

	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.B.3
I. National referendums	Provision made for referendums in the constitution	Provision made for referendums in the law	Mandatory referendums	Referendums called by an authority	Referendum at the request of part of the electorate
Albania	Yes	Additional legislative provisions	No	Parliament President + 50,000 voters (particularly important issue)	Repeal of a law: 50,000 voters Particularly important issue: 50,000 voters + President
Andorra	Yes	Additional legislative provisions (qualified law)	Yes, constitutional revision	Head of Government + majority of the General Council: political issue	No
Armenia	Yes	No additional cases	Yes, constitutional revision: the President must submit the draft adopted by 2/3 of MPs to the people	President on the proposal of Parliament or the Government with Parliament's agreement	No
Austria	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, full revision of the constitution	Yes, Parliament for partial revisions of the constitution (1/3 of the members of one of the chambers), laws (National Council), dismissal of the President (2/3 of the Federal Assembly), consultative referendums (questions of national importance, National Council)	No
Azerbaijan	Yes	Not applicable	Yes, constitutional revision; border changes	Yes, President or Parliament	No, 300,000 voters can simply ask the President to organise a referendum
Belgium	No	No	No	Yes, one referendum (in 1950) at the request of Parliament	No

	I.B.4	I.B.5	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1
I. National referendums	Procedure involving more than one authority	Role of Parliament	Texts submitted to referendum	Matters to which the referendum may relate	Form of the text submitted to referendum
Albania	Particularly important issue: 50,000 voters + President	May propose a referendum (see I.B.2.)	Constitution Law Particularly important issue	All, except for: financial/tax, state of emergency, war/peace, amnesties + see I.E	Constitutional text Law to be repealed (Particularly important) Question of principle
Andorra	Consultative referendum General Council and Head of Government (co-princes)	Gives its approval (see I.B.4)	Revision of the constitution Political question	See I.C.1	Constitutional referendum: specifically-worded draft Political question: no specific form
Armenia	President and Parliament: see I.B.2	The referendum cannot take place without Parliament's agreement. See I.B.2	Constitution, revision of the Constitution Laws	Any subject except for certain fundamental principles, duration of elected bodies, fundamental rights and matters for which other organs have exclusive responsibility	Specifically-worded draft
Austria	No	See I.B.2	Constitution Law Dismissal of the President Issue of national importance	No limit, except for elections and questions submitted to an administrative or judicial body for decision	Legally binding referendum: specifically-worded draft or dismissal of the President Consultative referendum: issue of principle
Azerbaijan	No	Only if it submits a text to referendum	Constitution Any other text	All, except for: taxation and state budget; amnesties and pardons; elections and appointments	No rule
Belgium	No	See column I.B.2	No rule	No rule	No rule

	I.D.2.a	I.D.2.b	I.D.2.c	I.D.2.d	I.D.2.e
I. National referendums	Unity of form	Unity of content	Unity of hierarchical level	Number of possible questions	Clear/non-leading questions
Albania	No rule but see I.D.1	No rule	No rule	No rule	Particularly important question: must be clear, complete and unequivocal
Andorra	See I.D.1	No rule	Only for a constitutional referendum	No rule	No rule
Armenia	Yes, specifically-worded draft	Yes	Yes	Only one question	Question must be straightforward
Austria	Yes, see I.D.1	The referendum must relate to a specific issue	Yes	Yes, each must be put to the vote separately; only one choice may be possible among the alternatives	Yes
Azerbaijan	No	No	No	Permitted	No rule
Belgium	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule

	I.E	I.F.1.a	I.F.1.b	I.F.1.c	I.F.1.d
I. National referendums	Substantive validity	Campaign: objective information	Explanatory note	Sources of campaign material	Public media
Albania	Limits: territorial integrity, limitation of fundamental rights	No rule	No	No rule	Equal time available to the political parties that support each alternative
Andorra	Political question: must comply with the constitution and international agreements	No rule	No	No rule	No rule
Armenia	No preventive control	No rule	No	Citizens, political parties, NGOs (not charities or regional), but not foreign citizens and organisations, authorities in the exercise of their functions, judges, police officers and military personnel in general	No rule
Austria	No limits	The authorities must not disseminate non-objective or disproportionate mass campaign support information. They may campaign but must provide neutral information.	No	No limit. See I.F.1.a	Public broadcasters must provide the public with objective and impartial information and ensure diversity of opinion
Azerbaijan	No limits provided for	The text must be available	No	Any citizen or group of citizens may campaign but not the authorities	A balance between supporters and opponents must be observed
Belgium	No rule	No rule	No	No rule	No rule

	I.F.1.e	I.F.2.a	I.F.2.b	I.F.3.a-b	I.F.3.c
I. National referendums	Private media	Use of public funds	Payment for the collection of signatures	Period allowed for voting	Mandatory vote
Albania	No rule	No rule	No rule	One day	No
Andorra	No rule	No rule	Not applicable	No rule	No
Armenia	No rule but a refusal to publish campaign information could be unwarranted	No	Not applicable	One day	No
Austria	Public broadcasters are also required to observe the principles of objectivity and diversity of opinion	Moderate use is permitted as long as the information is not disproportionate and non-objective	Not applicable	One day	No
Azerbaijan	Equal conditions must be provided	The use of public funds is allowed but not in the period immediately preceding the vote	Not applicable	One day	No
Belgium	No rule	No rule	Not applicable	One day	Yes (one case)

	I.F.3.d	I.G	I.H.1	I.H.2	I.I.1
I. National referendums	Quorum	Effects of referendum	Parallelism in procedures	Revision of rules providing for a referendum	Time-limit for collection of signatures
Albania	1/3 of registered voters have to approve/reject the draft proposal	Legally binding; Constitutional referendum: suspensive effect Legislative referendum: abrogative, no obligation for Parliament to pass legislation	Yes	Not compulsorily submitted to referendum but special procedure (2/3 majority for constitutional rule and 3/5 majority for legislative provisions)	None
Andorra	No	Constitutional referendum: legally binding and suspensive Referendum on an important issue: consultative	Yes	Submitted to referendum in the case of a constitutional rule	Not applicable
Armenia	1/3 of registered voters must approve the draft proposal	Legally binding and suspensive	Yes for the constitution, revision of the Constitution and laws adopted by referendum; no for laws rejected by referendum	Submitted to referendum in the case of a constitutional rule	Not applicable
Austria	No	Constitutional and legislative referendums: legally binding and suspensive Referendum on the dismissal of the President: binding; a "no" vote counts as re-election and entails the dissolution of the National Council Referendum on a question of national importance: consultative	No, except for mandatory referendums (total revision of the constitution)	Can be revised without a referendum, with the probable exception of the rules concerning mandatory referendums	Not applicable
Azerbaijan	25 % of the electorate must vote	Legally binding	Yes	Submitted to referendum	Not applicable
Belgium	No	Consultative	Not applicable (no legally binding referendum)	Not applicable	Not applicable

	I.I.2	I.I.3	I.I.4	I.J.1	I.J.2
I. National referendums	Persons authorised to collect signatures	Checking of signatures	Correction of irregularities in the content of the question	Judicial review : principle	Judicial review of content
Albania	Responsibility of the initiators	Central electoral commission	No	<i>A priori</i> review by the Constitutional Court	Constitutionality of questions Abrogative referendum: Self-sufficiency of the remaining parts of the law Clarity of the question (particularly important issue)
Andorra	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Yes	As for any other decision, especially dispute between organs
Armenia	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Constitutional review by the constitutional Court of a presidential decree calling a referendum	Form and content of a presidential decree, compliance with constitutional rules (fundamental rights, separation of powers, etc)
Austria	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	No	Not applicable
Azerbaijan	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	The Constitutional Court rules on draft amendments to the constitution	No specific rule
Belgium	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	No	Not applicable

