of International Observation, as 86% of the Arab countries (18 countries) allow International Observation.

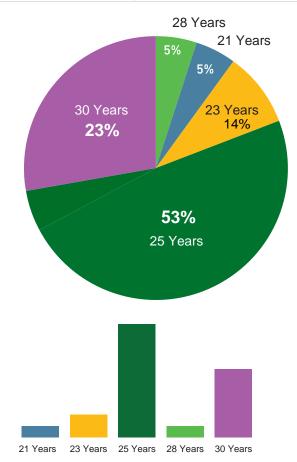
With regard to the terminology, most Arab countries use "Election Observation", while most Arab Maghreb countries (Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia) use "Election Monitoring". Egypt is the only Arab country that uses "Following Up on the Elections".



The holding of free and fair elections, based on equal opportunities for all candidates, restores voters' trust in the ballot box and opens the door to a greater participation and more freedom of expression for the various actors that make up the political and social map of a society. This requires a wide range of procedures, the first of which is to allow Local Observation of elections. The table above shows that there is a noticeable openness to allow civil society organisations to observe the elections, as 19 Arab countries out of a total of 21 countries allow Local Observation. There are five Gulf Countries among the 19 countries.

Candidacy Age in Arab Countries

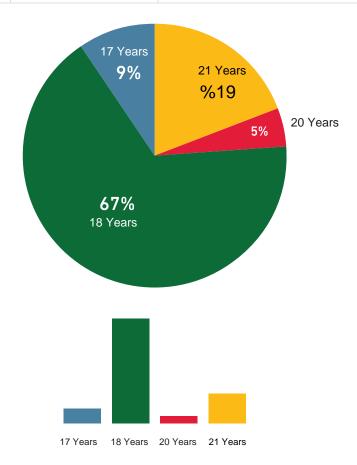
Candidacy Age	Number of Countries	Countries
21 Years	1	Sudan
23 Years	3	Djibouti, Tunisia, Morocco
25 Years	11	Algeria, Comoros, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia,Qatar, Somalia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
28 Years	1	Palestine
30 Years	5	Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman



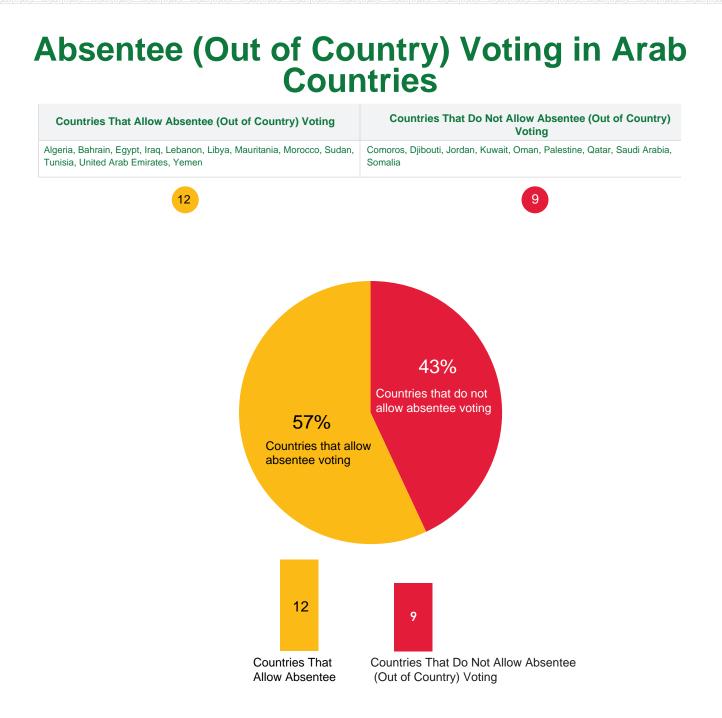
The legal conditions regarding the standards that candidates have to abide by differ from one country to another. These conditions are in line with the characteristics of the society in the country. At the forefront of these standards is the candidacy age. For the candidacy age, most Arab countries have relied on an age that ranges between 21 and 30 years. Five Arab countries have adopted 30 years as the candidacy age. Lowering the candidacy age represents an important trend that aims at enabling a larger number of youth to participate in decision-making positions. This is because the youth are considered an important group in society and constitute a large portion of the population.

