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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS
ON LIMITS ON PRESIDENTIAL TERMS**

**IN VENICE COMMISSION MEMBER STATES
AND OTHER SELECTED COUNTRIES
WITH A DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ELECTED HEAD OF STATE**

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Albania	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 88 1. The President of the Republic is in every case elected for 5 years, with the right to be reelected only once.</p>
Algeria	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms reinstated in 2016</p> <p>Art. 88 La durée du mandat présidentiel est de cinq (5) ans. Le Président de la République est rééligible une seule fois.</p>
Armenia	<p>Yes, one 7-year term, absolute ban on re-election</p> <p>Article 124 3. The same person may be elected as President of the Republic only once.</p>
Argentina	<p>Yes, two consecutive 4-year terms</p> <p>Article 90. The President and Vice-President shall hold their offices for the term of four years; and they may be re- elected or may succeed each other for only one consecutive term. If they have been re-elected or they have succeeded each other, they cannot be elected for either of these two positions but with the interval of one term.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Austria	<p>Yes, two consecutive 6-year terms</p> <p>Article 60 (5) The Federal President holds office for six years. Reelection for the immediately following term of office is admissible once only.</p>
Azerbaijan	<p>No provision.</p> <p>A two-term limitation was removed by referendum in 2009.</p>
Belarus	<p>No provision.</p> <p>A two-term limitation was removed by referendum in 2004.</p>
Bolivia	<p>No; the provision on two consecutive 5-year terms was annulled by the Constitutional Court in November 2017.</p> <p>Articulo 168 – annulled in November 2017 El periodo de mandato de la Presidenta o del Presidente y de la Vicepresidenta o del Vicepresidente del Estado es de cinco años, y pueden ser reelectas o reelectos por una sola vez de manera continua.</p>
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<p>Yes, two consecutive 4-year terms</p> <p>Article V: Presidency 1. Election and Term Members shall be eligible to succeed themselves once and shall thereafter be ineligible for four years.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Brazil	<p>Yes, two consecutive 4-year terms</p> <p>Article 14 Paragraph 5. The President of the Republic, the State and Federal District Governors, the Mayors and those who have succeeded or replaced them during their terms of office may be reelected for only one subsequent term.</p>
Bulgaria	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 95 1. The President and the Vice President shall be eligible for only one re-election to the same office.</p>
Chile	<p>Yes, four-year term, no consecutive reelection</p> <p>Article 25 The President of the Republic shall hold office for a term of four (4) years and may not be re-elected for the following period.</p>
Colombia	<p>Yes, one four-year term, absolute ban on re-election</p> <p>Article 197 May not be elected President of the Republic the citizen who for whatever reason has held the presidency. This prohibition does not blanket the Vice President when exercised for less than three months, continuously or discontinuously, during the four years. The prohibition of reelection only be amended or repealed by referendum of popular initiative or constituent assembly.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Costa Rica	<p>No provision</p> <p>An absolute ban on re-election was abolished with the constitutional reform of 2003.</p>
Croatia	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 95</p> <p>The President of the Republic shall be elected directly by secret ballot, on the basis of universal and equal suffrage, for a term of five years.</p> <p>No one shall be elected President of the Republic more than twice.</p>
Cyprus	<p>No provision</p>
Czech Republic	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 57</p> <p>(2) No person may be elected President more than twice in succession.</p>
Ecuador	<p>Yes, two four-year terms.</p> <p>A referendum of February 2018 annulled a constitutional provision of 2015 which had removed the limits on presidential re-election</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Estonia	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 80 The President of the Republic shall be elected for a term of five years. No person may be elected to the office of President of the Republic for more than two consecutive terms.</p>
Finland	<p>Yes, two consecutive 6-year terms</p> <p>Section 54 - Election of the President of the Republic The same person may be elected President for no more than two consecutive terms of office.</p>
France	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 6 The President of the Republic shall be elected for a term of five years by direct universal suffrage. No one may carry out more than two consecutive terms of office.</p>