	I.J.3	I.J.4	I.K.1	I.K.2	I.K.3
I. National referendums	Judicial review of results	Eligibility to appeal	Number of referendums	Initiative for holding referendums	Inadequate turnout
Albania	No provision	Not applicable	None since the approval of the constitution by the national referendum of 28.11.1998	Not applicable	Not applicable
Andorra	Yes	Legitimate interest	Referendum on the adoption of the constitution No referendum under the authority of the constitution	General Council and co-princes (referendum on the constitution)	Not applicable
Armenia	Yes, Constitutional Court	President or 1/3 of MPs	One (constitutional revision)	President	Requirement of 1/3 of electorate not met
Austria	Appeal to the constitutional Court concerning a violation of procedural rules	A specific number of voters, which varies between 100 and 500 depending on the province (Land)	One optional legislative referendum One mandatory referendum (accession to the European Union)	National Council	Not applicable
Azerbaijan	No	Not applicable	One (on constitutional amendments) since the adoption of the constitution	President	No
Belgium	No	Not applicable	One (on the monarchy, 1950) - constitutional basis challenged	Parliament	Not applicable

	I.K.4	I.K.5	I.K.6-8
I. National referendums	Referendums with a "yes" vote	Referendums with a "no" vote	Specific reasons for voting yes or no
Albania	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Andorra	Referendum on the adoption of the constitution	No	No
Armenia	None	One (see I.K.3)	No reply
Austria	One	One	No
Azerbaijan	One	No	Role of the President
Belgium	One	No	No

	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.B.3
I. National referendums	Provision made for referendums in the constitution	Provision made for referendums in the law	Mandatory referendums	Referendums called by an authority	Referendum at the request of part of the electorate
Bulgaria	Yes	Yes, Referendum Act	No	Parliament decides, on the proposal of: One quarter of MPs Council of Ministers President of the Republic	No
Croatia	Yes	Additional legislative provisions (Referendum Act)	Alliances with other states	Parliament President (see I.B.4)	10% of the electorate (constitutional and legislative referendum)
Cyprus	No	Referendums Law of 1989	No	Parliament on a proposal by the Council of Ministers	No
Czech Republic	Yes; a constitutional law is due to be passed to make referendums possible; up to now, only referendum on accession to the European Union	No	Accession to the European Union	Yes, President of the Republic (accession to the European Union)	No

	I.B.4	I.B.5	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1
I. National referendums	Procedure involving more than one authority	Role of Parliament	Texts submitted to referendum	Matters to which the referendum may relate	Form of the text submitted to referendum
Bulgaria	See I.B.2	See I.B.2	Issues of national importance	Issues of national importance, except for : - Constitution - Powers of Parliament - Budget and taxes - Powers of the judicial organs and Constitutional Court - Issues for which special arrangements are provided for by law	No rule. The only possible answers must be yes or no
Croatia	President, on the proposal of the Government and with the counter-signature of the Prime Minister; the popular initiative can be an alternative to the draft proposal before Parliament	Parliament may not take a decision contrary to the outcome of a referendum until one year has passed; another referendum on the same issue may not be called for six months. Exceptions: popular initiative or alliances with other states	Any issue within the competence of Parliament Any issue that the President of the Republic considers important	See I.E	No specifically-worded drafts
Cyprus	Parliament on a proposal by the Council of Ministers	Parliament accepts or rejects a proposal by the Council of Ministers to call a referendum	Particularly important matters of public interest	Particularly important matters of public interest	Determined by the Council of Ministers
Czech Republic	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	Question of principle (accession to the European Union); otherwise no rule

	I.D.2.a	I.D.2.b	I.D.2.c	I.D.2.d	I.D.2.e
I. National referendums	Unity of form	Unity of content	Unity of hierarchical level	Number of possible questions	Clear/non-leading questions
Bulgaria	No rule	Yes	Yes, no constitutional referendum	Yes	Yes
Croatia	No specifically-worded drafts	No rule	No rule	No rule	Requirement of clarity and possibility of replying yes or no
Cyprus	No	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule
Czech Republic	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule

	I.E	I.F.1.a	I.F.1.b	I.F.1.c	I.F.1.d
I. National referendums	Substantive validity	Campaign: objective information	Explanatory note	Sources of campaign material	Public media
Bulgaria	No rule	No rule	No	No rule	Must give equal time to supporters and opponents
Croatia	No limit, except with regard to the re-creation of a Yugoslav or Balkan state; the constitutional Court reviews the constitutionality and legality of referendums	The authorities have to give reasons for their decision to call a referendum	No rule, those who call a referendum can be asked to give their reasons	No reply	No rule
Cyprus	No specific rules. The Constitution is the supreme law and international law takes precedence over domestic law	No rule	No	No limit	The media must allocate equal time to supporters and opponents
Czech Republic	A referendum may not provide for any restrictions on fundamental rights or for obligations of individuals	No rule	No, only publication of the text	No rule	No rule

	I.F.1.e	I.F.2.a	I.F.2.b	I.F.3.a-b	I.F.3.c
I. National referendums	Private media	Use of public funds	Payment for the collection of signatures	Period allowed for voting	Mandatory vote
Bulgaria	Must give equal time to supporters and opponents	The state alone bears the costs of organising a referendum	Not applicable	One day	No
Croatia	No rule	The costs of a referendum are borne by the state. Public funds cannot be used for the campaign	No rule	One day	No
Cyprus	The media must allocate equal time to supporters and opponents	No rule	Not applicable	One day	No
Czech Republic	No rule	No rule	Not applicable	Two days	No

	I.F.3.d	I.G	I.H.1	I.H.2	I.I.1
I. National referendums	Quorum	Effects of referendum	Parallelism in procedures	Revision of rules providing for a referendum	Time-limit for collection of signatures
Bulgaria	50% turnout	Legally binding If necessary, Parliament adopts the legal instruments required to implement the decision taken by referendum	No	No specific rule	Not applicable
Croatia	50% turnout; a majority of registered voters is required to approve an association of states	Legally binding; Parliament must pass legislation; it may not take a decision contrary to the outcome of a referendum until one year has passed; another referendum on the same issue may not be called for six months. Exceptions: popular initiative or association with other states	No. However, Parliament must pass legislation and may not take a decision contrary to the outcome of a referendum until one year has passed	No specific rule	15 days
Cyprus	No	No rule	No	No specific rule	Not applicable
Czech Republic	No	Legally binding and suspensive (accession to the European Union)	No rule	No rule	Not applicable

	I.I.2	I.I.3	I.I.4	I.J.1	I.J.2
I. National referendums	Persons authorised to collect signatures	Checking of signatures	Correction of irregularities in the content of the question	Judicial review : principle	Judicial review of content
Bulgaria	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Parliament's decision on whether to call a referendum or not: Constitutional Court (Review of Constitutionality) Legality of results: Supreme Administrative Court	See I.J.1
Croatia	Organisational committee	Organisational committee	No. The Constitutional Court must, at the request of Parliament, check the constitutionality and legality of the question	See I.I.4	See I.I.4
Cyprus	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Constitutional Court at the request of the President if the decision to hold the referendum is in breach of the constitution	See I.J.1
Czech Republic	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Yes, Constitutional Court	Compliance of the procedure with the regulations

	I.J.3	I.J.4	I.K.1	I.K.2	I.K.3
I. National referendums	Judicial review of results	Eligibility to appeal	Number of referendums	Initiative for holding referendums	Inadequate turnout
Bulgaria	Supreme Administrative Court	Legality of results: bodies with the right to propose a referendum	None	Not applicable	Not applicable
Croatia	Yes, State Commission, then Constitutional Court	Any voter	No case since independence	Not applicable	Not applicable
Cyprus	No	No	A referendum on the United Nations plan	President	Not applicable
Czech Republic	Yes (accession to the European Union)	No rule	One (accession to the European Union)	President of the Republic	Not applicable

