ES – Country information

Indicators on political participation

of persons with disabilities

2014

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1. **STRUCTURE INDICATORS**

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| **Structure indicators** | **Source and supporting information** |
| Has [country] ratified the CRPD without a reservation to Article 29? Please give details of any reservation. | 3 Dec 2007[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| Has [country] ratified the CRPD without a reservation to Article 12? Please give details of any reservation. | 3 Dec 2007[[2]](#footnote-2) |
| Has [country] ratified the CRPD without a reservation to Article 9? Please give details of any reservation. | 3 Dec 2007[[3]](#footnote-3) |
| Please indicate the legislation which applies to European Parliament and municipal elections in your country. Please highlight possible amendments in view of the 2014 European Parliament elections.  Does the same law apply for national, federal, local and regional elections, and referendums? | **Spanish Constitution (1978)[[4]](#footnote-4)**  -Right to vote : articles 13.2 and 23.1  -National elections: articles 68-69  -Regional elections: article 152  -Municipal elections: article 140  -Referenda: article 92  The Spanish Constitution does not regulate the elections of the European Parliament.  **National elections and referenda**  1. Organic Act 5/1985 on the general electoral system (LOREG)[[5]](#footnote-5), applicable to Parliamentary (Congress and Senate) elections, local/municipal elections and European Parliament elections. Specific application of Title I (Common rules), Title II (MPs and Senators),Title III (Municipal elections), Title IV (Local elections Canary Islands) and Title VI (European elections).  2. Organic Act 2/1980 on the different kinds of referenda[[6]](#footnote-6)  3.Royal Decree 605/1999, on complementary regulation of the electoral processes[[7]](#footnote-7)  **Regional elections**  1. Some aspects of the election of the Autonomous Communities’ Parliamentary Assemblies are covered by different legislation than the LOREG. This notwithstanding many of the provisions in the LOREG articles also apply to regional elections.[[8]](#footnote-8)  In this sense, all Spanish Autonomous Communities,with the exception of the Autonomous Community of Catalunya, have decided to approve their own electoral laws for their Parliamentary Assemblies´elections. In Catalonia, certain provisions of the LOREG apply, because of a supplementary clause of the Spanish Constitution.  **Specific Spanish electoral legislation on disability**  • Royal Decree 1612/2007, of 7 December, regulating an accessible voting procedure to facilitate the exercise of the right to vote to people with visual impairment[[9]](#footnote-9). This Royal Decree 1612/2007, regulates a procedure that blind and severe visually disabled electors may use in order to receive complementary documentation in Braille at the polling station on Election day. (*”kit de votación accesible”*) (legal mandate: article 87.2 LOREG).  • Order INT/3817/2007, of 21 December, developing the accessible voting procedure to facilitate the exercise of the right to vote to people with visual impairment regulated under Royal Decree 1612/2007 of 7 December[[10]](#footnote-10).  • Royal Decree 422/2011, of 25 March, approving the Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes.[[11]](#footnote-11)  No amendments to the electoral legislation are foreseen in view of the 2014 European Parliament elections, except the necessary amendments for the transposition of the Council Directive 2013/1/EU of 20 December 2012. |
| Is there a requirement under law to register to vote? If so, please specify the relevant legislation. | The Electoral Census is permanent and it is updated monthly[[12]](#footnote-12). It contains the records of those meeting the requirements in order to be eligible to vote, and are not deprived, permanently or temporarily, of the right to vote.[[13]](#footnote-13)  Monthly updates to the Electoral Census are carried out primarily using the information automatically received from Municipal Councils, Consular Offices, Civil Register, as well as from claims presented to the Electoral Census Office (National Institute of Statistics/Ministry of Economy).  Each month the closed census is formed on the first day of that month using the information received prior to that date. The Electoral Census in force for an election is the one closed on the first day of the month preceding the one in which the elections are called, with the records of those of legal age on election day. |
| Is there any limitation foreseen by law which could affect the right of persons with disabilities to vote in European Parliament and municipal elections? Please give details of any restrictions on the right to vote of persons with disabilities, including any link between a particular type of impairment (e.g. psychosocial/intellectual disability) or substituted decision making (e.g. loss of legal capacity, placement under guardianship)and the right to vote in elections.  Does the same law regarding voting rights apply for national, local/regional elections and referendums? | Following the indications of the Organic Act 5/1985 of 19 June on the General Electoral Regime, Following article 3.1 LOREG:  „Disenfranchised are those:  b) People declared legally incapable by a final judicial decision, provided that the court specifically declares the incapability for the exercise of the right to vote;  c) People in a psychiatric hospital, because of a court’s authorization, will not be franchised during the period of that internment, only if the Judge had expressly declared that incapacity to exercise the right to vote.“  If declared incapacitated, persons with disabilities are usually prevented from voting and from standing as candidates in Spain. As expressed in article 3 LOREG, judges or Courts in charge of incapacitation or internment procedures, must expressly declare the incapacity for the exercise of the right to vote. In case that incapacity is declared, they will communicate it to the Civil Register.[[14]](#footnote-14)In September 2011, the United Nations’ Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) stated[[15]](#footnote-15) in a report that it was concerned that in Spain:  “The right to vote of persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities can be restricted if the person concerned has been deprived of his or her legal capacity, or has been placed in an institution. It is further concerned that the deprivation of this right appears to be the rule and not the exception. It regrets the lack of information on standards of evidence or grounds, and criteria used by judges when depriving persons of their right to vote. It notes with concern the number of persons with disabilities denied their right to vote”.  It furtherrecommended that:“All relevant legislation be reviewed to ensure that all persons with disabilities, regardless of their impairment, legal status or place of residence, have the right to vote and participate in public life on an equal basis with others. The Committee requests the State party to amend article 3 of Organic Act 5/1985, which allows the denial of the right to vote based on individualized decisions taken by a judge. The amendment should ensure that all persons with disabilities have the right to vote”.  The CERMI (Spanish committee of representatives of Persons with Disabilities)[[16]](#footnote-16) has recently drafted a proposal of reformat of this Organic Law aiming to remove these limitations tot he right to vote for a number of persons with disabilities. The draft has been sent to the members of the Spanish Parliament.  In October 2013, the CERMI reported that the Catalan parliamentary group *Convergència i Unió* (CiU) had submitted a motion at the Lower House of the Spanish Parliament asking the Spanish government to modify the current electoral Act in order to achieve that persons with intellectual disabilities or mental health problems are not deprived of their right to vote on unjustified grounds[[17]](#footnote-17) asjudges in Spain are empowered to do this without not even the need to proceed to a case-by-case approach.  In this regard, this parliamentary group is said to have collected the reiterated demands of the organisations of persons with disabilities to avoid that more than 80,000 persons with disabilities, mostly of them under guardianship because of their intellectual disabilities or mental or psychosocial diseases, see their right to vote or to stand for elections contravened.  With only a few exceptions, the Spanish political parties supported this motion[[18]](#footnote-18), so later in the same month the Lower House in the Spanish Parliament[[19]](#footnote-19) approved to urge the Spanish government to carry out within the following six months a report focused on the legislative proposals to adapt the Spanish law to the International Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities particularly regarding the electoral Act currently in force in order to achieve that all persons with disabilities can vote in equality of conditions. |