Georgia	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 70 1. The President of Georgia shall be elected on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot for a term of five years. The same person may be elected the President only for two consecutive terms.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Germany	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 54 (2) The term of office of the Federal President shall be five years. Reelection for a consecutive term shall be permitted once only.</p>
Greece	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 30 1. The President of the Republic shall regulate the function of the institutions of the Republic. He shall be elected by Parliament for a term of five years, as specified in articles 32 and 33. 5. Re-election of the same person as President is permitted only once.</p>
Hungary	<p>Yes, two 5-years terms</p> <p>Article 10 (1) Parliament shall elect the President of the Republic for five years. (3) The President of the Republic may be re-elected only once.</p>
Iceland	<p>No provision</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Ireland	<p>Yes, two 7-year terms</p> <p>Article 12</p> <p>3. 1o The President shall hold office for seven years from the date upon which he enters upon his office, unless before the expiration of that period he dies, or resigns, or is removed from office, or becomes permanently incapacitated, such incapacity being established to the satisfaction of the Supreme Court consisting of not less than five judges.</p> <p>2o A person who holds, or who has held, office as President, shall be eligible for re-election to that office once, but only once.</p>
Israel	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Basic Law: The President of the State</p> <p>4. Eligibility</p> <p>Every Israel national who is a resident of Israel is qualified to be a candidate for the office of President of the State. A person who has held office as President of the State for two successive periods shall not be a candidate in the election for the period immediately following.</p>
Italy	<p>No provision</p>
Kazakhstan	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms; exception for first President</p> <p>Article 42</p> <p>5. One and the same person may not be elected the President of the Republic more than two times in a row. The present restriction shall not extend on the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Korea, Republic	<p>Yes, one 5-year term, absolute prohibition on re-election</p> <p>Article 70 [Term] The term of office of the President is five years, and the President cannot be reelected.</p>
Kosovo	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 87</p> <p>2. The President's term of office is five (5) years. 3. Upon completion of his/her first term of office, the President of the Republic of Kosovo may be re-elected only once.</p>
Kyrgyzstan	<p>Yes, one 6-year term, absolute prohibition on re-election</p> <p>Article 61 2. One and the same person may not be elected President twice.</p>
Latvia	<p>Yes, two consecutive 4-year terms</p> <p>Article 39 The same person shall not hold office as President for more than eight consecutive years</p>
Lithuania	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 78 The President of the Republic shall be elected by the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania for a five-year term by universal, equal, and direct suffrage by secret ballot. The same person may not be elected the President of the Republic for more than two consecutive terms.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Malta	<p>Yes, one 5- year term, absolute prohibition on re-election</p> <p>Article 123 (1) Save as otherwise provided in this Constitution, where any person has vacated any office established by this Constitution including the office of Prime Minister or other Minister or Parliamentary Secretary, he may, if qualified, again be appointed, elected or otherwise selected to hold that office in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.</p> <p>(2) Sub-article (1) of this article shall not apply to the office of President, but shall apply to a person appointed to perform the functions of President in accordance with article 49 of the Constitution.</p>
Mexico	<p>Yes, one 6-year term, absolute prohibition on re-election</p> <p>Article 83</p> <p>The President of the Republic shall assume the duties of office on October 1st, and shall remain in charge for a term of six years. A citizen who has served as President of the Republic, either elected, interim, provisional or substitute, in no case can again hold that office.</p>
Moldova, Republic	<p>Yes, two consecutive 4-year terms</p> <p>Article 80 - Term of Office (4) No person may discharge the duties of the President of the Republic of Moldova unless for two consecutive mandates at the most.</p>
Montenegro	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 97 - Mandate The President of Montenegro shall be elected for the period of five years. The same person may be elected the President of Montenegro maximum two times.</p>

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Peru	<p>Yes, 5-year term, no consecutive reelection</p> <p>Article 112. The presidential mandate is for five years. There is no immediate reelection. Ex-president may run again following at least one constitutional term subject to the same conditions.</p>