	I.K.4	I.K.5	I.K.6-8
I. National referendums	Referendums with a "yes" vote	Referendums with a "no" vote	Specific reasons for voting yes or no
Bulgaria	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Croatia	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Cyprus	No (except for Northern Cyprus)	Yes (Greek Cypriots)	No
Czech Republic	One	No	No

	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.B.3
I. National referendums	Provision made for referendums in the constitution	Provision made for referendums in the law	Mandatory referendums	Referendums called by an authority	Referendum at the request of part of the electorate
Denmark	Yes	No	Revision of the constitution after the dissolution of Parliament Delegation of powers to international authorities if there is less than a 5/6 majority in Parliament and the Government upholds the bill Change in the voting age	1/3 of MPs if Parliament does not withdraw the bill	No
Estonia	Yes	No other cases	Two chapters of the constitution : "General Provisions" and "Amendments to the constitution"; law complementing the constitution (on accession to the European Union)	Parliament	No
Finland	Yes	Law passed for each referendum	No	Act of Parliament, passed on the proposal of the Government or MPs	No
France	Yes	No	No, apart from constitutional amendments initiated by Parliament	President, on the proposal of the Government or the two assemblies (Art. 11: legislative and treaty-related referendums) President, on the proposal of the Prime Minister - Parliament (Art. 89: constitutional referendum)	No

	I.B.4	I.B.5	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1
I. National referendums	Procedure involving more than one authority	Role of Parliament	Texts submitted to referendum	Matters to which the referendum may relate	Form of the text submitted to referendum
Denmark	See I.B.1-2	See I.B.1-2	Constitution Laws	All, except for: - Financial matters - Civil service - Naturalisation - Expropriations - Implementation of treaties - Certain bills concerning the sovereign	Specifically-worded draft
Estonia	No	Parliament may decide to hold a referendum	Constitution Laws Other questions	All, except for the budget, taxation, finance, international treaties, calling a state of emergency or national defence	Specifically-worded draft or "question of national interest"
Finland	Roles of the President, Parliament and the Council of State similar to those applying to ordinary legislative procedure	Passes a law on holding a referendum	No general rule	No limit	No general rule
France	See I.B.2	Constitutional amendment: parliamentary approval necessary Other referendums: only parliamentary debate	Constitution Laws Treaties	Legislative/treaty referendum - organisation of public authorities - reforms of economic and social policy and the relevant public services - ratification of a treaty not in breach of the constitution but liable to influence the operation of the institutions	Specifically-worded draft

	I.D.2.a	I.D.2.b	I.D.2.c	I.D.2.d	I.D.2.e
I. National referendums	Unity of form	Unity of content	Unity of hierarchical level	Number of possible questions	Clear/non-leading questions
Denmark	Specifically-worded draft	No rule	No rule	Yes	No rule
Estonia	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule
Finland	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule
France	Specifically-worded draft	No rule	No rule	No rule	The case law of the constitutional Council mentions such conditions as honesty, clarity and the absence of any ambiguity

I. National referendums	I.E	I.F.1.a	I.F.1.b	I.F.1.c	I.F.1.d
I. National referendums	Substantive validity	Campaign: objective information	Explanatory note	Sources of campaign material	Public media
Denmark	Compliance with the constitution (except for constitutional amendments) and, in practice, international law	No reply	No reply	No reply	No reply
Estonia	A draft law must be constitutional	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule
Finland	No rule	No general rule	Yes, when the referendum on accession to the European Union was held	No limit	Must be neutral
France	In practice, no limit	No explicit obligation but normal practice	Drawn up by the Government and checked by the constitutional Council	See I.F.1.d	Must provide "fair coverage" to supporters and opponents. Radio and television: parties represented in Parliament or whose participation appears warranted in view of the nature of the question asked

	I.F.1.e	I.F.2.a	I.F.2.b	I.F.3.a-b	I.F.3.c
I. National referendums	Private media	Use of public funds	Payment for the collection of signatures	Period allowed for voting	Mandatory vote
Denmark	No reply	No reply	Not applicable	No reply	No reply
Estonia	No rule	No rule	Not applicable	One day, but some voting takes place in advance of the main polling day (e-voting from 2005)	No
Finland	No rule	No general rule. Equal use for supporters and opponents in the case of the referendum on joining the European Union	Not applicable	Two days if held at the same time as national elections	No
France	Media must provide fair coverage	No rule	Not applicable	One day. Time-zone differences: the publication of results before all polling stations have closed is not prohibited	No

	I.F.3.d	I.G	I.H.1	I.H.2	I.I.1
I. National referendums	Quorum	Effects of referendum	Parallelism in procedures	Revision of rules providing for a referendum	Time-limit for collection of signatures
Denmark	Constitutional amendment: must be approved by 40% of the electorate Other cases: amendment rejected if 30% of the electorate and a majority of voters vote against	Referendums provided for by the constitution are legally binding and suspensive (resolutive in the case of referendums on emergency laws) It is also possible to organise consultative referendums	Yes, for provisions submitted to compulsory referendum	No specific rule	Not applicable
Estonia	No	Legally binding. In the case of a referendum on a "question of national interest", Parliament can be asked to pass a law	No rule	Mandatory referendums only for constitutional rules relating to amendments to the constitution	Not applicable
Finland	No	Consultative	Not applicable, referendum only consultative	No specific rule	Not applicable
France	No	Legally binding. In general, the result of the referendum entails the adoption of other decisions Suspensive referendum	No provision	No specific rule	Not applicable

	I.I.2	I.I.3	I.I.4	I.J.1	I.J.2
I. National referendums	Persons authorised to collect signatures	Checking of signatures	Correction of irregularities in the content of the question	Judicial review : principle	Judicial review of content
Denmark	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Yes, courts	No reply
Estonia	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Yes	Concerning the unconstitutionality of a rule or a breach of procedure
Finland	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	No specific rule	No rule
France	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	In principle yes, but the review has up to now only related to the procedure	See I.J.1

	I.J.3	I.J.4	I.K.1	I.K.2	I.K.3
I. National referendums	Judicial review of results	Eligibility to appeal	Number of referendums	Initiative for holding referendums	Inadequate turnout
Denmark	No reply	Legal interest	Fourteen (17 questions)	One mandatory referendum One parliamentary initiative	No
Estonia	Yes, in the case of a breach of procedure	Any person whose rights have been infringed	One (constitutional amendment concerning accession to the European Union)	Parliament	Not applicable
Finland	No specific rule	No specific rule	Two	Special Acts of Parliament	No
France	Constitutional Council	Representatives of the state, voters in specific cases	Nine since 1958	Executive	Not applicable

	I.K.4	I.K.5	I.K.6-8
I. National referendums	Referendums with a "yes" vote	Referendums with a "no" vote	Specific reasons for voting yes or no
Denmark	Nine	Five (eight questions)	No reply
Estonia	One	No	No
Finland	Two	None	No
France	Since 1945, 10 out of 12	Since 1945, 2 out of 12	The President's personality played a role

	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.B.3
I. National referendums	Provision made for referendums in the constitution	Provision made for referendums in the law	Mandatory referendums	Referendums called by an authority	Referendum at the request of part of the electorate
Georgia	Yes	Implementing law	No	Parliament / President of the Republic	200,000 voters
Greece	Yes	No	No	The President must call a referendum after a resolution has been passed by a majority of MPs, on the proposal of the Government (on "crucial national issues"); or laws on "important social issues" (with the exception of taxation) following a decision by 3/5 of MPs	No
Hungary	Yes	Additional legislative provisions	No	Parliament, on the proposal of the President of the Republic, the Government or one-third of MPs See also I.B.3	100,000 citizens, on the proposal of Parliament. The referendum must take place if 200,000 citizens request it
Ireland	Yes	Additional legislative provisions	Constitutional amendment	Parliament (majority of the Senate and one-third of the Dáil for Bills) + President (decides whether the matter is of national importance)	No

