

**STUDY ON REFERENDUM
Draft Summary Table relating to National Referendums**

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|--|-------------------------|
| 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 | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| 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 | 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 | Albania |
| Andorra | Yes | Additional legislative provisions (qualified law) | Yes, constitutional revision | Head of Government + majority of the General Council: political issue | No | 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 | Andorra |
| 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 | President and Parliament: see I.B.2 | The referendum cannot take place without Parliament's agreement. See I.B.2 | Constitution Law | Any subject except for certain fundamental principles, duration of elected bodies, fundamental rights and matters for which other organs have exclusive responsibility | Armenia |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | | I.F.1.c |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | I. National referendums | Sources of campaign material |
| Constitutional text Law to be repealed (Particularly important) Question of principle | No rule but see I.D.1 | No rule | No rule | No rule | Particularly important question: must be clear, complete and unequivocal | Limits: territorial integrity, limitation of fundamental rights | No rule | No | Albania | No rule |
| Constitutional referendum: specifically-worded draft Political question: no specific form | See I.D.1 | No rule | Only for a constitutional referendum | No rule | No rule | Political question: must comply with the constitution and international agreements | No rule | No | Andorra | No rule |
| Specifically-worded draft | Yes, specifically-worded draft | Yes | Yes | Only one question | Question must be straightforward | No preventive control | No rule | No | Armenia | 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 |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|---|--|---------------------|--|---------------------------|----------------|--|---|-------------------------|---|---|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | I. National referendums | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| Equal time available to the political parties that support each alternative | No rule | No rule | No rule | One day | No | 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 | Albania | Yes | Not compulsorily submitted to referendum but special procedure (2/3 majority for constitutional rule and 3/5 majority for legislative provisions) |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | Not applicable | No rule | No | No | Constitutional referendum: legally binding and suspensive Referendum on an important issue: consultative | Andorra | Yes | Submitted to referendum in the case of a constitutional rule |
| No rule | No rule but a refusal to publish campaign information could be unwarranted | No | Not applicable | One day | No | 1/3 of registered voters must approve the draft proposal | Legally binding and suspensive | Armenia | Yes for the constitution and laws adopted by referendum; no for laws rejected by referendum | Submitted to referendum in the case of a constitutional rule |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|------------------------------|---|---|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | I. National referendums | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| None | 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) | No provision | Albania | Not applicable | None since the approval of the constitution by the national referendum of 28.11.1998 | Not applicable |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Yes | As for any other decision, especially dispute between organs | Yes | Andorra | 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 | 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) | Yes, Constitutional Court | Armenia | President or 1/3 of MPs | One (constitutional revision) | President |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| Not applicable | Referendum on the adoption of the constitution | No | No |
| Requirement of 1/3 of electorate not met | None | One (see I.K.3) | No reply |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| 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 | 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 | Austria |
| 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 | 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 | Azerbaijan |
| Belgium | No | No | No | Yes, one referendum (in 1950) at the request of Parliament | No | No | See column I.B.2 | No rule | No rule | Belgium |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|--|----------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| Legally binding referendum: specifically-worded draft or dismissal of the President Consultative referendum: issue of principle | 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 | No limits | The authorities must not disseminate non-objective or disproportionate mass campaign support information. They may campaign but must provide neutral information. | No | Austria | No limit. See I.F.1.a |
| No rule | No | No | No | Permitted | No rule | No limits provided for | The text must be available | No | Azerbaijan | Any citizen or group of citizens may campaign but not the authorities |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No | Belgium | No rule |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|--|---|--|--|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| Public broadcasters must provide the public with objective and impartial information and ensure diversity of opinion | 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 | 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 | Austria | 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 |
