

SAN MARINO

Date of Elections: 29 May 1983

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 to 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 to 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.

General Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

It will be recalled that, following the previous (1978) general elections, a coalition Government comprising the Communist Party, the Socialist Party and the Socialist Unity Party was formed. Polling day 1983 was marked by a heavy turnout as over 4000 emigrants

returned to cast their votes. Results slightly reinforced the left-wing coalition's parliamentary majority, which increased by one seat. The Christian Democrats, however, remained the country's largest party, with a total of 26 seats. On 6 July, a new coalition Congress of State (Cabinet) was announced.

Statistics

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

Number of registered electors			21,630
Voters			17,204 (79.5%)
Political Group	Votes obtained	%	Number or Seats
Christian Democratic Party.	42.1		26 (=)
Communist Party.	24.4		15 (—1)
Socialist Party	14.8		9 (+D)
Socialist Unity Party.	13.9		8 (+D)
Social Democratic Party	2.8		1 (-1)
Republican Party*	2.0		<u>1(+1)</u>
			60

New party.