Poland	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 127 2. The President of the Republic shall be elected for a 5-year term of office and may be re-elected only for one more term.</p>
Portugal	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 123 (Eligibility for re-election) 1. Re-election to a third consecutive term of office, or during the five years immediately following the end of a second consecutive term of office, is not permitted. 2. If the President of the Republic resigns, he may not stand again in the next election, or in any that take place in the five years immediately following his resignation.</p>
Romania	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 81 – Election of the President (4) No one may hold the office of President of Romania but two terms at the most, that can also be consecutive.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Russia	<p>Yes, two consecutive 6-year terms</p> <p>Article 81 3. The same person may not hold President's office for more than two consecutive terms.</p>
San Marino	<p>Yes, unlimited non- consecutive 6-month terms</p> <p>Art.2 (Requisiti) <u>Legge qualificata sui Capitani Reggenti</u> 2. I Capitani Reggenti cessati di carica non sono rieleggibili prima che siano trascorsi tre anni dalla fine del precedente mandato.</p>
Serbia	<p>Yes, two 5 year terms</p> <p>Article 116 – Term of office No one shall be elected to a position of the President of the Republic more than twice.</p>
Slovakia	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 103 (2) The same person may be elected President for not more than two consecutive terms.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Slovenia	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 103 Election of the President of the Republic The President of the Republic shall be elected for a term of five years and may be elected for a maximum of two consecutive terms.</p>
South Africa	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>88 Term of office of President (2) No person may hold office as President for more than two terms, but when a person is elected to fill a vacancy in the office of President, the period between that election and the next election of a President is not regarded as a term.</p>
Switzerland	<p>Yes, unlimited non-consecutive 1-year terms</p> <p>Article 176. Presidency 2 The Federal Parliament shall elect, for a term of one year, one of the members of the Federal Government as President of the Confederation, and another as Vice- President of the Federal Government. 3 These mandates may not be renewed for the following year. The President of the Confederation shall not be eligible to be Vice-President for the following year.</p>
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 80 A person may be elected President of the Republic twice at the most.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
Tunisia	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 75 No-one can occupy the post of presidency for more than two full terms, whether consecutive or separate. In the case of resignation, the term counts as a full term. The constitution may not be amended to increase the number or the length of presidential terms.</p>
Turkey	<p>Yes, two 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 101. The President of the Republic can be elected to two terms at most.</p> <p>Article 116 The Grand National Assembly may decide to renew elections with a three-fifths majority of the total number of members. In this case, general election of the Grand National Assembly and presidential elections shall be held together. In the case of that the President decides to renew the elections, general election of the Grand National Assembly and presidential elections shall be held together. <u>Where the renewal of the elections is decided by the Grand National Assembly during the second term of the President, he/she may run [for the presidency] once more.</u> The powers of the Assembly and the President of the Republic of which the renewal of elections is decided together, shall continue until these organs take the offices. The terms of offices of the Assembly and the President elected in this manner shall also be five years."</p>
Ukraine	<p>Yes, two consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 103 One and the same person shall not be the President of Ukraine for more than two consecutive terms.</p>

Country	Constitutional provisions on limits on re-election of Presidents
United States of America	<p>Yes, two 4-year terms</p> <p>AMENDMENT XXII (1951) Section 1. No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.</p>
Uruguay	<p>Yes, unlimited non-consecutive 5-year terms</p> <p>Article 152.- El Presidente y el Vicepresidente durarán cinco años en sus funciones, y para volver a desempeñarlas se requerirá que hayan transcurrido cinco años desde la fecha de su cese.</p>
Venezuela	<p>Yes, unlimited 6-year terms</p> <p>Artículo 230* El período presidencial es de seis años. El Presidente o Presidenta de la República puede ser reelegido o reelegida.</p> <p>*2009 Constitutional Amendment</p>