

Newsletter: Spanish Local Elections 2023

Pangea Office of Attention for Foreign Citizen MANCOMUNIDAD LA VEGA









Local Elections 2023: What do I need to know?

If you are a foreign person with legal residence in Spain, you may have the right to vote in the 2023 Local Elections. In this Newsletter you will find all the necessary information to help you exercise your right to vote and actively participate in your community and take part in the elections that will determine your local representatives.

- 1. I am a foreign person residing in Spain, can I vote in the next 2023 Local Elections?
- 2. What are the requirements to register in the electoral roll and to be able to exercise the right to vote?
- 3. How do I register in the electoral roll?
- 4. What are the key dates?
- 5. What is the process of voting in Spain?













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1. I am a foreign person residing in Spain, can I vote in the next 2023 Local Elections?

Yes, European Union citizens and national citizens of countries with Reciprocity Agreements in force, which are: The United Kingdom, Norway, Ecuador, New Zealand, Colombia, Chile, Peru, Paraguay, Iceland, Bolivia, Cape Verde, Republic of Korea and Trinidad and Tobago.



2. What are the requirements to register in the electoral roll and to be able to exercise the right to vote?

- To be over eighteen years old on the day of the vote and to not be deprived active suffrage right. To do this, you must be in possession of the corresponding Residence Authorization in Spain.
- To have legally resided in Spain for the time required in the Reciprocity Agreement (<u>five years</u> at the time of the application for registration in the electoral roll and, in the case of **Norwegian** and **British nationals**, <u>three years</u> on the day of the vote; there is no temporary requirement in the case of New Zealand).
- To be registered in one of the municipalities of the national territory (empadronamiento).
- To be registered in the electoral roll of foreigners residing in Spain.



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3. How do I register in the electoral roll?

Registration in the electoral roll of foreigners residing in Spain is an essential requirement to be able to exercise the right to vote. It is not an automatic process, so you must carry out the process on your own initiative.

It can be done in three different ways:

- In person at the Town Hall where you are registered (empadronamiento).
- At the INE Electronic Office with Cl@ve Permanente or Electronic Certificate.
- In the months leading up to the local elections, the Electoral Census Office sends a letter to European Union nationals who are residing in Spain and have not declared intention to vote and who have not been sent the letter on previous occasions. This letter also includes an electronic processing key (CTT) to be able to register in the electronic office of the INE.



This is an example of the application form to register in the electoral roll for nationals of countries with a Reciprocity Agreement residing legally in Spain.

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4. What are the key dates?

- Thursday, December 1, 2022 Sunday, January 15, 2023, both inclusive: DEADLINE for applications to register in the electoral roll
- Monday, April 3: The decree for the 2023 local elections will be published
- Friday May 12 Friday May 26: Electoral campaign

> Saturday May 27: Reflection Day

Sunday May 28: Local Elections 2023



5. What is the process of voting in Spain?

The right to vote in Spain is universal, free, equal, direct and secret. No one can be forced or coerced under any pretext in the exercise of their right to vote to reveal their vote. Any person with active suffrage rights may vote consciously, freely and voluntarily.



Contact of the PANGEA Office Mancomunidad la Vega:





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658 79 57 08

Algorfa: T. 966783048Jacarilla: T. 966772148

Redován: T. 966755639

• San Miguel de Salinas: T. 966723115