| A balance between supporters and opponents must be observed | 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 | 25 % of the electorate must vote | Legally binding | Azerbaijan | Yes | Submitted to referendum |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | Not applicable | One day | Yes (one case) | No | Consultative | Belgium | Not applicable (no legally binding referendum) | Not applicable |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | No | Not applicable | Appeal to the constitutional Court concerning a violation of procedural rules | Austria | 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 | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | The Constitutional Court rules on draft amendments to the constitution | No specific rule | No | Azerbaijan | Not applicable | One (on constitutional amendments) since the adoption of the constitution | President |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | No | Not applicable | No | Belgium | Not applicable | One (on the monarchy, 1950) - constitutional basis challenged | Parliament |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Not applicable | One | One | No |
| No | One | No | Role of the President |
| Not applicable | One | No | No |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | I. National referendums |
|-------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|--|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| Bulgaria | Yes | Yes, Referendum Act | No | Parliament decides, on the proposal of: One quarter of MPs Council of Ministers President of the Republic | No | See I.B.2 | See I.B.2 | Questions 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 | Bulgaria |
| 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) | 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 | Croatia |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|--|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| No rule. The only possible answers must be yes or no | No rule | Yes | Yes, no constitutional referendum | Yes | Yes | No reply | No rule | No | Bulgaria | No rule |
| No specifically-worded drafts | No specifically-worded drafts | No rule | No rule | No rule | Requirement of clarity and possibility of replying yes or no | 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 | Croatia | No reply |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.2 | |
|--|--|--|--|---------------------------|----------------|--|---|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum | |
| Must give equal time to supporters and opponents | Must give equal time to supporters and opponents | The state alone bears the costs of organising a referendum | Not applicable | One day | No | 50% turnout | Legally binding If necessary, Parliament adopts the legal instruments required to implement the decision taken by referendum | Bulgaria | No | No specific rule |
| No rule | 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 | 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 | Croatia | 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 |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|--------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Parliament's decision on whether to call a referendum or not: Constitutional Court Legality of results: Supreme Administrative Court Review of constitutionality | See I.J.1 | Supreme Administrative Court | Bulgaria | Legality of results: bodies with the right to propose a referendum | None | Not applicable |
| 15 days | 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 | Yes, State Commission, then Constitutional Court | Croatia | Any voter | No case since independence | Not applicable |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|---|--|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| Cyprus | No | Referendums Law of 1989 | No | Parliament on a proposal by the Council of Ministers | No | 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 | Cyprus |
| Czech Republic | Yes; a constitutional law is due to be passed to make referendums possible | No | Accession to the European Union | Yes, President of the Republic (accession to the European Union) | No | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | Czech Republic |
| 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 | 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 | Denmark |
| Estonia | Yes | No other cases | Two chapters of the constitution : "General Provisions" and "Amendments to the constitution"; law complementing the constitution (on the European Union) | Parliament | No | 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 | Estonia |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|--|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| Determined by the Council of Ministers | No | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No specific rules. The Constitution is the supreme law and international law takes precedence over domestic law | No rule | No | Cyprus | No limit |
| Question of principle (accession to the European Union); otherwise no rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | A referendum may not provide for any restrictions on fundamental rights or the obligations of individuals | No rule | No, only publication of the text | Czech Republic | No rule |
| Specifically-worded draft | Specifically-worded draft | No rule | No rule | Yes | No rule | Compliance with the constitution (except for constitutional amendments) and, in practice, international law | No reply | No reply | Denmark | No reply |
| Specifically-worded draft or "question of national interest" | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | A draft law must be constitutional | No rule | No rule | Estonia | No rule |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|--|--|---------------------|--|--|----------------|---|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | I. National referendums | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| The media must allocate equal time to supporters and opponents | The media must allocate equal time to supporters and opponents | No rule | Not applicable | One day | No | No | No rule | Cyprus | No | No specific rule |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | Not applicable | Two days | No | No | Legally binding and suspensive (accession to the European Union) | Czech Republic | No rule | No rule |
| No reply | No reply | No reply | Not applicable | No reply | No reply | 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 | Denmark | Yes, for provisions submitted to compulsory referendum | No specific rule |
