
From: The Electoral Commission <noreply@electoralcommission.eu>
Sent: Wednesday 10 January 2024 13:33
To: ELC Research
Subject: New submission from Research Form

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4. Are there any other comments or observations that you wish to make regarding An Coimisiún's research programme?

The inclusion of the lowering the voting age to 16 is important. Over a decade ago, after the Constituional Convention, the goverment proposed to have a referendum on the matter. Voting at 16 has existed for decades in Nicaragua and Brazil, as well as more recent enfranchisements in Austria, Argentina and Malta. Several jurisdicatons allow voting at 17, including Greece and Indonseia. There are a range of examples to examine which demonsrate that young people aged 16 have the necessary capacities to be memebtrs of the electorate. Voting at 16 should be examine dint he context of Ireland's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular Article 12.

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I am responding as an Individual