	I.B.4	I.B.5	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1
I. National referendums	Procedure involving more than one authority	Role of Parliament	Texts submitted to referendum	Matters to which the referendum may relate	Form of the text submitted to referendum
Georgia	The President calls a referendum, on his or her own initiative, at the request of Parliament or 200,000 voters	May call for a referendum	Issues of particular national importance (see. I.C.2)	Issues of particular national importance Except for: - adoption / repeal of a law - ratification and denunciation of international treaties - questions relating to fundamental rights - amnesties and pardons	Question of principle
Greece	See I.B.2	See I.B.2	Laws Questions of principle	Crucial national issues Important social issues (not taxation)	Draft law Question of principle (particularly important)
Hungary	See I.B.2 and I.B.3	The referendum must take place if 200,000 citizens request it. Otherwise, Parliament must approve a call for a referendum	Constitution (confirmation of an amendment adopted by Parliament) Laws Questions of principle and generally-worded texts	Any issue that is the responsibility of Parliament, apart from an exhaustive list contained in the constitution (financial issues, international obligations, constitutional rules relating to referendums and popular initiatives, dissolution of Parliament, the Government's programme, sending troops abroad, etc)	Specifically-worded draft Questions of principle, generally-worded proposals
Ireland	See I.B.2	See I.B.2	Constitution (confirmation of an amendment adopted by Parliament, mandatory referendum) Bills of particular national importance	Laws: national importance	Specifically-worded draft

	I.D.2.a	I.D.2.b	I.D.2.c	I.D.2.d	I.D.2.e
I. National referendums	Unity of form	Unity of content	Unity of hierarchical level	Number of possible questions	Clear/non-leading questions
Georgia	Yes	No reply	No reply	No reply	No reply
Greece	Yes (draft law or question of principle)	No rule	Yes, no constitutional referendum	No rule	Yes
Hungary	Yes (implicit)	Yes. There must be an intrinsic connection between the various parts of each question, their relationship must be clear and they must follow from one another or the subject matter must be related	Yes, implicit	There may be several questions	Yes
Ireland	Yes (specifically-worded draft)	No rule	Yes	There may be several questions	Yes (specifically-worded draft)

	I.E	I.F.1.a	I.F.1.b	I.F.1.c	I.F.1.d
I. National referendums	Substantive validity	Campaign: objective information	Explanatory note	Sources of campaign material	Public media
Georgia	No reply	No rule	No	Citizens, political parties, groups of citizens, initiative committees. Members of the referendum (electoral) commissions do not have the right to campaign	No rule
Greece	The text must be in conformity with higher-ranking law (Constitution, general international law and duly ratified treaties)	No reply	No reply	No reply	No reply
Hungary	No explicit rule. A referendum on international obligations is not possible	No rule	No	No rule. The authorities may campaign	Equal opportunities for campaigning must be granted
Ireland	No limit for the constitution; Constitution and European Union law in respect of ordinary laws	No rule	Draft text available at post offices; explanatory note if prescribed by the two houses of Parliament; it should be impartial	No limits, but public funds cannot be used for campaigning purposes	Requirement to be fair to all interests

	I.F.1.e	I.F.2.a	I.F.2.b	I.F.3.a-b	I.F.3.c
I. National referendums	Private media	Use of public funds	Payment for the collection of signatures	Period allowed for voting	Mandatory vote
Georgia	No rule	For the organisation of the referendum (local authorities for the preparation of the buildings and material)	No rule	One day. No opinion polls permitted that day	No
Greece	No reply	No reply	Not applicable	One day	Yes
Hungary	No rule	No rule	No rule	One day	No
Ireland	Requirement for the audiovisual media to be fair	Not for campaigning purposes	Not applicable	One day	No

	I.F.3.d	I.G	I.H.1	I.H.2	I.I.1
I. National referendums	Quorum	Effects of referendum	Parallelism in procedures	Revision of rules providing for a referendum	Time-limit for collection of signatures
Georgia	No	Legally binding The legislative and executive bodies must bring the legislation and other legal instruments into compliance with the outcome of the referendum	Yes	No specific rule	No
Greece	No	Legally binding Suspensive	Contentious	No provision for a referendum	Not applicable
Hungary	1/4 of registered voters must have given the same answer	Legally binding or consultative depending on Parliament's decision Referendum on a law or at the request of 200,000 citizens: always binding Suspensive	No	Referendum not mandatory	Four months
Ireland	Legislative referendum: the proposal is rejected if one-third of registered voters vote against it	Legally binding Suspensive	Yes, for the constitution	Constitutional rules must be submitted to referendum	Not applicable

	I.I.2	I.I.3	I.I.4	I.J.1	I.J.2
I. National referendums	Persons authorised to collect signatures	Checking of signatures	Correction of irregularities in the content of the question	Judicial review : principle	Judicial review of content
Georgia	No limit	Every signature must be checked by a notary or local authorities	No	Yes, Constitutional Court	Constitutionality of calling the referendum
Greece	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	No	Not applicable
Hungary	No limit	National Elections Board	No	Constitutional Court: verification of the question by the National Elections Board	Any violation of formal or substantive rules
Ireland	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	No, at least in principle	No example

	I.J.3	I.J.4	I.K.1	I.K.2	I.K.3
I. National referendums	Judicial review of results	Eligibility to appeal	Number of referendums	Initiative for holding referendums	Inadequate turnout
Georgia	No reply	Depending on the case: 1/5 of MPs Ombudsman President of Georgia	No reply	No reply	Not applicable
Greece	Special Supreme Court	Registered voters	Six in the periods of transition	No reply	Not applicable
Hungary	Yes, ordinary Courts	Registered voters	Four since 1989 (two legally binding and two consultative)	The Government on two occasions and political parties on the other two occasions	One case
Ireland	Yes, only procedural questions	Director of Public Prosecutions, voters	28 constitutional referendums since 1937	Parliament	Not applicable

	I.K.4	I.K.5	I.K.6-8
I. National referendums	Referendums with a "yes" vote	Referendums with a "no" vote	Specific reasons for voting yes or no
Georgia	No reply	No reply	No reply
Greece	The referendums related to the issue of whether to have a monarchy or a republic or the return of a previously deposed monarch. Question not applicable	The referendums related to the issue of whether to have a monarchy or a republic or the return of a previously deposed monarch. Question not applicable	No
Hungary	Three	One	No
Ireland	Twenty-one	Seven	No

	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.B.3
I. National referendums	Provision made for referendums in the constitution	Provision made for referendums in the law	Mandatory referendums	Referendums called by an authority	Referendum at the request of part of the electorate
Italy	Yes, national and regional referendums	Additional legislative provisions	Not at national level	Five regional councils	Abrogative legislation referendum Constitutional referendum (500,000 voters)
Latvia	Yes	No, but additional legislative provisions	Amendments to certain constitutional provisions Popular initiatives rejected by Parliament Membership of the European Union	President: dissolution of Parliament Parliament: modification of the terms of membership of the European Union	Yes: draft constitutional or legislative amendment (1/10 of the electorate) or if the President suspends the law at the request of 1/3 of MPs: law submitted to referendum if requested by 1/10 of the electorate if it is not passed again by Parliament by a 3/4 majority
Lithuania	Yes	Additional legislative provisions	Certain basic constitutional provisions (including on amendments to the constitution) and membership of supranational organisations	Yes, Parliament	300,000 voters (optional referendum or popular initiative)
Luxembourg	Yes	No	No	Yes, Parliament decides	No, but planned

