

**CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
(WITH AMENDMENTS)**

(Adopted by referendum on July 5, 1995.

Amendments to the Constitution were made by referendums on November 27, 2005 and
December 6, 2015)

(excerpts)

[...]

**CHAPTER 1.
THE FOUNDATIONS OF CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER**

Article 1

The Republic of Armenia is a sovereign, democratic, social, and rule-of-law state.

Article 2

In the Republic of Armenia, the power belongs to the people.

The people shall exercise its power through free elections, referenda, as well as through state and local self-government bodies and officials prescribed by the Constitution.

Usurpation of the power by any organization or individual shall be a crime.

Article 3. The Human Being, His Dignity, Fundamental Rights, and Freedoms

1. The human being shall be the supreme value in the Republic of Armenia. The inalienable dignity of the human being shall be the integral basis of his rights and freedoms.

2. The respect for and protection of the fundamental rights and freedoms of the human being and the citizen shall be the duties of the public power.

3. The public power shall be bound by the fundamental rights and freedoms of the human being and the citizen as the directly applicable law.

Article 4. The Principle of Separation and Balance of the Powers

State power shall be exercised in accordance with the Constitution and the laws, based on the separation and balance of the legislative, executive, and judicial powers.

Article 5. The Hierarchy of Legal Norms

1. The Constitution shall have supreme legal force.
2. Laws shall conform to the constitutional laws, and sub-legislative normative legal acts shall conform to the constitutional laws and laws.
3. In case there are contradictions between the norms of international treaties ratified by the Republic of Armenia and the norms of laws, the norms of the international treaties shall be applied.

Article 6. The Principle of Legality

1. State and local self-government bodies and officials shall have the power to perform only such acts for which they are empowered by the Constitution or laws.
2. Bodies prescribed by the Constitution, based on the Constitution and laws and with the purpose of ensuring their implementation, may be authorized by the law to adopt sub-legislative normative legal acts. Authorizing norms shall comply with the principle of legal certainty.
3. Laws and sub-legislative normative legal acts shall come into force after being published in the manner stipulated by law.

Article 7. The Suffrage Principles

Elections of the National Assembly and community councils, as well as referenda shall be carried out on the basis of universal, equal, free, and direct suffrage, by secret vote.

Article 8. Ideological Pluralism and the Multipartisan System

1. Ideological pluralism and the multipartisan system shall be guaranteed in the Republic of Armenia.
2. Parties shall be formed and operate freely. Equal legal opportunities for activities of the parties shall be guaranteed by law.
3. Parties shall promote the formulation and expression of the people's political will.
4. The structure and activities of parties may not contravene the democratic principles.

Article 9. Guaranteeing Local Self-Government

Local self-government is guaranteed in the Republic of Armenia as one of the essential foundations of democracy.

[...]

CHAPTER 2.

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF THE HUMAN BEING AND THE CITIZEN

[...]

Article 28. General Equality before the Law

Everyone shall be equal before the law.

Article 29. The Prohibition of Discrimination

Any discrimination based on sex, race, skin color, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion, worldview, political or any other views, belonging to a national minority, property status, birth, disability, age, or other personal or social circumstances shall be prohibited.

Article 30. Equality of Rights between Women and Men

Women and men shall have equal rights.

[...]

Article 42. The Freedom of Expression of Opinion

1. Everyone shall have the right to freely express his opinion. This right shall include freedom to hold own opinions, as well as to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas by any means of information without interference by state or local self-government bodies and regardless of state frontiers.
2. The freedom of the press, radio, television and other means of information shall be guaranteed. The state shall guarantee the activities of an independent public television and radio offering a diversity of informational, educational, cultural, and entertainment programs.
3. The freedom of expression of opinion may be restricted only by law with the aim of protecting state security, the public order, health and morals, or honor and reputation of others, and other fundamental rights and freedoms.

[...]