| No rule | 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 | No | Legally binding. In the case of a referendum on a "question of national interest", Parliament can be asked to pass a law | Estonia | No rule | Mandatory referendums only for constitutional rules relating to amendments to the constitution |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|------------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| Not applicable | 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 | No | Cyprus | No | A referendum on the United Nations plan | President |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Yes, Constitutional Court | Compliance of the procedure with the regulations | Yes (accession to the European Union) | Czech Republic | No rule | One (accession to the European Union) | President of the Republic |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Yes, courts | No reply | No reply | Denmark | Legal interest | Fourteen (17 questions) | One mandatory referendum One parliamentary initiative |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Yes | Concerning the unconstitutionality of a rule or a breach of procedure | Yes, in the case of a breach of procedure | Estonia | Any person whose rights have been infringed | One (constitutional amendment concerning accession to the European Union) | Parliament |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Not applicable | No (except for Northern Cyprus) | Yes (Greek Cypriots) | No |
| Not applicable | One | No | No |
| No | Nine | Five (eight questions) | No reply |
| Not applicable | One | No | No |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| Finland | Yes | Law passed for each referendum | No | Act of Parliament, passed on the proposal of the Government or MPs | No | 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 | Finland |
| 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 | 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 | France |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|--|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| No general rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No general rule | Yes, when the referendum on accession to the European Union was held | Finland | No limit |
| Specifically-worded draft | 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 | In practice, no limit | No explicit obligation but normal practice | Drawn up by the Government and checked by the constitutional Council | France | See I.F.1.d |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|---------|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| Must be neutral | 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 | No | Consultative | Finland | Not applicable, referendum only consultative | No specific rule |
| 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 | 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 | No | Legally binding. In general, the result of the referendum entails the adoption of other decisions Suspensive referendum | France | No provision | No specific rule |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | No specific rule | No rule | No specific rule | Finland | No specific rule | Two | Special Acts of Parliament |
| Not applicable | 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 | Constitutional Council | France | Representatives of the state, voters in specific cases | Nine since 1958 | Executive |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| No | Two | None | No |
| Not applicable | 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.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | I. National referendums |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| Georgia | Yes | Implementing law | No | Parliament / President of the Republic | 200,000 voters | 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 | Georgia |
| 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 | See I.B.2 | See I.B.2 | Laws Questions of principle | Crucial national issues Important social issues (not taxation) | Greece |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|---|--|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| Question of principle | Yes | No reply | No reply | No reply | No reply | No reply | No rule | No | Georgia | Citizens, political parties, groups of citizens, action committees. Members of the referendum (electoral) commissions do not have the right to campaign |
| Draft law Question of principle (particularly important) | Yes (draft law or question of principle) | No rule | Yes, no constitutional referendum | No rule | Yes | The text must be in conformity with higher-ranking law (Constitution, general international law and duly ratified treaties) | No reply | No reply | Greece | No reply |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I.F.3.c | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|--------------|---------------|--|--|--|----------------|---------|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | I. National referendums | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| No rule | 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 | No | Legally binding The legislative and executive bodies must bring the legislation and other legal instruments into compliance with the outcome of the referendum | Georgia | Yes | No specific rule |
| No reply | No reply | No reply | Not applicable | One day | Yes | No | Legally binding Suspensive | Greece | Contentious | No provision for a referendum |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|--|---|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| No | No limit | Every signature must be checked by a notary or local authorities | No | Yes, Constitutional Court | Constitutionality of calling the referendum | No reply | Georgia | Depending on the case: 1/5 of MPs Ombudsman President of Georgia | No reply | No reply |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | No | Not applicable | Special Supreme Court | Greece | Registered voters | Six in the periods of transition | No reply |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
| Not applicable | No reply | No reply | No reply |
| 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 | 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 |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| 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 | 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) | Hungary |
