The right to political participation of persons with disabilities ahead of the 2024 European Parliament elections

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Contents

[1. Data on persons with disabilities exercising their right to political participation 3](#_Toc153528033)

[2. Political participation of persons with disabilities in practice 21](#_Toc153528034)

[2.1. Positive and negative key development as regards political participation of persons with disabilities 21](#_Toc153528035)

[2.2. Political participation: Promising practices 22](#_Toc153528036)

1. Data on persons with disabilities exercising their right to political participation

Table 1

| Indicator | Answer(Choose one of the answers provided below) | Source and brief description/assessment  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Do national disability strategies include political participation? | National disability strategies specifically address political participation | The Portuguese National Strategy for the Inclusion of Disabled People 2021-2025[[1]](#footnote-1) includes, in the first axis - Citizenship, Equality and Non-discrimination, the specific objective of “1.2 Deepen the conditions for exercising the rights of disabled people, eliminating factors of discrimination and promoting positive differentiation measures”. The defined measures or actions include: to implement accessible voting (first electoral act with accessible voting scheduled for 2024), to promote awareness-raising actions with political parties to disseminate political propaganda in an accessible format, and to ensure that electoral acts published in media bodies within the public service obligation are in an accessible format.  |
| Can persons deprived of legal capacity vote?  | Exclusion | The Constitution of the Portuguese Republic[[2]](#footnote-2) defines in article 49 (“Right to suffrage”) that: “All citizens over the age of eighteen have the right to vote, except for impairments provided for in general law”. Therefore, the laws regulating the different types of electoral acts establish rules on electoral capacity. Generally, these rules estipulate that those who have a notorious limitation or serious alteration of their mental functions, even if not subject to monitoring, when admitted to a psychiatric establishment or declared as such by a panel of two medical doctors, and those who have been deprived of their political rights by a final judicial decision, cannot vote.  |
| Is there a requirement under law to register to vote? | Yes, for non-nationals | The Legal Regime for Voter Registration[[3]](#footnote-3), defines in its article 3 that “All national citizens, over 17 years of age, are unofficially and automatically registered in the electoral registration database,[…]” and in article 4 that “The census is voluntary for: a) National citizens residing abroad, without prejudice to their unofficial registration in the census under the terms defined by law; b) Citizens of the European Union, not nationals of the Portuguese State, resident in Portugal; c) National citizens of Portuguese-speaking countries, residing in Portugal; d) Other foreign citizens residing in Portugal.” |
| Are alternative ways of voting available to persons with disabilities? | Yes, disability-specific alternatives  | The legal system does establish alternative ways of voting. The laws regulating the elections for President of the Republic (article 74 (5) of Decree-Law 319-A/76[[4]](#footnote-4)), Parliament (article 97 (5) of Law 14/79[[5]](#footnote-5)) and Local Authorities (article 116 (2) Organic Law 1/2001[[6]](#footnote-6)), establish that voters with visually impairment, an illness, or a notorious physical impairment, that enables them to exercise voting procedures established by law by themselves, have the right to choose a person to assist them. The polling station may require a certificate proving the impossibility of voting that needs to be obtained in advance of election day at a Public Health Unit.Still regarding visually impaired voters, Organic Law 3/2018[[7]](#footnote-7) established the creation of a voting matrix in Braille (article 86 (4)). Braille vote was made available for the legislative, European and presidential elections[[8]](#footnote-8). This option is still not available in the elections to the local authorities.  |
| Is there legislation regulating how people living in long-term institutions may vote? | No legislative provisions  | Living in a long-term institution does not determine the inability to travel to the polling station, even with the use of special transport, under the same terms applicable to patients bedridden at home[[9]](#footnote-9). As an example, for the upcoming elections for the government of the Region of Açores, on February 4, according to the deliberation of the National Elections Commission (Comissão Nacional de Eleições - CNE), it is established that special public transport must be provided, among other cases, for elderly voters living in nursing homes or persons with disabilities.[[10]](#footnote-10) The early vote is also possible, upon request, for people that are hospitalised or presumed to be hospitalised and unable to attend the polling station on election day.[[11]](#footnote-11) |