Article 44. The Freedom of Assembly

1. Everyone shall have the right to freely organize and participate in peaceful and unarmed assemblies.
2. In cases stipulated by law, outdoor assemblies shall be conducted on the basis of prior notification given within a reasonable period. No notification shall be required for spontaneous assemblies.
3. The law may prescribe restrictions on the exercise of the right to freedom of assembly for judges, prosecutors, investigators, as well as servicemen of the armed forces, the national security, the police, and other militarized bodies.
4. The conditions and procedure of exercising and protecting the freedom of assembly shall be stipulated by law.
5. The freedom of assembly may be restricted only by law with the aim of protecting state security, preventing crimes, protecting the public order, health and morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others.

Article 45. The Freedom of Association

1. Everyone shall have the right to the freedom of association with others, including the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of labor interests. No one shall be compelled to join any private association.
2. The procedure of creation and operation of associations shall be stipulated by law.
3. The freedom of association may be restricted only by law with the aim of protecting state security, the public order, health and morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others.
4. The activities of associations may be suspended or prohibited only by a court decision in cases and in the manner stipulated by law.

Article 46. The Right to Create a Party and to Become a Member of a Party

1. Every citizen shall have the right to create a party with other citizens and the right to become a member of a party. No one shall be compelled to become a member of a party.
2. Judges, prosecutors, and investigators may not be members of a party. The law may prescribe restrictions on the right to create and become a member of a party by servicemen of the armed forces, the national security, the police, and other militarized bodies.
3. Parties shall publish annual reports on the sources of their financial means and expenditures, as well as on their property.
4. In cases stipulated by law, the activities of a party may be suspended by a decision of the Constitutional Court. Parties that advocate the violent overthrow of the constitutional order or

use violence for overthrowing the constitutional order shall be unconstitutional and are subject to prohibition by decision of the Constitutional Court.

Article 47. The Right to Citizenship of the Republic of Armenia

1. A child born to citizens of the Republic of Armenia shall be a citizen of the Republic of Armenia.

2. Every child whose one parent is a citizen of the Republic of Armenia shall have the right to acquire citizenship of the Republic of Armenia.

3. Armenians by ethnicity shall have the right to acquire citizenship of the Republic of Armenia from the moment of establishing residence in the Republic Armenia.

4. Armenians by ethnicity shall acquire citizenship of the Republic of Armenia through a simplified procedure stipulated by law.

5. A citizen of the Republic of Armenia may not be deprived of citizenship. A citizen of the Republic of Armenia may not be deprived of the right to change citizenship.

6. The procedure of exercising the rights stipulated by this Article, the other grounds of acquiring citizenship of the Republic of Armenia, and the grounds of termination shall be stipulated by law.

7. The rights stipulated by Paragraphs 2-4 and by the second sentence of Paragraph 5 of this Article may be restricted only by law with the aim of protecting state security, preventing or solving crimes, as well as protecting other public interests.

8. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia, while outside of the borders of the Republic of Armenia, shall be under the protection of the Republic of Armenia on the basis of international law.

Article 48. Right to Vote and Right to Participate in a Referendum

1. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia, which have attained the age of 18 on the day of an election to the National Assembly or on the day of a referendum, shall have the right to vote in such election and to take part in such referendum.

2. Anyone who has attained the age of 25, for the preceding four years has been a citizen of only the Republic of Armenia, has permanently resided in the Republic of Armenia for the preceding four years, has voting right, and has a command of the Armenian language may be elected as a member of the National Assembly.

3. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia, which have attained the age of eighteen on the day of the election of local self-government bodies or of a local referendum, shall have the right to vote and to be elected in such election or the right to take part in such local referendum. The

law may prescribe the right of persons not having citizenship of the Republic of Armenia to participate in elections of local self-government bodies and in a local referendum.

4. Persons declared as legally incapable by a court judgment that has entered into legal force, as well as persons convicted and serving a sentence, according a court judgment that has entered into legal force, for the intentional commission of a grave crime may not vote and be elected or take part in a referendum. Citizens convicted and serving a sentence, according to a court judgment that has entered into legal force, for other crimes shall also not have the right to be elected.