| 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 | 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 | Ireland |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|---|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| Specifically-worded draft Questions of principle, generally-worded proposals | 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 | No explicit rule. A referendum on international obligations is not possible | No rule | No | Hungary | No rule. The authorities may campaign |
| Specifically-worded draft | Yes (specifically-worded draft) | No rule | Yes | There may be several questions | Yes (specifically-worded draft) | 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 | Ireland | No limits, but public funds cannot be used for campaigning purposes |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|---|--|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|----------------|--|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| Equal opportunities for campaigning must be granted | No rule | No rule | No rule | One day | No | 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 | Hungary | No | Referendum not mandatory |
| Requirement to be fair to all interests | Requirement for the audiovisual media to be fair | Not for campaigning purposes | Not applicable | One day | No | Legislative referendum: the proposal is rejected if one-third of registered voters vote against it | Legally binding Suspensive | Ireland | Yes, for the constitution | Constitutional rules must be submitted to referendum |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|--------------------------|---|--|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| Four months | No limit | National Elections Board | No | Constitutional Court: verification of the question by the National Elections Board | Any violation of formal or substantive rules | Yes, ordinary courts | Hungary | Registered voters | Four since 1989 (two legally binding and two consultative) | The Government on two occasions and political parties on the other two occasions |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | No, at least in principle | No example | Yes, only procedural questions | Ireland | Director of Public Prosecutions, voters | 28 constitutional referendums since 1937 | Parliament |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| One case | Three | One | No |
| Not applicable | Twenty-one | Seven | No |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| Italy | Yes, national and regional referendums | Additional legislative provisions | Not at national level | Five regional councils | Abrogative legislation referendum Constitutional referendum (500,000 voters) | 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 | Italy |
| 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 | 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 | Latvia |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|--|---------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|---|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| Specifically-worded draft | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes. Each law must be put separately to the vote | Yes | Limits: International obligations of the state Constitution Provisions of ordinary law that cannot be repealed by referendum | No rule | No | Italy | No rule |
| No rule; specifically-worded drafts and questions of principle already submitted to referendum | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule, but the Central Electoral Commission is tasked with drawing up "neutral" information texts | No | Latvia | No rule |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|--|--|---------------------|--|---------------------------|----------------|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | | | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| The media must allocate equal time to the various political groups | The same conditions must be granted to both supporters and opponents | No rule | Authorised | One day | No | Abrogative legislative referendum: The majority of the electorate must participate in the vote | Legally binding Constitutional: suspensive Legislative: abrogative | Italy | Yes | Submitted to referendum in the same way as other constitutional and legal rules |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | One day | No | 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 | Latvia | Yes, for constitutional provisions submitted to mandatory referendum | Mandatory referendum; rules on constitutional provisions submitted to mandatory referendum |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|--|---|--|---|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| Three months for the constitutional referendum; abrogative referendum: may be filed between 1 January and 30 September | 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 | Decision of a judicial authority | Italy | 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 |
| No reply | No limit | Central Electoral Commission | No | Decisions of the Central Electoral Commission: courts Decisions of the President or Parliament: Constitutional Court | Procedure | Decisions of the Central Electoral Commission: courts | Latvia | 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 |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Eighteen | One constitutional amendment Nineteen abrogative referendums | Sixteen abrogative referendums | No reply |
| One case | Two | None | No |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| 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) | 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 | Lithuania |
| Luxembourg | Yes | No | No | Yes, Parliament decides | No, but planned | 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 | Luxembourg |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|--|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| Specifically-worded draft Very important issues | 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 | 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 | Lithuania | No rule |