| Is there a legal duty to provide assistance in voting to persons with disabilities? | Yes, for people with physical and sensory disabilities  | As defined by Article 116(2) of the Organic Law 1/2001[[12]](#footnote-12), accompanied vote is available to people with an illness or physical impairment unable to perform the act of voting. The person has the right to choose the person that will assist him/her. The polling station may require a certificate proving the impossibility of voting that needs to be obtained in advance of election day at a Public Health Unit.As established above, accompanied voting is also possible in the elections for President of the Republic (article 74 of Decree-Law 319-A/76[[13]](#footnote-13)) and Parliament (article 97 of Law 14/79[[14]](#footnote-14)). |
| Are all persons with disabilities legally able to access complaints mechanisms if they have not been able to exercise the right to political participation? | No, only persons with legal capacity | Article 121(1) of the Organic Law 1/2001[[15]](#footnote-15), establishes that: “In addition to the delegates from the lists competing in the election, any voter registered at the polling station may raise doubts and present a written complaint, protest or counter-protest regarding the electoral operations of the same assembly (…).” This is also a guarantee established for elections for President of the Republic (article 89 of 319-A/76[[16]](#footnote-16)) and Parliament (article 99 of Law 14/79[[17]](#footnote-17)).Additionally, the National Elections Commission (Comissão Nacional de Eleições) (CNE), responsible by law, to “ensure equal treatment of citizens in all acts of registration and electoral operations” (article 1 of the CNE Regulations, Deliberation no. 540/2020, of May 5[[18]](#footnote-18)), can be contacted directly to present a complaint, through an online complaint form[[19]](#footnote-19). At the same time, article 16 of the Deliberation also establishes that complaints can also be submitted to the target entity, which shall send the complaint or report by email within the applicable time limit for the exercise of the adversarial process, accompanied by the originals or authentic copies of the acts, if any, as well as any clarifications or justifications it wishes to provide. It is up to the complainant to transmit to the CNE, for information and control, the content of the complaint or report that they have delivered directly to the entity concerned, whenever possible accompanied by the evidence they have attached.It should be noted that the access can be, however, restricted. Law 49/2018[[20]](#footnote-20), that created the legal regime for accompanied adults, foresees that any accompanying measures, including measures that restricts the legal capacity of the person, have to be decided by a judge (Articles 139(1) and 145). Therefore, the level of restrictions applied in each case depends on the judicial decision. |
| Is information on complaints mechanisms regarding political participation accessible to persons with disabilities? | Partially – some accessibility measures are in place  | According to the CNE, consulted for this report, in all electoral acts, the CNE sends posters to all polling stations for display, which publicize the existence of models to present a protest and/or complaint. The CNE states, however, that it is not mandatory to use these models, and it is possible to present the complaint or protest in any other written form[[21]](#footnote-21). The CNE official website on the Internet is not compliant with the EN 301 549 v3.2.1 (2021-03), as highlighted by the CNE in the Activities Plan for 2023[[22]](#footnote-22). |
| Have national courts considered cases related to the right to political participation of persons with disabilities? | Yes | Yes, national courts have considered cases related to the right topolitical participation of persons with disabilities. The majority ofthese cases are related with determining what personals rightscan be restricted by a court decision, when the person inquestion has some disability that affects the capacity to fullyexercise these rights.As an example, in one of these cases[[23]](#footnote-23), the Supreme Court ofJustice has decided that there isn’t a legal provision that prevents the judge from declaring that an adult does not have the capacity to exercise the right to vote. The list of personalrights that can be restricted by a court decision, set out inArticle 147(2) of the Civil Code, is illustrative. However, a courtdecision that includes, among the prohibitions on exercisingpersonal rights, the prohibition of voting, does not withdraw this right, because the person was already unable to exercise that right.  |
