

SAN MARINO

Date of Elections: 29 May 1988

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the seats in Parliament on the normal expiry of the members' term of office.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of San Marino, the Grand and General Council, consists of 60 members elected for 5 years.

Electoral System

All citizens of San Marino who are at least 18 years of age and in full possession of their political rights are entitled to vote. Disqualified, however, are the mentally infirm, persons deprived of their full legal capacity and persons convicted of electoral offences or crimes punished by detention of more than one year.

Electoral registers are revised annually. Voting is not compulsory. Voting by correspondence is not permitted.

Except for persons holding ecclesiastical offices or titles, all qualified electors who are at least 25 years old, literate and domiciled in San Marino may be candidates for Parliament. Consuls and honorary consuls of foreign States and members of the police or security forces cannot simultaneously be members of Parliament, as cannot together spouses or a parent and child. Candidates for Parliament must belong to a political party.

San Marino is divided into 33 electoral constituencies. In each, members of Parliament are elected according to a party-list system with proportional representation of seats. Voters indicate their preference either for a list or for a maximum of six candidates.

The councillor whose seat falls vacant during the five-year term for whatever reason is replaced by the candidate from the same party list who received the next largest number of votes. The Grand and General Council is wholly renewed if it loses one half plus one of its members.

Background and Outcome of the Elections

Subsequent to the previous (1983) general elections, a political crisis in July 1986 resulted in the formation of San Marino's first coalition Government, comprising the Christian

Democrat Party (PDCS) and the Communist Party (PCS). As a consequence, the Socialist Party (PSS) became the opposition, after over 40 years in power with either the PDCS or the PCS.

On polling day, the PDCS remained the Council's largest single party with 27 seats, and the outgoing coalition partners, together totalling 45 seats, renewed their alliance. The new Congress of State (Cabinet) was announced on 6 July.

Statistics

1. *Distribution of Seats in the Grand and General Council*

Number of registered electors	26,052
Voters	21,139 (81.14%)

Political Group	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats
Christian Democrat Party (PDCS)	9,001	44.13	27 (+1)
Communist Party (PCS)	5,857	28.69	18 (+3)
Socialist Unity Party (PSU)	2,781	13.64	8 (=)
Socialist Party (PSS)	2,266	11.11	J (-2)
			60

2. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

Men	53
Women	7
	60