| Is there legislation in place regulating how people living in long-term institutions may vote? | Voting by post exists for every citizen, including persons with disabilities having the right to vote (see article 72 LOREG). Special provisions exist so that electors with disabilities may request the postal voting, which in general terms has to be personally presented at the postal office or by power of attorney. free of charge (according to article 118 LOREG).  Mobile polling stations are not provided for by law.The Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011 of 25 March),[[20]](#footnote-20) organizes in general terms the free transport of voters who need assistance to get to, and access the polling station. This is organised by the State´s General Administration. |
| Is there a duty under law to provide reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities in voting procedures? For example, is there a duty to provide assistance at the polling station (e.g. braille or large print ballot papers, independent support person to assist with voting chosen by the person with a disability) or to allow for alternative means of voting (e.g. postal ballots, voting in advance, home-based voting, voting at institutions, mobile voting)? | On the 25th of March 2011 the Spanish Government adopted Royal Decree 422/2011 on the Regulation of the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in the political life and in electoral procedures.[[21]](#footnote-21)  The Royal Decree includes a number of measures ranging from the accessibility of polling stations and of public and official spaces where electoral campaign activities are held, to the provision of a free-of-charge sign language interpreting service.  It is to be noted that the Royal Decree was adopted in order to comply with the mandate of the Government issued by Act 51/2003 of 2 December on Equal Opportunities, Non-discrimination and Universal Accessibility of Persons with Disabilities (called LIONDAU)[[22]](#footnote-22)to establish the basic conditions for the accessibility and non-discrimination regarding environment, products and services necessary for the participation of disabled persons in the political life and the electoral processes. The LIONDAU was recently amended by Act 26/2011 of 1 August on Normative Adaptation to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[[23]](#footnote-23). However, the amendment involves no implications for the accessibility of the polling stations.Additional information is available in the report of the OHCHR.[[24]](#footnote-24) |
| Is there a duty under law for public and private providers of internet and web-based information to ensure that public information is subject to accessibility requirements (e.g. equivalent to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 AA standard) | The Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011 of 25 March) establishes different mechanisms to facilitate access to information by persons with disabilities.  Its article 5 on accessibility of institutional electoral information states:  “1. The websites of the general administration with information on electoral processes should comply with the general accessibility criteria established in Article 5 of Royal Decree 1494/2007, of 12 November, approving the Regulation on the basic conditions for access of persons with disabilities to technologies, products and services related to the information society and social communication.  2. All institutional information and the procedures administered under the responsibility of the Electoral Registration Office shall be accessible”.  Article 5 of Royal Decree 1494/2007[[25]](#footnote-25) establishes the accessibility criteria applicable to websites of the public administration or with public funding. In particular:  “1. The information available on the websites of the public administration should be accessible to elderly people and persons with disability in a way that complies, at least, with priorities 1 and 2 of UNE standard 139803:2004.  This obligation will not be applicable if for the information, functionality or service no financially reasonable technological alternative is available allowing its accessibility.  With regard to sign language, the referred websites shall respect the provisions of Act 27/2007, of 23 October, on the recognition of Spanish sign languages and regulating oral communication support to deaf persons, persons with hearing impairment and deafblind persons.[[26]](#footnote-26)  2. By way of exception, the general administration may establish the accessibility of websites according to technical standards different from the ones provided in paragraph 1 of this section, provided these offer a degree of accessibility similar to the level offered by these first standards.  3. The websites of the public administration shall contain clear information on the degree of accessibility of their content, as well as an indication of the date on which the level of accessibility was checked.  4. In order to be eligible for public funding for the design or maintenance of websites, the accessibility criteria foreseen in paragraph 1 of the present section will need to be fulfilled.  Likewise, and within the same time limits, compliance with these accessibility criteria for websites may be required from entities and companies which, by virtue of concession or contract, administer public services, in particular those concerning health education and social services.  The requirements for web pages and their content contained in this paragraph will also be compulsory for public education, training and academic centres, and for private centres financed entirely or partially with public funds.  5. The websites of the public administration shall offer users a contact mechanism allowing them to report difficulties in accessing the content of web pages, or to submit complaints, questions or suggestions for improvements. The competent organs shall regularly carry out public studies regarding the questions, suggestions and complaints submitted”.  Also applicable is Act 7/2010 on general rules regarding audiovisual communication[[27]](#footnote-27). |
| Is there a duty under law for public and private providers of media (including newspapers, TV, radio and internet) to ensure that their information and communications are subject to accessibility requirements? | Act 7/2010 on general rules regarding audiovisual communication which targets public and private providers and recasts earlier legislation, establishes in its article 6 regardomg the right to transparent audiovisual communication:  “1. Everyone has the right to know the identity of the providers of audiovisual communication services, as well as the companies that constitute their group and their shareholders.  To this end, the service provider is considered to be identified when it has a website offering the following details: the name of the service provider; its registered office; e-mail and other means of direct and easy communication; the competent regulatory or supervisory body.  2. Everyone is entitled to be informed about television programming with due notice, i.e. not less than 3 days in advance. In the case of television programming, the schedule shall be made public through an electronic TV guide, the free basic content of which should be made available by an online information service in an accessible and downloadable format with a publicly known structure, which is to be published on a website the availability of which is the responsibility of the audiovisual communication service provider. The schedule may only be altered due to events which are beyond the control of the audiovisual service provider or events of overriding (live) media importance. The online information service shall include mechanisms to inform about last minute changes in the broadcasting schedule.  3. The information referred to in this section which is included in websites, electronic programming guides or other media of the audiovisual communication service provider, and which serves to guarantee the right to transparency established in this section, must be accessible to persons with disabilities.  4. The public authorities and audiovisual service providers shall contribute to the media literacy of citizens.  5. Everyone is entitled to commercial communication being clearly distinguished from other media content, in the terms established by current legislation.  