| Have non-judicial complaints mechanisms considered cases related to the right to political participation of persons with disabilities? | Yes, cases considered | Yes. The CNE, consulted for this report, reported receiving complaints from voters regarding the accessibility of polling stations and obstacles to accompanied voting[[24]](#footnote-24).On this issue, the Ombudsperson Office (Provedoria de Justiça) informed us by email that they have no knowledge of receiving complaints from voters regarding this issue[[25]](#footnote-25). The same is also applicable to the National Institute for Rehabilitation[[26]](#footnote-26). |
| Are persons with disabilities members of the current national parliament? | No data identified | The CNE does not have this information. However, one of the Government members is a disable person. The current Secretary of State for Inclusion (*Secretária de Estado para a Inclusão*) is blind. |
| Is data available on the number of members of municipal/regional governments who have a disability? | No data available | The CNE does not have this information. Informal information provided by a Disability NGO identified at least two members of municipal governments with a disability. |
| Is training for election authorities and officials on non-discrimination on the grounds of disability, accessibility and accommodation required by law? | No training required by law  | No, there is no legal disposition that specifically requires the training of electoral administration bodies, and/or professionals, on the specific matter. |
| Are there mechanisms in place to ensure consultation and involvement of DPOs in the development of laws and policies which affect them? | Yes, mechanisms established by law | The National Council for the Rehabilitation and Integration of Disabled People (Conselho Nacional de Reabilitação e Integração de Pessoas com Deficiência - CNRIPD)[[27]](#footnote-27) was created in 1997 as an advisory body to the Minister of Labour and Social Solidarity.This body, which aimed to promote the articulation between the government and disability NGOs, remained inactive for long periods. In 2013, Decree-Law 167-C/2013[[28]](#footnote-28) discontinued CNRIPD and created the National Council for Solidarity, Volunteering, Families, Rehabilitation and Social Security Policies (Conselho Nacional para as Políticas de Solidariedade, Voluntariado, Família, Reabilitação e Segurança Social), which incorporated previous attributions of CNRIPD. Currently, the consultation and involvement of disability NGOs at governmental level is materialized by the Committee on Inclusion Policies for People with Disabilities (Comissão de Políticas de Inclusão das Pessoas com Deficiência) (article 16 of Decree-Law 48/2017[[29]](#footnote-29)), a committee created within this new body (article 3 of Decree-Law 48/2017). |
| Do national authorities provide guidelines on how to make polling stations accessible? | Yes, detailed guidance available | Yes, since the last local elections (2021), the National Institute for Rehabilitation (INR), in partnership with the CNE and the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities (ANMP), developed a detailed checklist of the minimum accessibility conditions of polling stations[[30]](#footnote-30). |
| Does the website which provides instructions for voting and information on candidates meet accessibility standards? | No | The CNE official website on the Internet is not compliant with the EN 301 549 v3.2.1 (2021-03), as highlighted by the CNE in the Activities Plan for 2023[[31]](#footnote-31). |
| Are some television programmes providing instructions for voting and information on candidates subtitled? | Yes, some key programmes are subtitled  | Yes, the Multiannual Plan[[32]](#footnote-32) approved by the Portuguese Regulatory Authority for the Media (Entidade Reguladora para a Comunicação Social) for the period 2022-2025 establishes that Portuguese sign language is mandatory and that subtitling should be used whenever possible (Chapter 4, n. 24 and 25).  |
| Do some television programmes providing instructions for voting and information on candidates have national sign language interpretation? | Yes, some key programmes have sign language interpretation | Yes, Portuguese sign language is mandatory for the debates between candidates for the various electoral acts, during the pre-campaign and campaign periods, and for the presentation of results and speeches by candidates for the various electoral acts on election night, as defined by the Multiannual Plan[[33]](#footnote-33) approved by the ERC (Chapter 4, n. 24 and 25). |
| Are some television programmes providing instructions for voting and information on candidates audio described? | No, key programmes do not have audio description  | No, the Multiannual Plan[[34]](#footnote-34) approved by the ERC only recommends that “Whenever feasible and there is subtitling of excerpts spoken in foreign languages, in pieces included in news services, they must be accompanied by a voiceover in Portuguese” (Chapter 4, n. 26). |
