



UNIONE COMUNI DEL VILLANOVA




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UNIONE DEI COMUNI DEL VILLANOVA

YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM



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State form **AND DIVISION OF POWER.**

Italy is a Parliamentary Republic organised according to the principle of separation of powers:

- LEGISLATIVE POWER —————> The Parliament
- EXECUTIVE POWER —————> The Government
- JUDICIAL POWER —————> The Judiciary





Executive power is entrusted to the government within which there are three different bodies: the **President of the Council of Ministers** (head of government), the **ministers** and the **Council of Ministers**.

Legislative power is exercised by the **Parliament** composed of two chambers, the **Senate of the Republic** and the **Chamber of Deputies**, both directly elected by the citizens and with the same functions – perfect bicameralism –

The two chambers work independently, but the Constitution provides for cases in which they must meet and deliberate in joint session, for example for the election of the President of the Republic



The President OF THE REPUBLIC

The President of the Republic is not elected by the citizens. His role is one of **GUARANTEE** and **CONTROL**. The President of the Republic is the highest office of the State and represents its unity.

All laws must ultimately be promulgated by the President of the Republic, who may, by means of a reasoned message to the chambers, request a new deliberation (the so-called suspensive veto). If, however, the chambers approve the law again, it must be promulgated.



The Italian STATE



The Italian state is divided into Regions: territorial entities with their own statutes, powers and functions. Some regions such as Sardinia, for example, have a special statute and more autonomy because they have a different culture, history and language.



The legislative **INITIATIVE.**



As we know, legislative power belongs to parliament, but the legislative initiative is given to:

- **The government**
- **Each deputy and senator**
- **The Regional Councils**
- **50.000 citizens**
- **The CNEL (National Economic and Labour Council)**



The popular **INITIATIVE.**



The popular initiative law is an institution through which citizens can submit a legislative proposal to parliament or a local administrative body (such as the region) that can be debated and voted on.

In the Italian political system, the citizens' initiative alone does not have an effect on the legal system; there must also be the will of the parliament (at national level) or the regional council (at regional level) for the text to become law.

Another popular initiative instrument is the referendum, a legal institution through which the electorate is asked to cast a direct vote on a particular proposal, usually with a choice between two or more pre-defined options.



The popular **INITIATIVE.**



The most important referendums in Italian history were:

- **1946:** the Italian people were called upon to choose between monarchy and republic.
- **1974:** first referendum to repeal divorce, where the opponents won
- **1981:** abolition of the abortion law: the no vote won.
- **1987:** post-Chernobyl, a referendum bans the construction of nuclear power plants in Italy.





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