6. Websites, electronic programming schedules and other channels or means of communication used by service providers, which serve to guarantee the right to transparency established in this section, must be accessible to persons with disabilities.”  Article 8 of the Act 7/2010 on the rights of people with disabilities states:  “1. People with visual or hearing impairments have the right to universal accessibility of audiovisual communication, in accordance with the technological possibilities.  2. People with hearing impairment are entitled to public broadcasting on a state or regional level being subtitled for 75% of programming, as well as to at least two hours a week of sign language interpretation.  3. People with visual impairment are entitled to public broadcasting on a state or regional level offering at least two hours a week of programming with audio description.  4. The public authorities and service providers shall promote the full enjoyment of audiovisual communication by persons with disabilities and the use of good practices to avoid any kind of discrimination of, or negative effects for these persons.  In order to guarantee the quality of the service provided and the satisfaction of the audience, audiovisual service providers, when applying accessibility measures, should at all times take into account the prevailing technical standards regarding subtitling, sign language broadcasting and audio description. All audiovisual service providers, except RTVE Broadcasting Corporation, may use advertising to finance accessibility measures.  5. When broadcasting, audiovisual service providers shall seek to offer a correct, normal, respectful and inclusive image of persons with disabilities as an enriching expression of human diversity, while trying to avoid stereotypical or biased perceptions or perceptions based on possible social prejudice. At the same time, they will ensure that their appearance in programmes is proportional to their weight and participation in society as a whole.”  The concept “universal access” covers both public and private providers, “in accordance with the technological possibilities”. For the concept “service providers” in the text, since there is no specification of whether these are public or private, it should be understood that it refers to both public and private providers.  Following the fifth transitional provision of Act 7/2010 regarding support services for persons with disabilities:  “1. The accessibility services for persons with disability to be offered as part of television programming as established under Article 8 should at least have reached the following percentages and values by December 31st of each year:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | | Subtitling | 25% | 45% | 65% | 75% | | Hours of sign language | 0,5 | 1 | 1,5 | 2 | | Hours of audio description | 0,5 | 1 | 1,5 | 2 |   2. The accessibility services for persons with disability to be offered as part of public programming should at least have reached the following percentages and values by December 31st of each year:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | | Subtitling | 25% | 50% | 70% | 90% | | Hours of sign language | 1 | 3 | 7 | 10 | | Hours of audio description | 1 | 3 | 7 | 10 |   3. The government is authorized to extend through regulation the terms referred to in the previous paragraph in accordance to the evolution of the audiovisual market, the implementation process of digital technology and the development of the available technical means at each point in time.  4. Until the definitive termination of broadcasting with analogue technology, the obligation of offering sign language interpretation and audio description shall not be applicable to analogue broadcasting.  5. New broadcasting channels must comply with the hours and percentages established under Article 8 within 4 years, extrapolating the scale provided in paragraph 1”.  Act 10/2005 on urgent measures to stimulate Digital Terrestrial Television, to liberalize cable television and promote pluralism[[28]](#footnote-28) States in its second additional provision on the guarantee of accessibility of digital terrestrial television for persons with disability:  “Pursuant to the provisions of Act 51/2003, of 2 December, on equal opportunities, non-discrimination and universal accessibility for persons with disabilities, and to its rules of implementation, the competent administrations shall adopt, after having consulted the representatives of the sectors and persons concerned, the necessary measures to guarantee from the start accessibility of persons with disability to the services of digital terrestrial television. To this purpose, the adopted measures will respect the principles of universal accessibility and design for all persons concerned”. |
| Is there legislation requiring that polling stations and voting processes be accessible to persons with disabilities (e.g. a certain percentage of polling stations must be accessible, one polling station per electoral district must be accessible etc)?  Please indicate whether the legislation requires that polling stations and voting processes are accessible for all persons with disabilities or for particular impairment groups (e.g. persons with visual, hearing, physical impairments etc). | The Royal Decree 605/1999 regarding the complementary regulation of the electoral processes states In its first article Which are the places to be used for electoral processes.In every electoral process, those places where the votes are to be cast must fulfill the necessary conditions to make that possible, therefore, those places must have adequate signs for electoral sections and polling stations, and, preferably be buildings of public ownership and, among these, buildings for educational, cultural or leisure purposes. These buildings must be accessible to persons with mobility limitations.  The Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011) provides in its article 3.1 that “Access is guaranteed to the polling stations and the ballot boxes”.  At the same time, Article 8 establishes that:  “1. In all electoral processes within the competence of the general state administration, the locations where the voting process take place should meet the following conditions:  a) preferable be publicly owned, priority being given to educational, cultural, sports and recreational centres;  b) be accessible according to the provisions of this regulation; and  c) offer adequate indications of the voting sections and tables, in accordance with the technical requirements established by standard UNE 170002 «Accessibility requirements for signposting», or any standard that replaces it.  2. Polling stations should include a specific, accessible and adequate space guaranteeing the privacy of the voter which should find itself as close as possible to the table where he/she should vote.  3. The general state administration shall desdign and provide accessible systems with indications in each polling station referring to all sections and tables.”  Moreover, the Single Transitory Provision establishes that:  “1. The surroundings and new products and services related to the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes should comply with the basic requirements of accessibility and non-discrimination established in the Regulation approved by the present Royal Decree as soon as it enters into force.  2. The surroundings, products and services that exist at the moment this Royal Decree enters into force, and every provision, criterion and practice related to the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes should comply with the basic requirements in the decree when the next elections to Congress are held”.  According to the Guide on Accessibility and Electoral Processes of the Ministry of the Interior:[[29]](#footnote-29) “Voting locations must offer a specific, accessible and adequate space which guarantees the voter’s privacy and which finds itself as close as possible to the polling table where he must cast his vote”. At the same time “the members of the election committee will see to it that voters with disabilities can exercise their right to vote with the maximum autonomy possible, making the reasonable adjustments necessary for this purpose”. These adjustments correspond to the ones listed in Article 8 of the Royal Decree 422/2011.  Additionally, in terms of barriers or limitations, the Spanish Confederation of Families of Deaf Persons (Confederación Española de Familias de Personas Sordas, FIAPAS) has denounced that the regulation of the basic accessibility conditions in the case of elections does not refer to the provision of any means to support oral communication for deaf persons who use hearing prostheses and communicate orally. This prevents these persons from being in charge of a polling station in equality of conditions with other persons despite the need of this support having been officially recognised[[30]](#footnote-30). |