| No rule. Ad hoc or general law has to be passed | No rule | No rule | Yes, no constitutional referendum | No rule | No rule | The principle of the hierarchy of norms must be upheld | No rule | No rule | Luxembourg | No rule |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|---|--|---------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| Equality between supporters and opponents in public radio and television debates, with at least 7 hours for each side | No expenses beyond the amount set aside in the special election account for the referendum | No rule | No rule | One day | No | 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 | Lithuania | No | Constitutional rules: mandatory referendum |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | No popular initiative to date | One day | Yes, apart from special law | No rule | No rule, but the referendum on the European Constitution will be legally binding Referendums of 1919 and 1937: consultative | Luxembourg | In principle no. The special law determines this | No mandatory referendum to date |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|-------------------------------|---|---|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|---|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| Three months | Citizens | Central Electoral Commission | No | Appeal to the constitutional Court against a decision of Parliament | Review of conformity with higher-ranking law | No reply | Lithuania | Government, 1/5 of MPs, courts (review of constitutionality) | Six since 1992 (legally binding) | Five: Parliament One: popular initiative |
| No popular initiative to date | No popular initiative to date | No popular initiative to date | No popular initiative to date | No rule | No rule | No rule | Luxembourg | No rule | Two: 1919 (two questions) and 1937 (both consultative) | Government, with the approval of Parliament |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Two cases | Two | Two | No |
| No | Two (one question on retaining the monarch' or other choices relating to the political system) | One | No |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| 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 | 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 (abrogative referendum) Law Any other issue if the relevant decision is taken by Parliament | Abrogative popular initiative referendum ruled out in particular for: Constitution; law on the European Convention; electoral law; tax laws; laws implementing treaties | Malta |
| Netherlands | No | Temporary Law (2002-2004) | No | No | Introductory request by 40,000 voters, definitive request by 600,000 voters; concerns text already adopted | 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 | Netherlands |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I.E | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|--|---------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----|-------------------------|--|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | | Sources of campaign material |
| No rule; abrogative referendum: law | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No limit | No specific rule | No | | Malta | No rule |
| Specifically-worded draft | 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 | No rule | Text made available at town halls | Summary of the law sent to voters at least two weeks before the vote | | Netherlands | Any voter and group of voters; the authorities can provide information |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|--|---------------|---|--|--|----------------|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | I. National referendums | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| Balance must be guaranteed | No rule | Allowed for information purposes but not for campaigning | No rule | One day, unless special law is enacted | No | 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 | Malta | Yes | Mandatory referendums only for constitutional rules submitted to mandatory referendum |
| No rule, but the time reserved for the parties on radio and television can be used for the referendum campaign | 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 | 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 | Netherlands | 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) |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|--|--|------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| No | Any voter | Electoral Commission | No rule | Constitutional Court | Any constitutional issue | Constitutional Court | Malta | Any voter; Attorney General | One, since independence | Government, after a vote by Parliament |
| Three weeks for the introductory request, six weeks for the definitive request; no actual collection of signatures as people register at the town hall | 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 | Yes, see I.J.1 | Netherlands | Any person affected | None | Not applicable |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Not applicable | Two | None | By and large, the voters voted for or against the Government |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|-------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|---|-------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| Norway | No | Special acts of Parliament for the two referendums that have been held | No | Special acts of Parliament | No | No | Referendums based on special acts of Parliament | Membership of the European Communities, then the European Union | No rule | Norway |
| Poland | Yes | National Referendum Act | No | Sejm President of the Republic with the approval of the Senate; 1/5 of MPs, the Senate or the President can call for a referendum in the case of amendments to certain fundamental provisions of the constitution | 500,000 citizens, with the approval of the Sejm | 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 | Poland |
| Portugal | Yes | Implementing law (implementation and development) | Yes, only regionalisation | President and Parliament; President and Government | 75,000 citizens, with the approval of Parliament | See I.B.2 and I.B.3 | See I.B.2 and I.B.3 | Ordinary law International treaty (not the constitution) | All, except for: - Financial matters - Issues that cannot be delegated by Parliament | Portugal |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I.F.1.c | |
|---|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | I. National referendums | Sources of campaign material |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No reply | No reply | Norway | No reply |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | Possible | Yes | 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 | Poland | Political parties, associations, foundations and other bodies |