	I.B.4	I.B.5	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1
I. National referendums	Procedure involving more than one authority	Role of Parliament	Texts submitted to referendum	Matters to which the referendum may relate	Form of the text submitted to referendum
Italy	No	When a request is made for an abrogative referendum: Parliament may rule out a referendum by revising the basic principles and the main substance of the old law.	Constitution Laws	All matters, except for : - taxation, budget - amnesties - international treaties - legislative acts that require a special procedure, have a constitutionally mandatory content or are constitutionally necessary for the operation of the state	Specifically-worded draft
Latvia	See I.B.3	See I.B.3	Amendments to certain constitutional provisions Dissolution of Parliament Suspension of a law by the President (cf. I.B.3) Constitutional or legislative popular initiative Membership of the European Union and modification of the terms thereof	See I.C.1	No rule; specifically-worded drafts and questions of principle already submitted to referendum
Lithuania	See I.B.3	Can reject a proposal for a referendum made by 1/4 of Parliament; deliberates on a request by 300,000 voters but must submit it to the people unless it considers it unconstitutional	Constitution (mandatory referendum in certain cases, I.B.1); laws Very important issues	No limit	Specifically-worded draft Very important issues
Luxembourg	Parliament gives its opinion; mandatory opinion of the Council of State, optional opinion of the professional organisations	Arrangements on a case-by-case basis; Parliament passes an ad hoc law	Ordinary law	No rule	No rule. Ad hoc or general law has to be passed

	I.D.2.a	I.D.2.b	I.D.2.c	I.D.2.d	I.D.2.e
I. National referendums	Unity of form	Unity of content	Unity of hierarchical level	Number of possible questions	Clear/non-leading questions
Italy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes. Each law must be put separately to the vote	Yes
Latvia	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule
Lithuania	Yes	Any separate issue must be put to the vote separately	Yes (not explicit)	Yes, each must be put to the vote separately	No reply
Luxembourg	No rule	No rule	Yes, no constitutional referendum	No rule	No rule

	I.E	I.F.1.a	I.F.1.b	I.F.1.c	I.F.1.d
I. National referendums	Substantive validity	Campaign: objective information	Explanatory note	Sources of campaign material	Public media
Italy	Limits: International obligations of the state Constitution Provisions of ordinary law that cannot be repealed by referendum	No rule	No	No rule	The media must allocate equal time to the various political groups
Latvia	No rule	No rule, but the Central Electoral Commission is tasked with drawing up "neutral" information texts	No	No rule	No rule
Lithuania	Parliament may refuse to call a referendum if the question is unconstitutional	No rule	No, the text put to the vote is published in the public media and on their websites	No rule	Equality between supporters and opponents in public radio and television debates, with at least 7 hours for each side
Luxembourg	The principle of the hierarchy of norms must be upheld	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule

	I.F.1.e	I.F.2.a	I.F.2.b	I.F.3.a-b	I.F.3.c
I. National referendums	Private media	Use of public funds	Payment for the collection of signatures	Period allowed for voting	Mandatory vote
Italy	The same conditions must be granted to both supporters and opponents	No rule	Authorised	One day	No
Latvia	No rule	No rule	No rule	One day	No
Lithuania	No expenses beyond the amount set aside in the special election account for the referendum	No rule	No rule	One day	No
Luxembourg	No rule	No rule	No popular initiative to date	One day	Yes, apart from special law

	I.F.3.d	I.G	I.H.1	I.H.2	I.I.1
I. National referendums	Quorum	Effects of referendum	Parallelism in procedures	Revision of rules providing for a referendum	Time-limit for collection of signatures
Italy	Abrogative legislative referendum: The majority of the electorate must participate in the vote	Legally binding Constitutional: suspensive Legislative: abrogative	Yes	Submitted to referendum in the same way as other constitutional and legal rules	Three months for a constitutional referendum; abrogative referendum: may be filed between 1 January and 30 September
Latvia	Constitutional amendment: must be accepted by a majority of the electorate Draft laws, membership of the European Union and modification of the terms thereof: quorum made up of a majority of the voters who took part in the last parliamentary election	Legally binding Suspensive when the text is adopted by Parliament	Yes, for constitutional provisions submitted to mandatory referendum	Mandatory referendum; rules on constitutional provisions submitted to mandatory referendum	No reply
Lithuania	Half the electorate must participate and 1/3 must approve (mandatory referendum); membership of international organisations: participation of half the electorate; fundamental provisions (sovereignty) 3/4 or a majority of the electorate; quorum of half the electorate (consultative referendum)	Legally binding: provisions submitted to mandatory referendum; legislative provisions at the request of 300,000 voters; Consultative: other constitutional provisions, other very important issues, at the request of 300,000 voters or Parliament Suspensive	No	Constitutional rules: mandatory referendum	Three months
Luxembourg	No rule	No rule, but the referendum on the European Constitution will be legally binding Referendums of 1919 and 1937: consultative	In principle no. The special law determines this	No mandatory referendum to date	No popular initiative to date

	I.I.2	I.I.3	I.I.4	I.J.1	I.J.2
I. National referendums	Persons authorised to collect signatures	Checking of signatures	Correction of irregularities in the content of the question	Judicial review : principle	Judicial review of content
Italy	Promoters of the referendum; signatures must be authenticated	Special office of the Court of Cassation	No	Prior review by the special office of the Court of Cassation for the collection of signatures and, for an abrogative legislative referendum, by the constitutional Court with regard to the content and wording of the question	See I.J.1
Latvia	No limit	Central Electoral Commission	No	Decisions of the Central Electoral Commission: courts Decisions of the President or Parliament: Constitutional Court	Procedure
Lithuania	Citizens	Central Electoral Commission	No	Appeal to the constitutional Court against a decision of Parliament	Review of conformity with higher-ranking law
Luxembourg	No popular initiative to date	No popular initiative to date	No popular initiative to date	No rule	No rule

	I.J.3	I.J.4	I.K.1	I.K.2	I.K.3
I. National referendums	Judicial review of results	Eligibility to appeal	Number of referendums	Initiative for holding referendums	Inadequate turnout
Italy	Decision of a judicial authority	Voters, initiators	54 since 1948, 53 of them abrogative legislative referendums and one constitutional referendum	Most on the initiative of the voters, some on that of regional councils	Eighteen
Latvia	Decisions of the Central Electoral Commission: courts	Appeals to courts: voters; Appeals to Constitutional Court: 20 MPs/President/ Government	Three (two legislative and one on membership of the European Union)	Two occasions: suspension by the President and request by 1/10 of voters European Union: after a decision by Parliament	One case
Lithuania	No reply	Government, 1/5 of MPs, courts (review of constitutionality)	Six since 1992 (legally binding)	Five: Parliament One: popular initiative	Two cases
Luxembourg	No rule	No rule	Two: 1919 (two questions) and 1937 (both consultative)	Government, with the approval of Parliament	No

	I.K.4	I.K.5	I.K.6-8
I. National referendums	Referendums with a "yes" vote	Referendums with a "no" vote	Specific reasons for voting yes or no
Italy	One constitutional amendment Nineteen abrogative referendums	Sixteen abrogative referendums	No reply
Latvia	Two	None	No
Lithuania	Two	Two	No
Luxembourg	Two (one question relating to retaining the monarch or other choices concerning the political system)	One	No