| Does the law foresee training for election authorities and election officials on non-discrimination on the grounds of disability, accessibility and reasonable accommodation? | The Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011 of 25 March)[[31]](#footnote-31) establishes different information mechanisms:  Its third additional provision regarding dissemination states:  “The Ministry of the Interior shall elaborate information material in an accessible format to inform both electoral authorities and voters with disabilities about the basic conditions of accessibility and non-discrimination established in this Regulation”.  Particularly to be included in these materials is the Guide on Accessibility and Electoral Processes.[[32]](#footnote-32) This Guide contains the information material established by this Regulation. The guide was prepared by the Spanish Ministry of the Interior. It covers, among others, instructions for election officials on reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and provides guidance on how to support persons with disabilities to vote.  For the last municipal elections (held on 22 May 2011), as well for the Parliamentary Elections (held on 20 Nov 2011) the same Ministry published this Guide in a section of its website as a PDF file, together with an easy-to-read version in PDF-format and a video in sign language.[[33]](#footnote-33) A PDF file was also published with the complete version of Royal Decree 422/2011 as a well as FAQs on accessibility.  In all nation-wide elections the Ministry of the Interior coordinates the civil servants that every Delegation or Subdelegation of the Government[[34]](#footnote-34) (the so called Periferic Administration) nominates as Accesibility responsibles, in charge of implementing the accessibility and elections tasks, including gathering data for evaluation reports.The election authorities and election officials receive information, elaborated by the Ministry of the Interior, on accessibility and electoral processes. |
| Does the national strategy/action plan on disability cover the right to political participation of persons with disabilities? | One of the principles and core areas of the *Spanish Third National Action Plan for People with Disabilities 2009-2012* was participation and integration. In this respect the Plan aimed to strengthen the presence of people with disabilities in all areas, dismantling stereotypes and prejudices that constrain their expectations. Its objectives included:   * Promoting the presence, participation and leadership of people with disabilities in the political and social sphere, with gender parity and presence of different types of disability. This objective is reflected in measures such as: (a) increase their levels of participation in decision-making bodies, (b) develop tools to ensure full accessibility in elections, etc. * Promoting the participation of people with disabilities, especially women and youth in associations. * Increasing the participation of girls and women with disabilities. |
| Are all persons with disabilities, including those who have been deprived of their legal capacity, able to access redress and complaint mechanisms in cases where they have not been able to exercise the right to vote? | Articles 8 to 21 of the LOREG establish that electors may address the Electoral Commissions.  Article 24.3 of the LOREG states that “Electors may within the six following days file petitions against the established boundaries with the Provincial Electoral Commission, who shall reach a final decision within the next five days”.  Claims regarding the Electoral census registration details may be filed according to Articles 37 to 40 LOREG.  The Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011 of 25 March) refers to the standard procedure of electoral complaints in case voting locations do not meet the accessibility requirements:  “Article 3.3. Voters may lodge complaints with regard to the voting locations that do not meet the legal accessibility requirements within the terms and in accordance with the procedure established in Article 24.3 of Organic Act 5/1985, of 19 June”.  Those who have been deprived of their legal capacitymay lodge an appeal against the motivated judicial decision[[35]](#footnote-35) depriving them of their legal capacity to vote. |

1. **PROCESS INDICATORS**

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| **Process indicators** | **Source and supporting information** |
| Are there mechanisms in place to ensure that disabled people’s organisations (DPOs) are consulted and involved in the development of laws and policies in electoral matters? Please give details of the mechanisms through which DPOs are involved. | Institutionally speaking, the organisation specifically created in 2004 to ensure collaboration in policy development between government and associations of people with disabilities and their families is an inter-Ministerial body called the National Council on Disability[[36]](#footnote-36).  Its legal basis is the Royal Decree 1855/2009 of the 4th of December, regulating the National Council on Disability.[[37]](#footnote-37) Article 6.1.b states that, apart from relevant civil servants and authorities from different ministries, the members of this Council are:  “Sixteen members representing the most representative non-profit associations on a national level whose members are the most representative organisations with regard to the different types of disabilities.”  No detailed information is available on the website on how the collaboration in policy development is carried out in practice, neither about the organizations being part of it.. After consultation of the Council and the Ministry of health, to which the Office is linked, following information was obtained:  The members of the Council representing the most representative non-profit disability organizations are:   * The President of CERMI ( Spanish National Council of Representatives of Persons with Disabilities) at the national level (also acting as 3rd Vice-President of the Council). * The President of the General Council of the National Organization of Spanish Blind People (*Organización Nacional de Ciegos Españoles*, ONCE). * The Vice-President of the ONCE Foundation. * The President of the Spanish Conference of Persons with Physical and Organic Disability (*Conferencia Española de Personas con Discapacidad Física y Orgánica*, COCEMFE). * The President of the Spanish Confederation for Persons with Intellectual Disability (*Confederación Española de Organizaciones a favor de las Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual*, FEAPS). * The President of the National Confederation of Deaf Persons (*Confederación Estatal de Personas Sordas*, CNSE). * The President of the Spanish Confederation of Relatives of Deaf Persons (*Confederación Española de Familias de Personas Sordas*, FIAPAS). * The President of the Spanish Confederation of Associations for the Care of Persons with Cerebral Palsy (*Confederación Española de Asociaciones de Atención a las Personas con Parálisis Cerebral*, ASPACE). * The President of the Spanish Confederation of Groupings of Relatives and Persons with Mental Illness (*Confederación Española de Agrupaciones de Familiares y Personas con Enfermedad Mental*, FEAFES). * The President of the Representative National Platform for the Physically Handicapped (*Plataforma Representativa Estatal de Discapacitados Físicos*, PREDIF). * The President of the Spanish Confederation for Autism (*Confederación Autismo España*). * The President of Down-Spain (*Down-España*). * The President of the Spanish Federation for Brain Damage (*Federación Española de Daño Cerebral*, FEDACE). * The President of the Spanish Federation for Rare Diseases (*Federación Española de Enfermedades Raras*, FEDER). * The President of the Business Association for Disability (*Asociación Empresarial de la Discapacidad* , AEDIS). * The President of the Spanish Federation for Autism (*Federación Española de Autismo*, FESPAU).   According to the Royal Decree 1855/2009, the tasks of this Council are:  “1. To promote the principles and main lines of the comprehensive policies regarding persons with disabilities within the competence of general state administration, including the principle of mainstreaming.  2. To present initiatives and make recommendations with regard to action plans or programmes.  3. To study and, where applicable, present initiatives on funding for programmes for persons with disability and the distribution criteria concerned.  