

## SAN MARINO

**Date of Elections:** September 8, 1974

### **Purpose of Elections**

Elections were held for all the members of Parliament on the normal expiry of their term of office. Previous general elections had taken place in September 1969.

### **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 either sex, who have reached the age of majority and have registered as electors are entitled to vote. Disqualified, however, are the mentally infirm, persons deprived of their legal capacity or full enjoyment of their political rights, and persons convicted for serious crimes or electoral offences.

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 resident in San Marino may be candidates to Parliament. Consuls and honorary consuls of foreign States and members of the police force cannot simultaneously be members of Parliament, as cannot together spouses or a parent and child. Candidates to Parliament must belong to a political party.

San Marino is divided into 10 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 6 candidates.

The councillor whose seat falls vacant during the five-year term for whatever reason is replaced by the candidate from the same list who received the next greatest number of votes.

\* See *Chronicle of Parliamentary Elections VIII* (1973-1974), p. 15.

The Grand and General Council is wholly renewed if it loses one half plus one of its members.

**General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections**

The 1974 elections were the first to be held since women were granted the right to seek election in September 1973.

Polling day saw a voter turnout of nearly 80 %, as a number of registered electors residing abroad did not cast ballots. The Communist and Socialist parties made slight gains at the expense of the formerly ruling Christian Democrats and Social Democrats. Competing for the first time in the elections were the extreme right-wing Committee for the Defence of the Republic and the Popular Democratic Party, as well as the Marxist-Leninist Movement. Of the 22 female candidates, 4 won seats.

A centre-left coalition Government of Christian Democrats and Socialists — the two partners in the pre-election Cabinet — was announced on November 12, 1974.

Statistics

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

Number of registered voters. . . . .	.17,673
Voters. . . . .	.14,086 (79.7 %)
Blank or void ballot papers. . . . .	.332
Valid votes. . . . .	.13,754

Political Group	Votes obtained	n/	Number of Seats
Christian Democratic Party. . . . .	5,451	39.6	25 (—)
Communist Party. . . . .	3,246	23.7	15 (+ 1)
Independent Social Democratic Party . . . . .	2,120	<b>15.4</b>	9 (-2)
Socialist Party. . . . .	1,914	13.9	<b>8 (+ 1)</b>
Committee for the Defence of the Republic . . . . .	407	2.9	M+1)
Popular Democratic Party. . . . .	272	1.9	M + 1)
Statutory Freedoms Movement *. . . . .	223	1.6	M = )
Marxist-Leninist Movement . . . . .	.121	.8	—

**60**

\* Previously known as the « Movement for the Defence of Constitutional Liberties ».

2. *Distribution of Members of Parliament according to Professional Category*

Liberal professions. . . . .	37
Salaried clerks. . . . .	7
Manual workers. . . . .	5
Tradesmen . . . . .	5
Artisans. . . . .	4
Students. . . . .	2
	<b>60</b>

3. *Distribution of Members of Parliament according to Sex*

Men. . . . .	56
Women. . . . .	4
	<b>60</b>

4. *Distribution of Members of Parliament according to Age Group*

Under 30 years. . . . .	8
30-40. . . . .	18
40-50. . . . .	15
Over 50. . . . .	19
	<b>60</b>