| Were some political party manifestos provided in accessible formats during the most recent elections? | Some political parties provided accessible manifestos | Yes, some political parties provided their electoral program in braille, “easy-to-read” and videos in Portuguese sign language. Regarding the 2019 Portuguese legislative elections, it was reported that only *Bloco de Esquerda*, a left-wing party, had presented the most adapted versions of the program. In addition to the “easy-to-read” electoral program, this party also had a version in Braille and a video in Portuguese sign language. The *Partido Pessoas, Animais, Natureza* (People, Animals, Nature Party), had a summary of the program in Braille in each district, printed by the Association of the Blind and Partially Sighted of Portugal (Associação dos Cegos e Amblíopes de Portugal - ACAPO). The *Partido Centro Democrático Social* (Social Democratic Centre Party), a right-wing party, worked on a braille version. The other major political parties only presented the original version of the program in Braille[[35]](#footnote-35). |
| Are there legal accessibility standards for public and private providers of internet and web-based public information? | Yes, covering public only  | Yes, [Decree-law 83/2018](http://dre.pt/web/guest/pesquisa/-/search/116734769/details/normal?q=dl+83%2F2018)[[36]](#footnote-36), defines the accessibility requirements for websites and mobile applications of public bodies, transposing the Directive 2016/2102[[37]](#footnote-37). |
| Are there legal accessibility standards for public and private providers of media? | Yes, covering public and private | Yes. Law 74/2020[[38]](#footnote-38), that transposes the Directive 2018/1808[[39]](#footnote-39) into the national legal order, establishes that “Operators of television and on-demand audio-visual services have an obligation to make the audio-visual media services they provide continuously and progressively more accessible” (Article 34 (1)), and that “the ERC defines, based on a multi-annual plan that foresees the gradual increase in accessibility standards, the set of obligations of television operators and on-demand audio-visual services relating to the accessibility of audio-visual media services” (Article 34 (2)). The current Multiannual Plan[[40]](#footnote-40), approved by ERC, establishes clear legal standards and objectives.  |
| Are there mandatory accessibility standards for national and local authority buildings in the election context? | No information  | There are no mandatory accessibility standards for national and local authority’s buildings in the election context. However, for each election, the CNE recommends that all local councils promote the necessary measures to guarantee all voters, and especially citizens with reduced mobility, adequate accessibility to the places where the polling stations will be operating[[41]](#footnote-41). In the last local elections, that took place in 2021, the INR, in collaboration with the CNE and the ANMP, developed a checklist of minimum accessibility conditions for polling stations, in order to carry out an advance check of the spaces where the polling stations would be located, thus ensuring an accessible, safe and comfortable route for people with reduced mobility[[42]](#footnote-42). |
| Are there legal accessibility standards for polling stations in place? | No legal standards | As established above, there are no mandatory accessibility standards for national and local authority’s buildings in the election context. However, in each election, the CNE recommends that all local councils promote the necessary measures to guarantee all voters, and especially citizens with reduced mobility, adequate accessibility to the places where the polling stations will be operating[[43]](#footnote-43).  |
| Is data available on the proportion of polling stations that are accessible to persons with disabilities? | No data identified | There is no public information available and CNE does not have this information either.  |
| Is data available on the proportion of public buildings that are accessible for persons with disabilities? | Some official data available | Article 3 of Decree-Law 125/2017[[44]](#footnote-44) (which approves the accessibility regime for buildings and establishments that receive the public, public roads and residential buildings), created the Commission for the Promotion of Accessibility (Comissão para a Promoção das Acessibilidades - CPA), with the mission of diagnosing the current situation of accessibility in buildings, facilities and spaces of central and local administration and public institutes, which provide personalized services and receives public funds.According to the report published by the CPA in January 2020:“✓ In 42% of the buildings, there aren’t parking spaces reserved for people with reduced mobility (42%) and, when they exist, 55% reveal a lack of adequate signage;✓ The inadequate height of counters and service windows in buildings serving the public is 36%;✓ In 15% of the buildings with public services there aren’t counters and service windows;✓ 40% of the buildings have an inadequate slope of the ramps in the building, in relation to the maximum slope requirement of 6%. 50% have a maximum slope of 8%;✓ The non-existence or inadequacy of adequate sanitary installations for people with reduced mobility serving the public, in 41% of the buildings”[[45]](#footnote-45). |