4. To issue mandatory (though non-binding) opinions and reports on legislative proposals and other initiatives related to the Council’s field of activity that are submitted for its consideration and in particular regarding the development of legislation on equal opportunities, non-discrimination and universal accessibility.  5. To promote actions aimed at the compilation, analysis, elaboration and dissemination of information.  6. To stimulate activities in the field of investigation, training, innovation, ethics and quality regarding disability.  7. To analyze the policies, funding and programmes of the European Union and other international organisations and to be informed, where relevant, about Spanish positions and proposals in international forums.  8. To constitute the leading organ of the general state administration for the promotion, protection and monitoring in Spain of the international legal instruments regarding the human rights of persons with disabilities incoporated into the Spanish legal order.  9. Any other task within its sphere of competence that is attributed to the Council by any statutory or regulatory provision".  The Council reported that, apart from the listed tasks, it is also the advisory organ on institutional participation for the System for Autonomy and Dependency Care. In this context, it informs, advises and make proposals regarding matters that are of particular interest for the referred system.  Concerning the question on how this collaboration in policy development is carried out in practice, they informed that the National Council on Disability has a Plenary Assembly and a Permanent Committee. Both organs must hold at least two ordinary sessions a year.  The Council also performs tasks in the field of disability through the Permanent Specialized Office, which is part of the Directorate General for Disability Support of the Ministry of Health. During the plenary meetings, the minister of Health opens the meeting. Subsequently, all the points on the agenda are dealt with, which are commented first by the representative of the ministerial department or the organisation who proposed it, and finally by any interested member of the Council.  There is also the Spanish National Council of Representatives of Persons with Disabilities (CERMI).[[38]](#footnote-38) This is a private institution that represents more than 4,500 member organizations and 3.8 million disabled Spanish people. It also represents disabled people at the European level (European Disability Forum). They consider themselves exclusively a policy-action entity having representative character, a valid representative for this field and the leading disability entity in Spain.[[39]](#footnote-39)No information is available on its website on how this Council is involved and consulted in the development of laws and policies in electoral matters.  According to article 24.1 c) of the governmental Law 50/1997 of the 27th of November , when the Ministry of the Interior undertakes the drafting of an electoral regulation concerning accessibility and elections, the most representative associations of people with disabilities (i.e. CERMI, ONCE, FIAPAS etc.), as well as Autonomous Communities and Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), are consulted.  According to the Royal Decrees 422/2011 and 1612/2007, the Ministry of the Interior (Electoral Management Body) elaborates evaluation reports on accesibility to the electoral processes. Disabled people organizations such as CERMI, ONCE, FIAPAS, FEAPS, CNSE, etc. send information to be included in these evaluation reports.  The report on the Parliamentary Elections (2008 and 2011), European Parliament Elections 2009, Local/Municipal Elections 2011 and Autonomous Communities’ Parliamentary Assemblies’ Elections 2009, 2011 and 2012, was sent by the Ministry of the Interior to the Central Electoral Commission and to the Ministry of Health as well as it was presented in 2013 (March) at the Plenary Session of the National Council on Disability (Pleno del Consejo Nacional de la Discapacidad) (). This report includes all information available related to elections and accesibility (2008-2012), including complaints (filed before the Electoral Commissions, the Electoral Census Office, the Permanent Specialized Office, Ministry of the Interior, Oficina del Censo Electoral, Junta Electoral Central…), best practices etc. as well as a specific evaluation study on the implementation of the Royal Decree 1612/2007 (regarding complementary Braille documentation for blind of visually impaired voters). |
| Have national judicial redress mechanisms considered any cases related to the right to political participation of persons with disabilities?  Please give details of relevant case law and any available data on the number of such cases. | After analyzing the databases of the National Court [*Audiencia Nacional*], the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court, no judicial decisions have been found on the right to political participation of persons with disabilities.  Decisions of lower courts are not published on the internet. Existing databases do not systematically cover them.  It should be noted that the common procedure to complain regarding problems with the exercise of the right to political participation is at the Central Electoral Board. Its decisions have legal value and can be appealed in front of the Constitutional Court in case of violations of individual fundamental rights.  An exception was found in a judgment of February 2007 of the High Court of Catalonia,[[40]](#footnote-40) in which the constitutionality of article 87 LOREG on the general electoral system was challenged.  Alhough the Court recognized the awareness of Spanish society on the subject, it considered the fact that the LOREG does not offer the possibility to blind people to vote using braille as not being unconstitutional, because this would entail complex technical solutions. The appellants requested the High Court to challenge the constitutionality with the Constitutional Court, but it considered the grounds of the request to be insufficient.  A few months later, the referred article was amended by Organic Act 9/2007[[41]](#footnote-41) in order to regulate a specific voting procedure for people with visual impairments. (see article 87. 2 LOREG and Royal Decree 1612/2007, that regulates the specific procedure that blind and severe visually disabled electors may use in order to receive documentation in Braille. These electors may call to a toll free telephone number (provided by the Ministry of the Interior, in the case of national elections) to request for a special voting kit to be handed to them on elections day at their Electoral Board. The kit includes information in Braille and, in the case of Senate elections, a template in Braille (N.B. paper ballots and envelopes are not in Braille: they are regular ones, to guarantee the secrecy of the vote). |
| Have national non-judicial redress mechanisms (e.g. National Human Rights Institutions, Equality Bodies, Ombuds institutions) considered any cases related to the right to political participation of persons with disabilities?  Please give details of relevant case law and any available data on the number of such cases. | Several decisions of the Central Electoral Commission (the superior and permanent body of the so called Electoral Administration (see article 8 LOREG) - organ established under the LOREG to guarantee that electoral processes are correctly carried out) have been found on the subject.  Particularly interesting are cases 330/159[[42]](#footnote-42) and 330/157,[[43]](#footnote-43) which have identical rulings:  In these caes, the Central Electoral Commission considered that the availability of ballot papers in braille for blind people during the local elections (the legislation only refers to general elections, elections to the European Parliament and referendums) would suppose considerable complications and costs**,** due to the large number of entities involved and the fact that the municipalities elaborate the papers themselves. Moreover, it considers that in the meantime the current method, allowing blind voters to use a trusted person to exercise their right to vote, is sufficient.  Mention should also be made of case 330/166[[44]](#footnote-44) regarding the complaint of an individual who was denied the right to be a member of the election committee because of being deaf, while having requested a sign language interpreter. In particular, the Board decided: “In as much as the request was submitted within the established term, the voter who lodged the complaint should have been entitled to the requested sign language interpreter**.** In this respect and in compliance with the referred legal provision, the District Electoral Board should have requested the Government’s Subdelegation to provide a Spanish sign language interpreter during election day”. This means the persons concerned must request the services of an interpreter on time for this right to be fully effective (see articles 4 and 9 RD 422/2011).