

@defensoriacaba



POLITICAL RIGHTS
ELECTION OBSERVATION



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Office of the Ombudsman
of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires



POLITICAL RIGHTS

PROTECTING POLITICAL RIGHTS

The right to vote is one of the dimensions of political rights, as a clear sign of the exercise of popular sovereignty.

THE ROLE OF ELECTION OBSERVATION

It is an essential tool in the task of ensuring the correct development of election processes and compliance of the norms that regulate the elections in our democracy.

ELECTION OBSERVATIONS

The conclusions of each observation allowed to generate bills and proposals to improve the democratic system and its election organization.

Since 2009, all the local and national elections held in the area of our City have been observed, in addition to participating in international, national and local observations.



ELECTION CODE

Improving the functioning of the institutional political system of our city requires not only specific changes of its normative aspects, but also a general transformation that allows a real democratization of the system.

SINGLE REGISTRY OF POLLING STATION AUTHORITIES

The Office of the Ombudsman proposes to create a Voluntary Registration of Polling Station Supervisors designed to form and maintain an up-to-date list of citizens trained to carry out the task effectively.

GENDER EQUALITY

The extension of political rights must include equal and proportional participation by gender. The representation of 50 % of women is a fair measure for the conditions of the access to politics to be increasingly more representative in accordance with the democratic principles..



EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION

Electoral accessibility includes all measures that promote access of the population to all aspects of the electoral process. It includes both people with some kind of disability (motor, sensory, mental or visceral) or limitation that can be permanent or temporary, visible or invisible.

ACCESSIBILITY REPORTS

The Office of the Ombudsman surveyed the architectural barriers of the polling stations and the adequate installation of the Accessible Dark Rooms according to current regulations. Those reports facilitated the joint work with the authorities, and allowed the improvement of the electoral accessibility in the City of Buenos Aires.



VULNERABLE SECTORS

NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATION

Buenos Aires City Law No. 148/98 creates a Participatory Coordinating Commission made up of the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch and representatives of the inhabitants of shantytowns as to address social and housing problems of the neighborhoods.

ELECTORAL MONITORING

The Office of the Ombudsman participates as an observer for the elections of the representatives of the inhabitants of the area as to ensure the transparency and legitimacy of the electoral process.



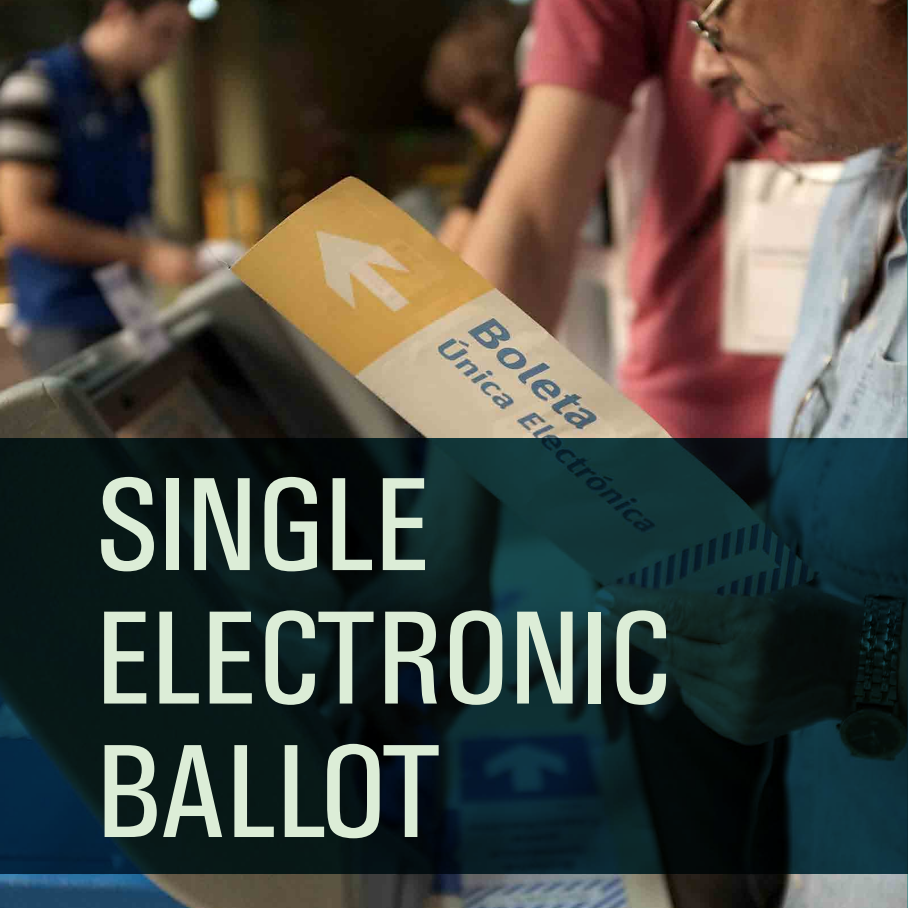
FOREIGNER'S VOTE

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

In 2000, Law No. 334 was passed. It establishes that foreigners living in our city, aged 16 and over, and a minimum of 3 years of residence, can register in the Foreign Voters Roll to elect Chief of Government, local Legislators and members of the Communal Boards.

DISSEMINATION OF RIGHTS

The Office of the Ombudsman, in accordance with the Superior Court of Justice of the City, conducts a permanent campaign to disseminate the political rights of foreign residents to encourage their registration and participation in local elections.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a ballot. The ballot is white with a yellow arrow pointing upwards and the text 'Boleta Única Electrónica' printed on it. The background is blurred, showing other people in a polling station.


SINGLE ELECTRONIC BALLOT

NEW TECHNOLOGIES

Based on the recommendations of the Office of the Ombudsman, the Buenos Aires Legislature called off the implementation of the Single Electronic Ballot in the primary elections of 2015. The report considered that the training of citizens, polling station authorities and political party representatives was jeopardized by the scarce time available for the system testing.

TRAINING AND DISSEMINATION

This Office of the Ombudsman created workspaces with all the political system stakeholders and organized training and dissemination activities for voters to get to know the new voting system.



EXPANSION OF RIGHTS

- ENSURING THE VOTE OF PEOPLE WHO ARE PROSECUTED OR CONVICTED
- PROMOTING THE VOTE OF PEOPLE HOSPITALIZED IN MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES
- INCLUDING THE STATE OF "ABSENT DUE TO ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE" IN THE ELECTORAL ROLLS
- PUBLIC DEBATE OF CANDIDATES
- INCORPORATION OF ELECTION OBSERVERS