Voting Age in Arab Countries

Voting Age	Number of Countries	Countries
17 Years	2	Jordan, Saudi Arabia
18 Years	14	Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Qatar, Sudan, Somalia, Tunisia, Yemen
20 Years	1	Bahrain
21 Years	4	Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, United Arab Emirates



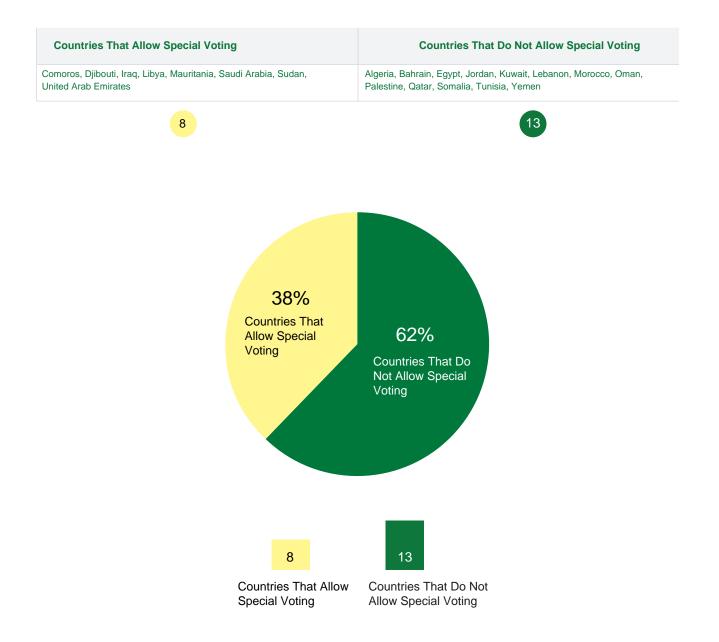
The Constitutions and the Electoral Laws of the countries around the world provide a set of prerequisites that must be met by a legally, qualified voter to be able to vote. One of these prerequisites is the Voting Age. The Voting Age of 14 Arab countries (67% of The Arab countries) is 18 years. This is the age that has been adopted by most countries of the world for citizens to start enjoying their political rights. Two Arab countries have made the Voting Age lower than 18 years. This is the average age that is in line with the trend to support and enhance the role played by the youth, who participate in choosing their representatives in decision-making positions.



Constitutions of the countries of the world always stipulate the principle of equality in the rights and responsibilities of their citizens. Among the basic rights that citizens enjoy is the right to vote. Accordingly, many countries of the world allow voters living overseas to participate in the elections. However, there are some countries, which for reasons related to the administrative, logistical and financial constraints, are not capable of organizing out of country voting.

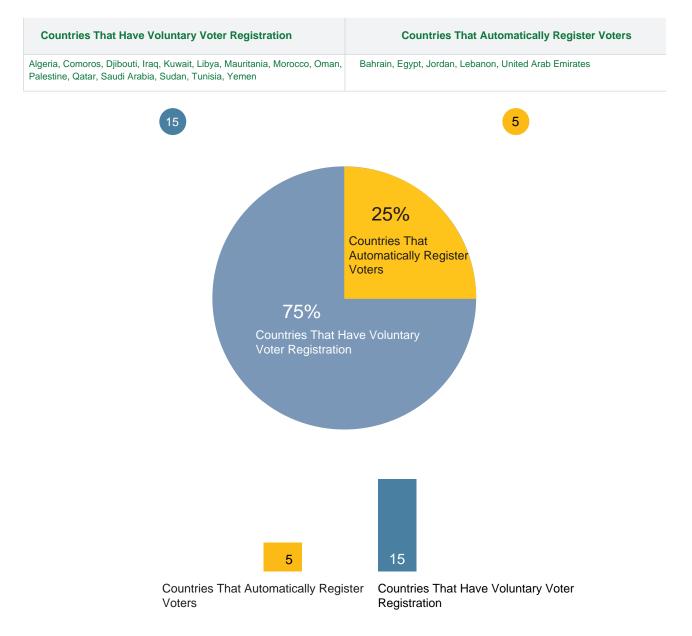
In the Arab region, we find that 57% of the Arab countries (12 countries) allow their voters living overseas to participate in the elections, while voters in nine countries do not vote overseas. This represents 43% of the Arab countries.