[[45]](#footnote-45)  Another 11 decisions regard information requests and petitions to the Central Electoral Commission concerning the right of persons with visual impairment to vote using braille ballot papers.  Except for two (non relevant) cases, all these decisions are previous to 2007, and the Central Electoral Board referred to the existing rules at that time to refuse braille ballot papers, asking voters to use an assistant when voting,[[46]](#footnote-46) according to the contents of Article 87 of the LOREG. As mentioned above, this article was amended in 2007 by Organic Act 9/2007 to regulate a specific voting procedure for people with visual impairments**.**  According to the President of APSOCECAT (Catalan Association for Deafblind People), it would not be necessary to have all the ballot papers available in Braille in advance, but only the ones directly requested by voters with disabilities, considering they can be immediately printed with a suitable printer (a method which could be used for all electoral processes, including local elections).  To this regard, The Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with ONCE, ran a non-binding pilot project (*Prueba piloto de papeletas accesibles*) in a polling station during the Parliamentary Elections of 2011 using the accessible ballot papers software, with the previous authorization of the Central Electoral Commission. The Ministry provided a PC, with a screen reading software, and a printer. Blind and visually impaired voters could use the device (set in in a special room) to select the Congress ballot paper, a regular one, not in Braille, and print it.[[47]](#footnote-47) |
| Is information about how and where to complain in the case of problems with exercising the right to political participation accessible to all persons with disabilities? | The website of the Ministry of the Interior, within the section “Accessibility and electoral processes”, includes information on “Complaints and suggestions”, which explains the complaints procedure.[[48]](#footnote-48) This entire website meets rating AA according to the Spanish Standard UNE 139803:2004 and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 1.0 of the W3C.[[49]](#footnote-49)  Moreover, the Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011) contains provisions on information to be provided to persons with disabilities (see above question 14. It states in its third additional provision that materials have to be elaborated in an accessible format to inform both electoral authorities and voters with disabilities about the basic conditions of accessibility and non-discrimination established in this Regulation. To be included in these materials is in particular the Guide on Accessibility and Electoral Processes. However, this Guide does not include specific information about the complaint procedure for persons with disabilities.  It should be highlighted that there is no specific complaint procedure for persons with disabilities. They should follow the general complaint procedure, open to all voters, established under Article 24.3 of the LOREG.  Finally, Order INT/3817/2007, of the 21st of December, developing the accessible voting procedure to facilitate the exercise of the right to vote to people with a visual impairment,[[50]](#footnote-50) provides that voters may request information at the free telephone service (900 150 000) created by the Ministry of the Interior regarding the accessible voting procedures until election day. |

1. **OUTCOME INDICATORS**

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| **Outcome indicators** | **Source and supporting information** |
| What was the voter turnout rate for persons with disabilities in the most recent municipal elections and in the 2009 European Parliament elections? How does this compare with the voter turnout rate among the general population?  What was the voter turnout rate for persons with disabilities in the most recent national elections? How does this compare with the voter turnout rate among the general population? | After consultation of the National Institute of Statistics, the Electoral Registration Office, Congress and the Centre for Sociological Studies (CIS) no data appears to be available on these subjects. The indicators used by these providers of statistical data do not include elements of disability. |
| How many members of the current national parliament identify as having a disability? | Mr. Francisco Vañó, a Member of the Spanish Parliament with a disability and a member of the Committee on Comprehensive Disability Policies of Congress, stated that in none of both houses of parliament a register is kept of persons with disabilities and that he is the only current MP who publicly stated to have a disability. |
| How many members of current municipal governments identify as having a disability? | After consultation of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP)[[51]](#footnote-51), no information seems to be available.  On 29/07/2013, Ms Ángela Bachiler became the first Spanish city councillor with Down Syndrome, having substituted a resigned member of the Popular Party (PP) in the City Council of Valladolid (region of Castilla and Leon).[[52]](#footnote-52) This news provoked significant resonance in the Spanish media.[[53]](#footnote-53) |
| What proportion of polling stations is accessible for persons with disabilities? Please indicate whether polling stations are accessible for all persons with disabilities or for particular impairment groups e.g. persons with visual, hearing, physical impairments etc.) | According to the law and regulations, all polling stations should be accessible.  According to the Royal Decrees 422/2011 and 1612/2007 the Ministry of the Interior *(Dirección General de Política Interior*, Electoral Management Body) elaborates evaluation reports on accesibility to the electoral processes.  The report regarding the accessibility of polling stations, presented in 2013 (March) at the Plenary of the National Council on Disability, includes following findings:  - Only 7% of the buildings proposed by the Municipal Councils (Ayuntamientos) to be used as polling stations (see article 23 LOREG) had accessibility problems (mainly, Town Halls with steps).  - Once accesibility problems were detected during the local/municipal elections (May 2011), many obstacles were removed so that when the Parliamentary elections were held in November 2011, the accesibility of more than 200 buildings proposed by Municipal Councils was improved. |
| Does the website to provide instructions for voting and information on candidates run by the ministry responsible for organising elections meet accessibility standards (e.g. equivalent to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 AA standard)? | The website of the Ministry of the Interior has a section adapted to persons with disabilities called “Accessible voting”,[[54]](#footnote-54) which includes information on electoral processes. It also contains a link to telephone service for persons with hearing impairment.[[55]](#footnote-55)  This entire website meets rating AA according to the Spanish Standard UNE 139803:2004 and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 1.0 of the W3C.[[56]](#footnote-56)  The Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011) also establishes in its article 5.1 that the websites of the general administration with information on electoral processes should meet general accessibility criteria.  The Ministry of the Interior also has special websites for every national election or referendum with accessible information on accessibility and elections.[[57]](#footnote-57) |