1. Political participation of persons with disabilities in practice
	1. Positive and negative key development as regards political participation of persons with disabilities

Positive key development - Braille vote.

Negative key development – Braille vote not available for local elections. Lack of enlarged letters matrix for people with low vision.

The introduction of a Braille vote, i.e. the use of a Braille matrix is a positive key development for promoting the political participation of blind people and their autonomy in the voting process. The impact of this initiative in Portugal was, however, reduced due to several limitations imposed. First, Braille vote was made available only in Parliament, European Union and Presidential elections. Local elections were left out of this initiative. The centralisation of the production process of the Braille matrix attributed to the *Imprensa Nacional – Casa da Moeda* (National Press – INCM), combined with the high number of different matrices needed for local elections (308 municipalities and 3091 parishes) may justify this impediment. Second, the creation of a matrix with enlarged letters was not considered, leaving people with low vision outside of this initiative. Therefore, if the introduction of Braille vote may be regarded as a positive key development in Portugal, the limitations introduced in the implementation process may be regarded as negative developments. The use of a Braille matrix and enlarged letters matrix are necessary conditions for an autonomous and secret voting exercise of people with visual impairments.

* 1. Political participation: Promising practices

Article 29 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is clear about the fact that disabled people should enjoy their political rights on an equal basis with others, and that the states shall make available voting procedures, facilities and materials that are appropriate, accessible and easy to understand and use. Moreover, *inter alia*, the UN Convention stipulates that states are obliged to protect the right of disabled people to vote by secret ballot and to allow assistance in voting by a person of their own choice. Article 29 is regarded as the benchmark to enact the political participation of disabled people.

The National Strategy for the Inclusion of Disabled People 2021-2025[[46]](#footnote-46) included several promising practices towards disabled people’s political participation in the election processes. First, it included the organisation of the first electoral act with accessible voting made possible through the extension of Braille vote to other elections (measure 1.2.5.). Second, it promised to “Promote awareness-raising actions with political parties to disseminate political propaganda in an accessible format” (measure 1.2.6.). Third, it states the will to “Ensure that campaigns and electoral acts published in media outlets with a public service obligation are in an accessible format” (measure 1.2.7.). No data is, however, available about the implementation of these measures included in the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Disabled People.

Taking into consideration the Portuguese context, two other promising practices can be highlighted:

1) Electronic voting - Electronic voting has not been implemented in Portugal. In the last decades, five pilot experiences have been already carried out in the national territory (1997, 2001, 2004, 2005, 2019). Issues of security and universality of voting prevented the implementation of this voting system. Its test, in the form of in-person electronic voting, proved to be very promising in promoting autonomous voting, especially by people with visual impairments.

2) Postal vote – Postal vote is already available for Portuguese people registered abroad. Its implementation at national level for disabled people could be a short-term strategy to mitigate the physical barriers that still exist in some polling stations.