	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.B.3
I. National referendums	Provision made for referendums in the constitution	Provision made for referendums in the law	Mandatory referendums	Referendums called by an authority	Referendum at the request of part of the electorate
Malta	Yes, in certain limited cases	Yes, also deals with referendums not expressly provided for by the constitution	Constitutional referendum in the rare cases provided for by the constitution	Yes, Parliament	10% of the electorate
Netherlands	No	Temporary Law (2002-2004)	No	No	Introductory request by 40,000 voters, definitive request by 600,000 voters; concerns text already adopted
Norway	No	Special acts of Parliament for the two referendums that have been held	No	Special acts of Parliament	No
Poland	Yes	National Referendum Act	No	Sejm (low Chamber) President of the Republic with the approval of the Senate; 1/5 of the members of the Sejm, the Senate or the President can call for a referendum in the case of amendments to certain fundamental provisions of the constitution	50,000 citizens, with the approval of the Sejm

	I.B.4	I.B.5	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1
I. National referendums	Procedure involving more than one authority	Role of Parliament	Texts submitted to referendum	Matters to which the referendum may relate	Form of the text submitted to referendum
Malta	The President sets the date of the referendum after Parliament has decided to call it	Abrogative referendum at the request of part of the electorate: does not take place if Parliament repeals the legislation at issue	Constitution, in certain specific cases Law (abrogative referendum) Any other issue if the relevant decision is taken by Parliament	Abrogative referendum ruled out in particular for: Constitution; law on the European Convention; electoral law; tax laws; laws implementing treaties	No rule; abrogative referendum: law
Netherlands	No	The referendum concerns only laws already passed by Parliament	Laws, except for the implementation of international treaties; Treaties Exception: laws and treaties that apply to the kingdom as a whole (including Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles) (No constitutional referendum)	All matters, except for: - monarchy and royal family - budget See also I.C.1	Specifically-worded draft
Norway	No	Referendums based on special acts of Parliament	Membership of the European Communities, then the European Union	No rule	No rule
Poland	See I.B.3. The Sejm can also decide to hold a referendum at the request of the Senate or the Government or on its own initiative	The Sejm can oppose a referendum requested by part of the electorate or another body (except in the relevant cases specified in I.B.2)	No limiting rule, but in principle issues of particular importance for the state	No limit, but citizens cannot call for a referendum on financial matters, taxation, defence and amnesties	No rule

	I.D.2.a	I.D.2.b	I.D.2.c	I.D.2.d	I.D.2.e
I. National referendums	Unity of form	Unity of content	Unity of hierarchical level	Number of possible questions	Clear/non-leading questions
Malta	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	Yes, it must be possible to answer by "yes" or "no"
Netherlands	Yes	A law as a whole	Yes, no constitutional referendum	The question must relate to a law as a whole	A law as a whole
Norway	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule
Poland	No rule	No rule	No rule	Possible	Yes

	I.E	I.F.1.a	I.F.1.b	I.F.1.c	I.F.1.d
I. National referendums	Substantive validity	Campaign: objective information	Explanatory note	Sources of campaign material	Public media
Malta	No limit	No specific rule	No	No rule	Balance must be guaranteed
Netherlands	No rule	Text made available at town halls	Summary of the law sent to voters at least two weeks before the vote	Any voter and group of voters; the authorities can provide information	No rule, but the time reserved for the parties on radio and television can be used for the referendum campaign
Norway	No rule	No reply	No reply	No reply	No reply
Poland	No rule, but the Sejm examines the question of conformity with higher-ranking law	The State Electoral Commission is empowered to provide objective information	See I.F.1.a	Political parties, associations, foundations and other bodies	Must give equal time to all groups or organisations

	I.F.1.e	I.F.2.a	I.F.2.b	I.F.3.a-b	I.F.3.c
I. National referendums	Private media	Use of public funds	Payment for the collection of signatures	Period allowed for voting	Mandatory vote
Malta	No rule	Allowed for information purposes but not for campaigning	No rule	One day, unless special law is enacted	No
Netherlands	No rule	No rule. In principle, supporters and opponents use their own funds	No actual collection. Signatories must go to the town hall	One day	No
Norway	No reply	No reply	Not applicable	No reply	No reply
Poland	No rule	Preparation and organisation of the referendum covered by public funds	No rule	One or two days	No

	I.F.3.d	I.G	I.H.1	I.H.2	I.I.1
I. National referendums	Quorum	Effects of referendum	Parallelism in procedures	Revision of rules providing for a referendum	Time-limit for collection of signatures
Malta	Abrogative referendum: the majority of the electorate must participate in the vote	Legally binding Parliament can propose a consultative referendum Constitutional amendment submitted to mandatory referendum, law initiated by Parliament: suspensive referendum Popular initiative: abrogative referendum	Yes	Mandatory referendums only for constitutional rules submitted to mandatory referendum	No
Netherlands	30% of registered voters must have voted against the law/treaty	Consultative Parliament must reconsider if the outcome of the referendum is negative A decision on the entry into force of the law is taken if the outcome is positive The referendum is suspensive	A consultative referendum is possible on a question already submitted to a consultative referendum	Could be submitted to referendum, as long as the Temporary Law was in force (until 1 January 2005)	Three weeks for the introductory request, six weeks for the definitive request; no actual collection of signatures as people register at the town hall
Norway	No reply	Consultative	Not really applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Poland	A referendum is legally binding only if more than half of the electorate participate in it	Legally binding if the quorum of a majority of the electorate is reached; otherwise consultative	No	No specific rule	No time-limit

	I.I.2	I.I.3	I.I.4	I.J.1	I.J.2
I. National referendums	Persons authorised to collect signatures	Checking of signatures	Correction of irregularities in the content of the question	Judicial review : principle	Judicial review of content
Malta	Any voter	Electoral Commission	No rule	Constitutional Court	Any constitutional issue
Netherlands	No actual collection of signatures as people register at the town hall	Town hall	Not applicable. The referendum relates to a law or treaty	Appeal to Administrative Jurisdiction Division of the Council of State against: - the decision on whether or not to submit a law (Interior Ministry) or treaty (Foreign Ministry) to referendum - decisions of the Chair of the Central Electoral Board on the validity of the introductory and final requests and on the outcome of the referendum	See I.J.1
Norway	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	No reply	No reply
Poland	Initiators of the referendum	The Speaker of the Sejm verifies that the requisite number of signatures has been reached and, if not, allows a further two weeks. He or she can send the lists of signatures back to the State Electoral Commission in the case of any doubt about the authenticity of the signatures	No	Yes, Supreme Court concerning the holding of a referendum requested by part of the electorate, against the decision of the Speaker of the Sejm Constitutional issues: appeal to the constitutional Court subject to the usual conditions	Questions of constitutionality

	I.J.3	I.J.4	I.K.1	I.K.2	I.K.3
I. National referendums	Judicial review of results	Eligibility to appeal	Number of referendums	Initiative for holding referendums	Inadequate turnout
Malta	Constitutional Court	Any voter; Attorney General	One, since independence	Government, after a vote by Parliament	Not applicable
Netherlands	Yes, see I.J.1	Any person affected	None	Not applicable	Not applicable
Norway	No reply	No reply	Two: 1972 and 1994 (membership of the European Communities, then the European Union)	Special acts of Parliament	No
Poland	No reply	Decision of the Speaker of the Sejm: representative of the signatories Other decisions: appeal to the constitutional Court subject to the usual conditions	One referendum on the constitution One legally binding referendum on membership of the European Union	No reply	No

I. National referendums	I.K.4 Referendums with a "yes" vote	I.K.5 Referendums with a "no" vote	I.K.6-8 Specific reasons for voting yes or no
Malta	Two	None	By and large, the voters voted for or against the Government
Netherlands	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Norway	None	Two	No reply
Poland	Two	None	No reply

