

Outcome of the Irish Constitutional Convention (as of May 27 2015)

Topics	Convention's recommendations	% support ^a	Outcome
1. Reduction of the Presidential term of office to five years and the alignment with local and European elections	1. No change to length of the Presidential term of office	57	Government accepted
	2. *Reduce the age of candidacy for Presidential candidates	50	Government accepted. Referendum held on May 22 2015 (rejected)
	3. *Give citizens a say in the nomination process for presidential candidates	94	Government rejected
2. Reduction of the voting age to 17	4. *Voting age should be reduced to 16	52	Government accepted; then rescinded. Position ambiguous
3. Clause on role of women in home & encouraging greater participation of women in public life	5. *Article 41.2 (on the role of women) should be made gender-neutral to include other carers both 'in the home' and 'beyond the home'	88	Government established task force. Still awaiting its report.
	6. Re a.41.2.2 (the state's support for carers) the state should provide 'a reasonable level of support'	- ^b	Government established task force. Still awaiting its report.
4. Increasing the participation of women in politics	7. *The Constitution should be amended to include an explicit provision on gender equality	62	Government established task force. Still awaiting its report.
	8. There should be more government action to encourage greater participation of women in politics	97	Government established task force. Still awaiting its report.
	9. *The Constitution should be amended to include 'gender-inclusive' language	89	Government established task force. Still awaiting its report.
5. Provisions for same-sex marriage	10. *The Constitution should be amended to allow for same-sex marriage	79	Government accepted. Referendum held on May 22 2015 (passed)
	11. The state should enact laws incorporating necessary changed arrangements in regard to the parentage, guardianship and upbringing of children	81	Government accepted; legislation on adoption passed
6. Review of the Dáil	12. The electoral system should be amended to ensure that	86	Government rejected this

electoral system	the smallest constituency size is a 5-seater		
	13. The electoral system should be amended to remove the alphabetical order of candidates on the ballot paper	67	Electoral Commission should look into this
	14. The state should establish an Electoral Commission	97	Government accepted; public consultation in progress
	15. Polling hours/days in should be extended	89	Electoral Commission should look into this
	16. There should be greater access to postal voting	91	Government ignored this
	17. Accuracy of the electoral register should be improved	100	Government 'agreed', but committed to nothing new
	18. Introduce measures to increase electoral turnout	96	Government 'agreed', but committed to nothing new
	19. Education programmes should be introduced in schools	95	Government 'agreed', but committed to nothing new
	20. *There should be non-parliamentary ministers in government	55	Government rejected this proposal
	21. *Members of the Dáil should be required to resign their seats on being appointed to ministerial office	59	Government rejected this proposal
	22. *Citizen-initiatives should be introduced (for influencing parliamentary agenda and for calling of referendums)	83	Government rejected this proposal
7. Irish citizens' right to vote at Irish Embassies in Presidential elections	23. *Rights for citizens abroad and citizens in Northern Ireland to vote in presidential elections	78	Government response expected imminently
8. Removal of the offence of Blasphemy from the	24. *The offence of blasphemy should be replaced by a new general provision to include incitement to religious hatred	53	Government accepted; referendum promised but no date set

Constitution	25. Sec.36 of the defamation act should be replaced by detailed legislative provisions to include religious hatred	82	Government to give this 'more consideration'
9. Dáil reform	26. *Constitutional reform to enhance the status of the office of Ceann Comhairle	88	No response so far
	27. *Constitutional reform to elect the CC by secret ballot	88	No response so far
	28. *Include references to Dáil committees in the Constitution	76	No response so far
	29. *Amend art. 17.2 (re. government prior approval for expenditure proposals)	53	No response so far
	30. The existing Dáil Reform Committee (DRC) should include external members and former TDs	85	No response so far
	31. The DRC should bring forward proposals for genuine Dáil reform	99	No response so far
	32. Introduction of family friendly hours	63	No response so far
	33. CC to chair a forum to set the Dáil agenda	73	No response so far
	34. Proportional allocation of committee chairs and secret ballot for their election	84	No response so far
	35. More technical and professional resources to the committees	93	No response so far
	36. The Working Group of Committee Chairs should be given the power to call the Taoiseach	70	No response so far
	37. Introduce committee weeks	89	No response so far
	38. More 'free votes' on Dáil and committee business	84	No response so far
10. Economic, social and cultural rights	39. *Constitutional amendment to strengthen the protection of ESC rights; that this be realized progressively, subject to maximum available resources and that this be justiciable	85	No response so far
	40. *In amending the Constitution, specific additional rights should be enumerated (housing, social security, etc.)	80-90	No response so far

* Indicates those recommendations that should require a referendum to implement (18 by our estimation)

- a The percentage support for a recommendation among ICC members. In some instances there were a series of votes on an item. The percentage reported here are the votes on the generic question. For more details, see the relevant ICC report.
- b This option received plurality support out of a range of options.