1. Portugal, [Resolução do Conselho de Ministros 119/2021, que aprova a Estratégia Nacional para a Inclusão das Pessoas com Deficiência 2021-2025](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/resolucao-conselho-ministros/119-2021-170514954) (Resolution of the Council of Ministers 119/2022, approving the National Strategy for the Inclusion of People with Disabilities 2021-2025), 31 August 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Portugal, [Constituição da República Portuguesa](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/decreto-aprovacao-constituicao/1976-34520775) (Constitution of the Portuguese Republic), 10 April 1974. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Portugal, [Lei 13/99, que estabelece o novo regime jurídico do recenseamento eleitoral](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/lei/1999-34432975) (Law 13/99, establishing the new legal regime for voter registration), 22 March 1999. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Portugal, [Decreto-Lei 319-A/76, que regulamenta a eleição do Presidente da República](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/decreto-lei/1976-34568075) (Decree-Law 319-A/76, regulating the election of the President of the Republic), 3 May 1976. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Portugal, [Lei 14/79, sobre a Lei Eleitoral para a Assembleia da República](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/lei/1979-34485975) (Law 14/79, on the Electoral Law for the Parliament), 16 May 1979. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Portugal, [Lei Orgânica 1/2001, sobre Eleição dos titulares dos órgãos das autarquias locais](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/lei-organica/2001-34526875) (Organic Law 1/2001 on the Election of Local Authority Entities), 14 August 2001. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Portugal, [Lei Orgânica 3/2018, que procede à décima sexta alteração à Lei 14/79, de 16 de maio, que aprova a Lei Eleitoral para a Assembleia da República, à vigésima primeira alteração ao Decreto-Lei 319-A/76, de 3 de maio, que regulamenta a eleição do Presidente da República, à oitava alteração à Lei Orgânica 1/2001, de 14 de agosto, que regula a eleição dos titulares dos órgãos das autarquias locais, à terceira alteração à Lei Orgânica 4/2000, de 24 de agosto, que aprova o regime jurídico do referendo local, e revoga o Decreto-Lei 95-C/76, de 30 de janeiro, que estabelece a organização do processo eleitoral no estrangeiro](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/lei-organica/3-2018-116090196) (Organic Law 3/2018, which makes the sixteenth amendment to Law 14/79 of 16 May, which approves the Electoral Law for the Parliament, the twenty-first amendment to Decree-Law 319-A/76 of 3 May, which regulates the election of the President of the Republic, the eighth amendment to Organic Law 1/2001, of August 14, which regulates the election of local authority body members, the third amendment to Organic Law 4/2000, of August 24, which approves the legal framework for local referendums, and repeals Decree-Law 95-C/76, of January 30, which establishes the organisation of the electoral process abroad), 17 August 2018. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. For more information, see the [website of the National Elections Commission](https://www.cne.pt/content/eleicoes-acessiveis). [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. For more information, see the [website of the National Elections Commission](https://www.cne.pt/content/eleicoes-acessiveis). [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. For more information, see the [website of the National Elections Commission](https://www.cne.pt/sites/default/files/dl/eleicoes/2024_alraa/2024_alraa_comunicado_transporte-eleitores.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. For more information, see the [website of the National Elections Commission](https://www.cne.pt/sites/default/files/dl/eleicoes/2024_alraa/voto_antecipado/2024_alraa_voto_antecipado_doentesinternados_presos.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Portugal, [Lei Orgânica 1/2001, sobre Eleição dos titulares dos órgãos das autarquias locais](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/lei-organica/2001-34526875) (Organic Law 1/2001 on the Election of Local Authority Entities), 14 August 2001. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Portugal, [Decreto-Lei 319-A/76, que regulamenta a eleição do Presidente da República](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/decreto-lei/1976-34568075) (Decree-Law 319-A/76, regulating the election of the President of the Republic), 3 May 1976. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Portugal, [Lei 14/79, sobre a Lei Eleitoral para a Assembleia da República](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/lei/1979-34485975) (Law 14/79, on the Electoral Law for the Parliament), 16 May 1979 [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Portugal, [Lei Orgânica 1/2001, sobre Eleição dos titulares dos órgãos das autarquias locais](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/lei-organica/2001-34526875) (Organic Law 1/2001 on the Election of Local Authority Entities), 14 August 2001. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Portugal, [Decreto-Lei 319-A/76, que regulamenta a eleição do Presidente da República](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/decreto-lei/1976-34568075) (Decree-Law 319-A/76, regulating the election of the President of the Republic), 3 May 1976. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Portugal, [Lei 14/79, sobre a Lei Eleitoral para a Assembleia da República](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/lei/1979-34485975) (Law 14/79, on the Electoral Law for the Parliament), 16 May 1979 [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Portugal, [Deliberação 540/2020, que estabelece o regimento da Comissão Nacional de Eleições](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/deliberacao/540-2020-132936760) (Resolution 540/2020, which establishes the regulations of the National Elections Commission), 05 May 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. For more information, see the [website of the National Elections Commission](https://www.cne.pt/form/consulte-cne-queixas). [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Portugal, [Lei 49/2018, que cria o regime jurídico do maior acompanhado, eliminando os institutos da interdição e da inabilitação, previstos no Código Civil, aprovado pelo Decreto-Lei 47 344, de 25 de novembro de 1966](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/lei/49-2018-116043536) (Law 49/2018, which creates the legal regime for accompanied adults, eliminating the institutes of interdiction and disqualification provided for in the Civil Code, approved by Decree-Law 47 344 of 25 November 1966), 14 August 2018. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. National Elections Commission, written response, 30 November 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Comissão Nacional de Eleições (National Elections Commission) (2022), [*Plano de Atividades e Orçamento 2023*](https://www.cne.pt/sites/default/files/dl/plano%20de%20atividades/2023_plano_de_atividades_e_orcamento_cne.pdf) (Activity Plan and Budget 2023), Lisboa, National Elections Commission. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. Portugal, Supreme Court of Justice (Supremo Tribunal de Justiça), [Judgement 1472/22.8T8STR.E1.S1](http://www.dgsi.pt/jstj.nsf/954f0ce6ad9dd8b980256b5f003fa814/ecb67cd5c1b9666e80258a2a002c8f79?OpenDocument), 13 September 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. National Elections Commission, written response, 30 November 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. Ombudsperson Office, written response, 5 December 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. National Institute for Rehabilitation, written response, 5 December 2023. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. Portugal, [Decreto-Lei 225/97, que aprova a composição e competências do Conselho Nacional para a Reabilitação e Integração das Pessoas com Deficiência](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/decreto-lei/225-1997-194223) (Decree-Law 225/97, approving the composition and competences of the National Council for the Rehabilitation and Integration of People with Disabilities), 27 August 1997. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. Portugal, [Decreto-Lei 167-C/2013, que aprova a Lei Orgânica do Ministério da Solidariedade, Emprego e Segurança Social](https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/legislacao-consolidada/decreto-lei/2013-107685643) (Decree-Law 167-C/2013, approving the Organic Law of the Ministry of Solidarity, Employment and Social Security), 31 December 2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
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