	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.B.3
I. National referendums	Provision made for referendums in the constitution	Provision made for referendums in the law	Mandatory referendums	Referendums called by an authority	Referendum at the request of part of the electorate
Portugal	Yes	Implementing law (implementation and development)	Yes, only regionalisation	President on the proposal of Parliament or the Government (according to subject matters)	75,000 citizens, with the approval of Parliament
Russian Federation	Yes	Constitutional law	No, unless provided for by international treaty	Federal state body to which the treaty or law assigns the power to examine the question (in the case of a referendum organised pursuant to an international treaty)	2,000,000 voters
Spain	Yes: - constitutional amendments - issues of particular importance	Implementing law (implementation and development)	Yes, complete revision of the constitution	Yes, partial revision of the constitution, 10% of the members of one of the two chambers within 15 days; consultative referendum on an issue of particular importance: called by the King on the proposal of the Prime Minister following authorisation by the Congress	No
Sweden	Yes	Implementing legislation	No	Parliament (only)	No

	I.B.4	I.B.5	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1
I. National referendums	Procedure involving more than one authority	Role of Parliament	Texts submitted to referendum	Matters to which the referendum may relate	Form of the text submitted to referendum
Portugal	See I.B.2 and I.B.3	See I.B.2 and I.B.3	Issue must be subject to ordinary law or an international treaty (not the constitution)	All, except for: - Financial matters - Issues that cannot be delegated by Parliament (namely those relating to the structure or the functioning of the state)	Questions of principle or generally-worded proposals, not specifically-worded texts (except treaties on the European Union)
Russian Federation	No	In principle no	New constitution in its entirety (voted by the Constituent Assembly) Other instruments, including international treaties	No limit	No rule
Spain	See I.B.2	See I.B.2	Constitution Questions of particular importance	No rule	Constitutional text Issue of particular importance
Sweden	No	Parliament decides on whether to hold a referendum (by ordinary law)	Question relating to basic laws Any other issue (consultative referendum)	No limit	Questions of principle (with possible choice between alternatives)

	I.D.2.a	I.D.2.b	I.D.2.c	I.D.2.d	I.D.2.e
I. National referendums	Unity of form	Unity of content	Unity of hierarchical level	Number of possible questions	Clear/non-leading questions
Portugal	Yes, see I.D.1	Yes	Yes, no constitutional referendum	No more than three questions	Yes
Russian Federation	No rule	No rule	No rule	Several questions can be put to the vote, as well as alternative versions of replies	The question must be clear and lead to a reply by "yes" or "no"
Spain	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule
Sweden	No rule, but see I.D.1	No rule	No rule	No rule	No rule

	I.E	I.F.1.a	I.F.1.b	I.F.1.c	I.F.1.d
I. National referendums	Substantive validity	Campaign: objective information	Explanatory note	Sources of campaign material	Public media
Portugal	Compliance with the constitution	The public authorities must demonstrate very strict impartiality and neutrality; The National Electoral Commission must draw up and provide all necessary objective information on the referendum	No rule	Political parties and coalitions of parties; groups of at least 5,000 voters; registration with the National Electoral Commission Public authorities prohibited from campaigning	Air time allocated according to criteria established by law to parties and groups involved in campaigning (radio and television). Equal conditions for all (free of charge)
Russian Federation	Compliance with the constitution; no restriction on universally recognised human and civic rights and personal freedoms and on the constitutional guarantees for their exercise	The Central Electoral Commission is required to publish the draft (state press and internet)	No	Political parties, social organisations and citizens, but not public authorities and officials, religious associations and charities, referendum commissions, foreign nationals and stateless persons	Equal opportunities must be given to the various campaign groups, which have the right to buy air time and advertising space in publications
Spain	No rule	No rule	No	No limit, but only the parties, coalitions and electoral groupings represented in Parliament have the right to free campaigning in the public media	Parties' right of access free of charge in proportion to their electoral strength. See I.F.1.c
Sweden	Compliance with the constitution	Parliament decides when the legislation on a specific referendum is passed	See I.F.1.a	See I.F.1.a	The media must provide balanced information and allocate equal air time to supporters and opponents

	I.F.1.e	I.F.2.a	I.F.2.b	I.F.3.a-b	I.F.3.c
I. National referendums	Private media	Use of public funds	Payment for the collection of signatures	Period allowed for voting	Mandatory vote
Portugal	Air time allocated according to criteria established by law to parties and groups involved in campaigning (radio and television). Equal conditions for all (free of charge) in other media, if they wish to intervene in the campaign	No	No rule	One day	No
Russian Federation	Must ensure equal financial conditions but can refuse to publish campaign information	Only for the organisation and running of the referendum and not for participation in setting up referendum funds	Authorised for persons who collect signatures	One day; early voting in the case of less accessible locations, boats, persons living abroad. Announcement of result after all polling stations have closed	No
Spain	The parties/groups cannot spend more than 20% of their budget on paid campaign publicity in the private media. Conditions must be equal for all parties/groups and no more expensive than for commercial advertising	No, but special rates for campaign mailing and access to the public media free of charge (I.F.1.d)	Not applicable	One day	No
Sweden	The private media may not carry any campaign advertising	See I.F.1.a	Not applicable	One day, postal voting over period of 30 days	No

	I.F.3.d	I.G	I.H.1	I.H.2	I.I.1
I. National referendums	Quorum	Effects of referendum	Parallellism in procedures	Revision of rules providing for a referendum	Time-limit for collection of signatures
Portugal	A referendum is legally binding only if more than 50 % of the citizens registered in the census participate In the event of a "yes" vote, Parliament or the Government is required to approve the international treaty or corresponding legislative act within 90 or 60 days respectively	See I.F.3.d	Not really, but if a position has been rejected in a referendum, a text confirming such a position may only be adopted by Parliament after a new parliamentary election	Constitutional rules: cannot be submitted to referendum	No time-limit
Russian Federation	Majority of the electorate	Legally binding; follow-up decisions must be taken within three months Resolatory	Yes, unless another procedure has been established by the provision submitted to referendum No new referendum for two or five years	No specific rule	45 days
Spain	No	Constitutional amendments: legally binding, suspensive Questions of particular importance: consultative	No	No specific rule	Not applicable
Sweden	No	Question relating to basic laws: legally binding, suspensive Other questions: consultative	No, at least from the legal point of view	No specific rule	Not applicable

	I.I.2	I.I.3	I.I.4	I.J.1	I.J.2
I. National referendums	Persons authorised to collect signatures	Checking of signatures	Correction of irregularities in the content of the question	Judicial review : principle	Judicial review of content
Portugal	No rule	Can be requested by Parliament from the competent authorities, by means of sampling	No	The Constitutional Court must rule <i>a priori</i> on the formal and substantive validity of the referendum	Formal and substantive validity of the referendum
Russian Federation	Action group, consisting of regional groups to be formed in most subjects of the Federation	The Central Electoral Commission verifies at least 40% of the necessary number of signatures	No	Yes	Violation of the constitution and the law
Spain	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Yes, under conditions provided for by the implementing law but not on the calling of a referendum	See I.J.1
Sweden	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not on calling a referendum, but on irregularities in the voting procedure	See I.J.1

	I.J.3	I.J.4	I.K.1	I.K.2	I.K.3
I. National referendums	Judicial review of results	Eligibility to appeal	Number of referendums	Initiative for holding referendums	Inadequate turnout
Portugal	Constitutional Court, as for political elections	President of the Republic (<i>ex officio</i> obligation), concerning <i>a priori</i> scrutiny Parties or groups that have participated in the campaign Every voter concerning scrutiny of the results (see I.J.2)	Two	One mandatory referendum One parliamentary initiative	One non-binding referendum owing to a very low turnout
Russian Federation	Yes	Person or body participating in the referendum	None since the approval of the constitution in the national referendum of 1993	Not applicable	Not applicable
Spain	Yes	Any party (political party, institution) concerned	One	Government	Not applicable
Sweden	Yes	No reply	Six consultative referendums since 1920 No legally binding referendum	Parliament	Not applicable