| Questions of principle or generally-worded proposals, not specifically-worded texts | Yes, see I.D.1 | Yes | Yes, no constitutional referendum | No more than three questions | Yes | 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 | Portugal | Political parties and coalitions of parties; groups of at least 5,000 voters; registration with the National Electoral Commission Public authorities prohibited from campaigning |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|---|---|--|--|---------------------------|----------------|--|--|-------------------------|---|---|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | I. National referendums | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| No reply | No reply | No reply | Not applicable | No reply | No reply | No reply | Consultative | Norway | Not really applicable | Not applicable |
| Must give equal time to all groups or organisations | No rule | Preparation and organisation of the referendum covered by public funds | No rule | One or two days | No | 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 | Poland | No | No specific rule |
| Air time allocated under the National Referendums Act to parties and groups involved in campaigning (radio and television) . Equal conditions for all | Air time allocated under the National Referendums Act to parties and groups involved in campaigning (radio and television) . Equal conditions for all | No | No rule | One day | No | A referendum is legally binding only if a majority 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 | Portugal | Not really, but if a text has been rejected in a referendum it can only be adopted by Parliament after a new parliamentary election | Constitutional rules: cannot be submitted to referendum |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | No reply | No reply | No reply | Norway | No reply | Two: 1972 and 1994 (membership of the European Communities, then the European Union) | Special acts of Parliament |
| No time-limit | 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 | No reply | Poland | 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 time-limit | No rule | Can be requested by Parliament from the competent authorities, by means of sampling | No rule | The Constitutional Court must rule on the formal and substantive validity of the referendum | Formal and substantive validity of the referendum | Constitutional Court, as for political elections | Portugal | Parties or groups that have participated in the campaign | Two | One mandatory referendum One parliamentary initiative |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| No | None | Two | No reply |
| No | Two | None | No reply |
| One non-binding referendum owing to a very low turnout | None | Two | No |

| | I.A.1 | I.A.2 | I.B.1 | I.B.2 | I.B.3 | I.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|---------------------------|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| Russian Federation | Yes | Constitutional law | No, unless provided for by international treaty | Constituent organ of the federal state 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 | No | In principle not | New constitution in its entirety Other instruments, including international treaties | No limit | Russian Federation |
| 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 | See I.B.2 | See I.B.2 | Constitution Questions of particular importance | No rule | Spain |
| Sweden | Yes | Implementing legislation | No | Parliament (only) | No | No | Parliament decides on whether to hold a referendum (by ordinary law) | Question relating to basic laws Any other issue (consultative referendum) | No limit | Sweden |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|--|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | Several questions can be put to the vote, as well as alternative versions of replies | No rule | 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 | Russian Federation | Political parties, social organisations and citizens, but not public authorities and officials, religious associations and charities, referendum commissions, foreign nationals and stateless persons |
| Constitutional text Issue of particular importance | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | No | Spain | No limit, but only the parties, coalitions and electoral groupings represented in Parliament have the right to free campaigning in the public media |
| Questions of principle (with possible choice between alternatives) | No rule, but see I.D.1 | No rule | No rule | No rule | No rule | Compliance with the constitution | Parliament decides when the legislation on a specific referendum is passed | See I.F.1.a | Sweden | See I.F.1.a |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|--|--|--|---|---|----------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|--|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | I. National referendums | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| Equal opportunities must be given to the various campaign groups, which have the right to buy air time and advertising space in publications | 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 | Majority of the electorate | Legally binding; follow-up decisions must be taken within three months Resolutive | Russian Federation | Yes, unless another procedure has been established by the provision submitted to referendum | No specific rule |
| Parties' right of access free of charge in proportion to their electoral strength. See I.F.1.c | 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 | No | Constitutional amendments: legally binding, suspensive Questions of particular importance: consultative | Spain | No | No specific rule |
| The media must provide balanced information and allocate equal air time to supporters and opponents | 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 | No | Question relating to basic laws: legally binding, suspensive Other questions: consultative | Sweden | No, at least from the legal point of view | No specific rule |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| 45 days | 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 | Yes | Russian Federation | Person or body participating in the referendum | None since the approval of the constitution in the national referendum of 1993 | Not applicable |