| What proportion of main public and/or private television broadcasts providing instructions for voting and information on candidates has national language subtitles? | The institutional information campaigns elaborated by the public authorities provide voting instructions which are broadcast on the main public and private television channels. This campaign is the only one made to provide instructions for voting and it has language subtitles, audio description and sign language interpretation. For the last 2011 municipal elections six different videos (and radio spots), in Spanish and in the four co-official languages, were prepared including these options.[[58]](#footnote-58)  The specific information on each of the candidates depends on the kind of ad designed by each political party, which in any case should respect the legally established general instructions described below.  A general and complete analysis does not exist regarding the proportion of subtitles . However, a report drafted in 2012 by the Spanish Committee on the Telecommunications Market (CMT) showed the general percentages on the use of subtitles for the main 59 Spanish TV channels (both public and private, both national and regional scopes). [[59]](#footnote-59) 27 channels among them achieved at least the legally established percentages by the 31st of December 2011 (45% for private channels, 50% for public channels). 24 channels did not reach these percentages, and only 8 minor channels did not use subtitles in their entire broadcast programming to this date. More details can be found in the report.    Besides, the Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011 of 25 March) establishes with regard to public broadcasting channels:  “Article 7. Electoral propaganda.  2. When using free spaces for electoral propaganda elaborated by candidates, political parties, federations, coalitions and groupings of voters, efforts will be made to attend to the specific accessibility needs of persons with disabilities. Public state television channels and radio stations shall provide these spaces in accordance with the applicable legislation.”  And  “Article 10. Accessibility of institutional electoral information.  1. The institutional campaigns referred to in Article 50.1 of Act 5/1985, of 19 June, which the general state administration disseminates by audiovisual means shall make use of subtitling, audio description, as well as Spanish sign language broadcasting or interpretation, or where applicable, the relevant sign languages of the autonomous communities.  2. The telephone services which the general state administration, where applicable, will make available, shall be accessible for all persons with disabilities; particular attention will be paid to the needs of deaf persons, persons with hearing impairment and deafblind persons”.  Although the Act 7/2010 of the 31st of March on general rules regarding audiovisual communication, [[60]](#footnote-60) provides for the creation of the State Council on Audiovisual Media (CEMA) below itsTitle V, the organ has not been created yet due to the frontal opposition from the owners of major media groups. [[61]](#footnote-61) However, regional councils exist in Andalusia and Catalonia (the council in Navarra was dissolved in 2011). |
| What proportion of main public and/or private television broadcasts providing instructions for voting and information on candidates has audio description? | The institutional information campaigns elaborated by the public authorities provide voting instructions which are broadcast on the main public and private television channels. This campaign is the only one made to provide instructions for voting and it has language subtitles, audio description and sign language interpretation.  A general and complete analysis does not exist regarding the proportion of audio description. However, a Report drafted in 2012 by the Spanish Committee on the Telecommunications Market (CMT) showed the general percentages on the use of audio description for the main 59 Spanish TV channels (both public and private, both national and regional scopes).[[62]](#footnote-62) 19 channels among them achieved at least the percentages foreseen by the legislation by the 31st of December 2011 (1 hour per week for private channels, 3 hours per week for public channels). 8 channels did not reach these percentages, and 32 channels did not use audio description in their whole broadcast programming to this date. More details can be found in the report. |
| What proportion of main public and/or private television broadcasts providing instructions for voting and information on candidates has sign language interpretation? | The institutional information campaigns elaborated by the public authorities provide voting instructions which are broadcast on the main public and private television channels. This campaign is the only one made to provide instructions for voting and it has language subtitles, audio description and sign language interpretation.  A general and complete analysis does not exist regarding the proportion of sign language interpretation. However, a Report drafted in 2012 by the Spanish Committee on the Telecommunications Market (CMT) showed the general percentages on the use of sign language interpretation for the main 59 Spanish TV channels (both public and private, both national and regional scopes).[[63]](#footnote-63) 22 channels among them achieved at least the percentages foreseen by the legislation by 31 December 2011 (1 hour per week for private channels, 3 hours per week for public channels). 12 channels did not reach these percentages, and 25 channels did not use sign language interpretation in their whole broadcast programming to this date. More details can be found in the report. |
| How many political parties, out of the total who participated in the most recent European Parliament and municipal elections, made their manifesto/campaign material accessible to persons with disabilities (e.g. large print, braille, easy-to-read, audio versions etc.)? | In the Parliamentary Elections 2011 FEAPS[[64]](#footnote-64) sent a letter to all political parties encouraging them to use accessible formats and on the website <http://www.mivotocuenta.es/>, FEAPS posted an easy-to-read version of the following political parties’ platforms: PSOE, PP, IU and UPyD. After consulting the websites of the major political parties, only information referred to general and regional elections was found.  The Permanent Specialized Office received a complaint from FIAPAS about the political parties not following their recommendations (nor article 13 of the Royal Decree 422/2011) for the local/municipal elections 2011.  For the 2011 general elections, several parties offered an electoral programme adapted to persons with intellectual disabilities, such as Union, Progress and Democracy (UPyD)[[65]](#footnote-65) and the Socialist Party (PSOE).[[66]](#footnote-66) UPyD already did so during the previous local elections. The Catalan nationalist coalition CiU published its electoral programme for the 2012 regional elections in braille and on a CD including audio, subtitles and Catalan sign language interpretation.[[67]](#footnote-67) |
| What proportion of public authority national and municipal buildings is accessible to persons with disabilities? | In accordance with Royal Decree 505/2007 of the 20th of April, approving the basic conditions for accessibility and non-discrimination for persons with disabilities with regard to the access and use of urbanized public spaces and buildings,[[68]](#footnote-68) all public buildings, both national and municipal, should be accessible.  Criteria to determine whether public authority buildings are accessible to persons with disabilities can be found in point 9 (Accessibility) of the Spanish Technical Code of Construction.[[69]](#footnote-69) It describes these criteria from a technical point of view.  Consultation of the database of the National Institute of Statistics (INE) shows that neither the social indicators, nor the indicators regarding buildings and housing include disability as a variable.[[70]](#footnote-70)  No other reliable information source exists. |
| How many complaints related to infringements of the right to political participation of persons with disabilities were recorded in 2012? What proportion of these complaints was successful? | No complaints were recorded in 2012 at the Central Electoral Commission related to infringements of the right to political participation of persons with disabilities. |

1. <http://www.un.org/disabilities/countries.asp?navid=12&pid=166>; <http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.un.org/disabilities/countries.asp?navid=12&pid=166>; <http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://www.un.org/disabilities/countries.asp?navid=12&pid=166>; <http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Spanish Constitution [*Constitución Española*], of 29 December 1978. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.congreso.es/constitucion/ficheros/c78/cons\_espa.pdf](http://www.congreso.es/constitucion/ficheros/c78/cons_espa.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). Consolidated version in English: [www.congreso.es/constitucion/ficheros/c78/cons\_ingl.pdf](http://www.congreso.es/constitucion/ficheros/c78/cons_ingl.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Organic Act 5/1985, of 19 June, on the general electoral system [*Ley Orgánica 5/1985, de 19 de junio, del régimen electoral general*]. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/LOREG\_08-09-2011.pdf](http://www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/LOREG_08-09-2011.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). Consolidated version in English: [www.juntaelectoralcentral.es  