Special Voting in Arab Countries



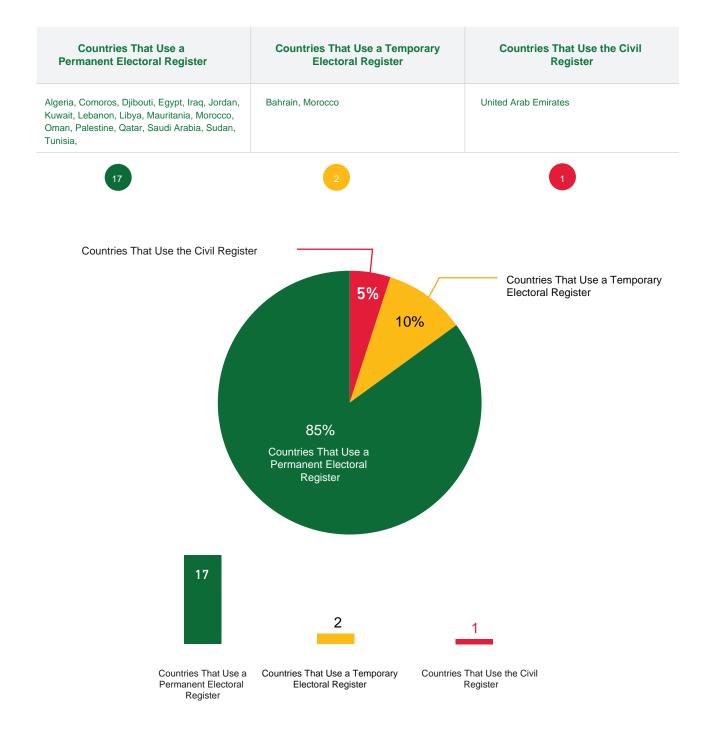
Many countries of the world facilitate voting for special groups of voters so that they can participate in the elections. Among the special groups of voters are sick people in hospitals, people in prison, the Armed Forces and the Police. In the Arab World, 38% of Arab countries (8 countries) facilitate voting for special groups of voters, while the legislations in 62% of Arab countries (13 countries) do not include procedures related to Special Voting.

Voter Registration in Arab Countries



Voter Registration is considered a prerequisite if voters want to enjoy their right to vote on the polling day. Electoral laws specify what type of voter registration is used. This differs from country to country. It is noted that 25% of the Arab countries (5 countries) have passive voter registration, while 75% (15) have voluntary registration of voters.

Electoral Registers in Arab Countries



Electoral Laws in the Arab countries specify the type of the Electoral Register that is used. This differs from one country to another. It is noted that 85% of the Arab countries (17 countries) have a permanent Electoral Register and 10% of the Arab countries (2 countries) have a temporary Electoral Register, while one Arab country uses the civil Register.

Election Terms

Electoral Management Body (EMB)	A commission or an authority that is given, by law, the responsibility of organizing and implementing one of the aspects of the electoral process or all of them, including referendums. There are three types of EMBs: - A Governmental EMB: It is one of the government's institutions, usually, the Ministry of Interior. - An Independent EMB: It is established for this purpose and works as an institution that is completely separate from the executive authority. It has its own budget and it manages this budget independently. - A Mixed EMB: It brings the governmental and the independent aspects together.
Electoral System	A mechanism through which voters' voices are translated into seats in Parliament. The Constitution or the Electoral Law determines the Electoral System. Electoral Systems vary between majority/plurality systems, proportional representation systems, mixed systems and other systems.
Electoral Formula	A mathematical equation according to which the votes cast are translated into seats in the elected body.
Electoral Threshold	The percentage of correct ballots that a party or a list or a candidate need in order to guarantee that they will be represented in the elected body. It is usually stipulated in the Constitution or in the Electoral Law as a percentage of correct ballots cast
The size of Constituencies/ Electoral Districts	The number of legislative seats allocated to the constituency/electoral district. There are three sizes for constituencies/electoral districts: small (1-5 seats), medium (6-10 seats) and large (more than 10 seats)
Type of Constituencies/ Electoral Districts	Constituencies/Electoral Districts are divided into two types: - Single-Member District: It is a constituency/electoral district that is represented by one seat contested by the various candidates. - Multi-Member District: It is a constituency/electoral district that is represented by more than one seat contested by the various candidates or candidate lists.
Voter Registration	The process of listing the names of voters that meet the legal election prerequisites on the register that is prepared and managed by the relevant authority. There are two types of registration: - Voluntary Registration: This is optional for citizens who register on their own initiative. Voters go to the authority in charge of the registration process to register themselves on the registry during a specific period of time before the polling day. - Passive Registration: The EMB takes on the responsibility of registering voters automatically by using information available in the country's civil registry. Being registered on the voter registration list is a prerequisite in order to be able to vote on the polling day.
Types of Elections Registers	 There are three types of Election Registers: A civil register: It is a list of the basic data of all citizens that is with a government institution and contains data on all citizens, such as: name, address, age, identity card number, etc. This list is used to prepare electoral lists. A permanent register: It is updated regularly every year by using data available on the civil register. Citizens are invited to review and comment on their data after the register is updated. In some countries, political parties also have the right to review the register. The EMB is responsible for updating the register: A temporary register: this is prepared when a specific election is taking place. It is discarded as soon as the elections it was prepared for are over. The EMB has the responsibility of preparing this register.
Special Voting	It includes a set of exceptional procedures for special groups (the military, the police, prisoners, people who are ill) in order to allow them to carry out their voting duty. Special voting in some countries is usually carried out few days before the official polling day.
Absentee (Out of Country) Voting	It allows citizens living outside the country's borders to carry out their right to vote, either by making remote voting available or by opening polling stations overseas. Polling stations are usually opened in a country's embassies and consulates.

Information and Indicators on Elections in Arab Countries Cairo - November 2019



General Secretariat Electoral Affairs Department