| Not applicable | 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 | Yes | Spain | Any party (political party, institution) concerned | One | Government |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not on calling a referendum, but on irregularities in the voting procedure | See I.J.1 | Yes | Sweden | No reply | Six consultative referendums since 1920 No legally binding referendum | Parliament |

| I.K.3 Inadequate turnout | 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 |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Not applicable | None | None | Not applicable |
| Not applicable | One | None | Perhaps the attitude of the Prime Minister |
| Not applicable | 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.B.4 | I.B.5 | I.C.1 | I.C.2 | I. National referendums |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| I. National referendums | Provision made for referendums in the constitution | Referendum provided for by the law | Mandatory referendums | Referendums called by an authority | Referendum at the request of part of the electorate | Procedure involving more than one authority | Role of Parliament | Texts submitted to referendum | Matters to which the referendum may relate | I. National referendums |
| Switzerland | Yes | Implementing legislation | Yes: Amendments to the constitution 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) | Popular initiatives: Parliament examines validity | Popular initiatives: Parliament examines 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 Certain other acts See I.B.1, I.B.3 | No limit | Switzerland |
| "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 | 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 | "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" |
| 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 | No | No | Constitutional amendment | No rule | Turkey |

| I.D.1 | I.D.2.a | I.D.2.b | I.D.2.c | I.D.2.d | I.D.2.e | I.E | I.F.1.a | I.F.1.b | I. National referendums | I.F.1.c |
|---|---------------|--|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Form of the text submitted to referendum | Unity of form | Unity of content | Unity of hierarchical level | Number of possible questions | Clear/non-leading questions | Substantive validity | Campaign: objective information | Explanatory note | | Sources of campaign material |
| 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) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes. A popular initiative and a counter-proposal are put to the vote simultaneously | Yes | 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 | Switzerland | Any grouping or association concerned. The authorities may campaign, but see I.F.2.a |
| No rule | No rule | Yes | No rule | Yes | Yes | The legislative referendum must comply with the constitution and international treaties | Public media: see I.F.1.d | No | "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" | No rule |
| Specifically-worded draft | 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 | No limits | No reply | No reply | Turkey | No reply |

| I.F.1.d | I.F.1.e | I.F.2.a | I.F.2.b | I.F.3.a-b | I.F.3.c | I.F.3.d | I.G | I. National referendums | I.H.1 | I.H.2 |
|--|--|---|--|---|---------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------|---|
| Public media | Private media | Use of public funds | Payment for the collection of signatures | Period allowed for voting | Mandatory vote | Quorum | Effects of referendum | I. National referendums | Parallelism in procedures | Revision of rules providing for a referendum |
| The media must provide equal exposure to both supporters and opponents | In principle, the financial and advertising conditions must be equal | Prohibited | Permitted | One day, but postal voting over a period of three weeks, and e-voting is becoming established | No, except for one canton | 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 | Switzerland | Yes | Submitted to mandatory referendum (Constitution) or optional referendum (law) |
| The public media must provide equal access to supporters and opponents of the proposal | 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 | 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 | "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" | Yes | No specific rule |
| No reply | No reply | No reply | Not applicable | One day | Yes | No | Legally binding, suspensive | Turkey | No reply | No reply |

| I.I.1 | I.I.2 | I.I.3 | I.I.4 | I.J.1 | I.J.2 | I.J.3 | I. National referendums | I.J.4 | I.K.1 | I.K.2 |
|---|--|--|---|---|----------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| Time-limit for collection of signatures | Persons authorised to collect signatures | Checking of signatures | Correction of irregularities in the content of the question | Judicial review : principle | Judicial review of content | Judicial review of results | | Eligibility to appeal | Number of referendums | Initiative for holding referendums |
| 18 months for a popular initiative ; 100 days for an optional referendum | Citizens (in practice political parties) | Federal Chancellery | Yes, but before the collecting of signatures has begun | Not at federal level | Not applicable | Not applicable | Switzerland | Not applicable | 528 subjects (since 1848) | People, except for mandatory referendum (218 cases) One cantonal referendum |
| Constitutional referendum: six months Legislative referendum: three months | 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 | Yes, for a violation of the right to vote: appeal to the electoral commissions/ ordinary courts, depending on the case | "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" | Any citizen | Three (one on independence, one popular initiative, one legislative referendum) | Group of citizens (except for independence) |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not on the decision to call a referendum, only procedural irregularities: Supreme Electoral Board | Procedural irregularities | Procedural irregularities | Turkey | No reply | Two | President |

| I.K.3 | I.K.4 | I.K.5 | I.K.6-8 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Inadequate turnout | Referendums with a "yes" vote | Referendums with a "no" vote | Specific reasons for voting yes or no |
| Not applicable | 248 | 280 | In general no |
| One case | One | One | No reply |
| Not applicable | Two | None | No |