	I.K.4	I.K.5	I.K.6-8
I. National referendums	Referendums with a "yes" vote	Referendums with a "no" vote	Specific reasons for voting yes or no
Portugal	None	Two	No
Russian Federation	None	None	Not applicable
Spain	One	None	Perhaps the attitude of the Prime Minister
Sweden	Three In two cases: choice between three scenarios	One	No

	I.A.1	I.A.2	I.B.1	I.B.2	I.B.3
I. National referendums	Provision made for referendums in the constitution	Provision made for referendums in the law	Mandatory referendums	Referendums called by an authority	Referendum at the request of part of the electorate
Switzerland	Yes	Implementing legislation	Yes: Revision of the constitution, partial or total Membership of collective security organisations/supra-national communities Emergency laws that exclude the application of the constitution for more than one year	Eight cantons	50,000 citizens : laws (except for emergency laws in force for less than one year); federal orders if provided for by the constitution or law; certain international treaties 100,000 citizens: popular initiative: constitutional amendment, general popular initiative (not yet in force)
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	Yes	Implementing legislation	Changes in the national frontiers Joining or leaving a union with other states	Parliament, on the proposal of the Government, a member of Parliament or 10,000 citizens	10,000 citizens, proposal made to Parliament 150,000 citizens: the referendum must take place
Turkey	Yes, constitutional referendum	No	Constitutional amendment adopted by at least 3/5 but less than 2/3 of the members of the Grand National Assembly and not returned by the President of the Republic to the Assembly for reconsideration	President: constitutional amendment adopted by the Assembly by a 2/3 majority following the dismissal of the President	No

	I.B.4	I.B.5	I.C.1	I.C.2	I.D.1
I. National referendums	Procedure involving more than one authority	Role of Parliament	Texts submitted to referendum	Matters to which the referendum may relate	Form of the text submitted to referendum
Switzerland	Popular initiatives: Parliament examines validity; unity of form and unity of content	Popular initiatives: Parliament examines substantive validity and can make a counter-proposal (partial revision of the constitution) - recommends acceptance or rejection within 30 months of its being made - must propose a text to be put to the vote in the case of the adoption of a generally-worded proposal by the people	Constitution Laws Certain international treaties Federal orders if provided for by the constitution or law See I.B.1, I.B.3	No limit	Specifically-worded draft (Constitution including on popular initiative, law, international treaty) Question of principle (total revision of the constitution) Generally-worded proposal (popular initiative for amendments to the constitution and, in the near future, the law)
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	See I.B.2	See I.B.2; initiative of 150,000 citizens, the referendum must take place; legislative referendum: Parliament must pass legislation in accordance with the outcome of the referendum within 60 days	Any act falling within the competence of Parliament (Constitution, law, international treaty)	Any issue falling within the competence of Parliament, apart from matters relating to the budget, taxation, elections, appointments, dismissals and amnesties	No rule
Turkey	No	No	Constitutional amendment	No rule	Specifically-worded draft

	I.D.2.a	I.D.2.b	I.D.2.c	I.D.2.d	I.D.2.e
I. National referendums	Unity of form	Unity of content	Unity of hierarchical level	Number of possible questions	Clear/non-leading questions
Switzerland	Yes	Yes	Yes (the question will become concrete only with the introduction of the so-called "unique" initiative, which can be of a constitutional or a legislative nature)	Yes. A popular initiative and a counter-proposal may be put to the vote simultaneously	Yes
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	No rule	Yes	No rule	Yes	Yes
Turkey	Yes	No: decision of the Assembly on the provisions to be submitted to referendum	Yes, only constitutional amendment	Yes, decision of the Assembly	No rule

	I.E	I.F.1.a	I.F.1.b	I.F.1.c	I.F.1.d
I. National referendums	Substantive validity	Campaign: objective information	Explanatory note	Sources of campaign material	Public media
Switzerland	Limit: mandatory rules of international law	Authorities required to provide objective information	The Federal Council draws up an explanatory note, which must present the various points of view in a balanced manner	Any grouping or association concerned. The authorities may campaign, but see I.F.2.a	The media must provide equal exposure to both supporters and opponents
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	The legislative referendum must comply with the constitution and international treaties	Public media: see I.F.1.d	No	No rule	The public media must provide equal access to supporters and opponents of the proposal
Turkey	No limits	No reply	No reply	No reply	No reply

	I.F.1.e	I.F.2.a	I.F.2.b	I.F.3.a-b	I.F.3.c
I. National referendums	Private media	Use of public funds	Payment for the collection of signatures	Period allowed for voting	Mandatory vote
Switzerland	In principle, the financial and advertising conditions must be equal	Prohibited	Permitted	One day, but postal voting over the previous three weeks, and e-voting is becoming established	No, except for one canton
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	No rule	Only for the organisation and conduct of the referendum, but tax exemption for activities connected with the referendum	No rule	One day	No
Turkey	No reply	No reply	Not applicable	One day	Yes

	I.F.3.d	I.G	I.H.1	I.H.2	I.I.1
I. National referendums	Quorum	Effects of referendum	Parallelism in procedures	Revision of rules providing for a referendum	Time-limit for collection of signatures
Switzerland	No	Legally binding Suspensive in general Resolatory for emergency laws Parliament must draw up provisions if a generally-worded text initiated by the people is adopted	Yes	Submitted to mandatory referendum (Constitution) or optional referendum (law)	18 months for a popular initiative; 100 days for an optional referendum
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	Legislative referendum A majority of the electorate must participate in the vote	Legally binding, suspensive (prior referendum) Legislative referendum: Parliament must pass legislation in accordance with the outcome of the referendum within 60 days	Yes	No specific rule	Constitutional referendum: six months Legislative referendum: three months
Turkey	No	Legally binding, suspensive	No reply	No reply	Not applicable

	I.I.2	I.I.3	I.I.4	I.J.1	I.J.2
I. National referendums	Persons authorised to collect signatures	Checking of signatures	Correction of irregularities in the content of the question	Judicial review : principle	Judicial review of content
Switzerland	Citizens (in practice political parties)	Federal Chancellery	Yes, but before the collecting of signatures has begun	At federal level, appeal to the Federal Constitution only concerning the right to vote; otherwise, appeal to the Federal Council	Right to vote (cf. 1.I.1)
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	The Referendum Committee	Department for state administration of the Ministry of Justice	No	In principle no The Constitutional Court may take decisions on violations of fundamental rights or other constitutional provisions	See I.J.1
Turkey	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not on the decision to call a referendum, only procedural irregularities: Supreme Electoral Board	Procedural irregularities

	I.J.3	I.J.4	I.K.1	I.K.2	I.K.3
I. National referendums	Judicial review of results	Eligibility to appeal	Number of referendums	Initiative for holding referendums	Inadequate turnout
Switzerland	Not applicable	Not applicable	528 subjects (since 1848)	People, except for mandatory referendum (218 cases) One cantonal referendum	Not applicable
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	Yes, for a violation of the right to vote: appeal to the electoral commissions/ ordinary courts, depending on the case	Any citizen	Three (one on independence, one popular initiative, one legislative referendum)	Group of citizens (except for independence)	One case
Turkey	Procedural irregularities	No reply	Two	President	Not applicable

I. National referendums	I.K.4 Referendums with a "yes" vote	I.K.5 Referendums with a "no" vote	I.K.6-8 Specific reasons for voting yes or no
Switzerland	248	280	In general no
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	One	One	No reply
Turkey	Two	None	No