   /jelect/normativa/LOREG\_Eng.pdf](http://www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/LOREG_Eng.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Organic Act on the regulation of the different modalities of referendums [*Ley Orgánica 2/1980, de 18 de enero, sobre regulación de las distintas modalidades de referéndum*]. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/LO\_2-1980.pdf](http://www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/LO_2-1980.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Royal Decree 605/1999, of 16 April, on complementary regulation of the electoral processes [*Real Decreto 605/1999, de 16 de abril, de regulación complementaria de los procesos electorales*]. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/RD\_605-1999.pdf](http://www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/RD_605-1999.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Disposición Adicional primera LOREG. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Royal Decree 1612/2007, of 7 December, regulating an accessible voting procedure to facilitate the exercise of the right to vote to people with visual impairment [*Real Decreto 1612/2007, de 7 de diciembre, por el que se regula un procedimiento de voto accesible que facilita a las personas con discapacidad visual el ejercicio del derecho de sufragio*]. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/RD\_1612-2007.pdf](http://www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/RD_1612-2007.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Order INT/3817/2007, of 21 December, developing the accessible voting procedure to facilitate the exercise of the right to vote to people with visual impairment regulated under Royal Decree 1612/2007 of 7 December [*Orden INT/3817/2007, de 21 de diciembre, por la que se desarrolla el procedimiento de voto accesible que facilita a las personas con discapacidad visual el ejercicio del derecho de sufragio, regulado en el Real Decreto 1612/2007, de 7 de diciembre*].Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/O\_INT-3817-2007.pdf](http://www.juntaelectoralcentral.es/jelect/normativa/O_INT-3817-2007.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Royal Decree 422/2011, of 25 March, approving the Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes [*Real Decreto 422/2011, de 25 de marzo, por el que se aprueba el Reglamento sobre las condiciones básicas para la participación de las personas con discapacidad en la vida política y en los procesos electorales*]. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2011/BOE-A-2011-5714-consolidado.pdf](http://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2011/BOE-A-2011-5714-consolidado.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Order EHA/642/2011, of 25 March, dictating technical regulations regarding the monthly updating of the electoral census: <http://boe.es/boe/dias/2011/03/26/pdfs/BOE-A-2011-5462.pdf> (Accessed on 02/01/2014) [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. [Electoral Census Office](http://www.ine.es/ss/Satellite?L=en_GB&c=Page&cid=1254735788994&p=1254735788994&pagename=CensoElectoral%2FINELayout)[www.ine.es](http://www.ine.es) (in English. Accessed on 02/01/2014) [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Information obtained from FRA ES National Liaison Officer [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. United Nations (UN), Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) (2011) Consideration of reports submitted by State parties under article 35 of the Covenant. Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Spain, 19-23 September 2012, available at: [www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/Session6.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/Session6.aspx) [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. CERMI (2012) *El CERMI revisa con Duran i Lleida la agenda política de la discapacidad para esta legislatura*, Press release, available at: [www.convenciondiscapacidad.es/Noticias\_new/CERMI\_revisa\_Duran.doc](http://www.convenciondiscapacidad.es/Noticias_new/CERMI_revisa_Duran.doc) [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. CERMI (2013), *El CERMI pide al resto de grupos políticos que apoyen la iniciativa parlamentaria de CiU de reformar la Ley Electoral*, available at: [www.cermi.es/ES-ES/NOTICIAS/Paginas/Inicio.aspx?TSMEIdNot=4752](http://www.cermi.es/ES-ES/NOTICIAS/Paginas/Inicio.aspx?TSMEIdNot=4752) [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. CERMI(2013), *Los partidos apuestan por reformar la ley para no privar a nadie del derecho a voto por discapacidad,* available at: [www.cermi.es/es-ES/Noticias/Paginas/Inicio.aspx?TSMEIdNot=4573](http://www.cermi.es/es-ES/Noticias/Paginas/Inicio.aspx?TSMEIdNot=4573) [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. CERMI (2013), *El Congreso pide reformas legales para que todas las personas con discapacidad para votar*, available at: [www.cermi.es/es-ES/Noticias/Paginas/Inicio.aspx?TSMEIdNot=4771](http://www.cermi.es/es-ES/Noticias/Paginas/Inicio.aspx?TSMEIdNot=4771) [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Royal Decree 422/2011, of 25 March, approving the Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes [*Real Decreto 422/2011, de 25 de marzo, por el que se aprueba el Reglamento sobre las condiciones básicas para la participación de las personas con discapacidad en la vida política y en los procesos electorales*]. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2011/BOE-A-2011-5714-consolidado.pdf](http://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2011/BOE-A-2011-5714-consolidado.pdf) (accessed on 10/07/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Spain (2011k), Royal Decree 422/2011, of 25 March, on the Regulation of the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in the political life and in electoral procedures (*Real Decreto 422/2011, de 25 de marzo, por el que se aprueba el Reglamento sobre las condiciones básicas para la participación de las personas con discapacidad en la vida política y en los procesos electorales*). BOE 30 March 2011. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Act 51/2003 of 2 December on Equal Opportunities, Non-discrimination and Universal Accessibility of Persons with Disabilities(*Ley 51/2003, de 2 de diciembre, de igualdad de oportunidades, no discriminación y accesibilidad universal de las personas con discapacidad*) (LIONDAU) [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. Spain (2011g), Act 26/2011 of 1 August on Normative Adaptation to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (*Ley 26/2011, de 1 de agosto, de adaptación normativa a la Convención Internacional sobre los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad*). BOE 2 August 2011. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Disability/PoliticalParticipation/States/ResponseSpain.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. Royal Decree 1494/2007, of 12 November, approving the Regulation on the basic conditions for access of persons with disabilities to technologies, products and services related to the information society and social communication [*Real Decreto 1494/2007, de 12 de noviembre, por el que se aprueba el Reglamento sobre las condiciones básicas para el acceso de las personas con discapacidad a las tecnologías, productos y servicios relacionados con la sociedad de la información y medios de comunicación social*]. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.boe.es/boe/dias/2007/11/21/pdfs/A47567-47572.pdf](http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2007/11/21/pdfs/A47567-47572.pdf) (accessed on 10/07/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. Act 27/2007, of 23 October, on the recognition of Spanish sign languages and regulating oral communication support to deaf persons, persons with hearing impairment and deafblind persons [*Ley 27/2007, de 23 de octubre, por la que se reconocen las lenguas de signos españolas y se regulan los medios de apoyo a la comunicación oral de las personas sordas, con discapacidad auditiva y sordociegas*]. Consolidated version in Spanish:[www.boe.es/boe/dias/2007/10/24/pdfs/A43251-43259.pdf](http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2007/10/24/pdfs/A43251-43259.pdf) (accessed on 10/07/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. Act 7/2010, of 31 March, on general rules regarding audiovisual communication [*Ley 7/2010, de 31 de marzo, General de la Comunicación Audiovisual*]. Consolidated version in Spanish: [www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2010/BOE-A-2010-5292-consolidado.pdf](http://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2010/BOE-A-2010-5292-consolidado.pdf) (accessed on 09/07/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
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