Article 49. The Right to Enter the Public Service

Every citizen shall have the right to enter the public service on an equal basis. Details shall be stipulated by law.

Article 50. The Right to Proper Administration

1. Everyone shall have the right to the impartial and fair examination by administrative authorities, within a reasonable period, of cases concerning him.
2. During the administrative procedure, everyone shall have the right to become acquainted with all the documents concerning him, save for secrets protected by law.
3. State and local self-government bodies and officials shall hear the person before adopting an individual interfering act regarding such person, except for cases stipulated by law.

Article 51. The Right to Receive Information

1. Everyone shall have the right to receive information on the activities of state and local self-government bodies and officials and to become acquainted with documents about such activities.
2. The right to receive information may be restricted only by law with the aim of protecting public interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of others.
3. The procedure of receiving information, as well as the grounds of liability of officials for concealing information or groundlessly refusing to provide information, shall be stipulated by law.

[...]

Article 56. The Right to Preserve National and Ethnic Identity

1. Everyone shall have the right to preserve his national and ethnic identity.

2. Persons belonging to national minorities shall have the right to preserve and develop their traditions, religion, language, and culture.
3. The exercise of the rights stipulated by this Article shall be regulated by law.

[...]

Article 78. The Principle of Proportionality

The means chosen for restricting fundamental rights and freedoms shall be suitable and necessary for the achievement of the aim stipulated by the Constitution. The means chosen for the restriction shall be commensurate to the significance of the fundamental right and freedom being restricted.

Article 79. The Principle of Certainty

When restricting fundamental rights and freedoms, the laws shall define the grounds and scope of such restrictions and be sufficiently certain for the holders and addressees of such rights and freedoms to be able to engage in appropriate conduct.

Article 80. Inviolability of the Essence of Provisions on Fundamental Rights and Freedoms

The essence of provisions on fundamental rights and freedoms enshrined in this Chapter shall be inviolable.

Article 81. Fundamental Rights and Freedoms and the International Legal Practice

1. The practice of bodies operating on the basis of international human rights treaties, which have been ratified by the Republic of Armenia, shall be taken into account when interpreting the provisions of the Constitution on fundamental rights and freedoms.
2. The restrictions of fundamental rights and freedoms may not exceed the restrictions stipulated by the international treaties of the Republic of Armenia.

[...]

**CHAPTER 4.
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Article 88. The Status and Functions of the National Assembly

1. The National Assembly is the people's representative body.
2. The National Assembly shall exercise the legislative power.
3. The National Assembly shall exercise oversight of the executive power, shall adopt the state budget, and shall perform other functions stipulated by the Constitution.
4. The powers of the National Assembly shall be stipulated by the Constitution.
5. The National Assembly shall operate in accordance with its Rules of Procedure.

Article 89. The National Assembly Composition and Election Procedure

1. The National Assembly shall consist of at least 101 parliamentarians.
2. In the manner stipulated by the Electoral Code, places shall be assigned in the National Assembly for representatives of national minorities.
3. The National Assembly shall be elected by a proportional electoral contest. The Electoral Code shall guarantee the formation of a stable parliamentary majority. If no stable parliamentary majority is formed as a result of the election or by building a political coalition, then a second round of the election may be held. In case a second round is held, it shall be allowed to form new alliances. The restrictions, conditions, and procedure of forming a political coalition shall be stipulated by the Electoral Code.

Article 90. Term of Office of the National Assembly

1. The National Assembly shall be elected for a five-year term.
2. In case of a regular election, the term of office of the newly-elected National Assembly shall start at the moment of opening the first session of the newly-elected National Assembly, convened on the day on which the term of office of the previous convocation of the National Assembly ends.
3. If the newly-elected National Assembly is not formed before the end of the term of office of the incumbent National Assembly, then the term of office of the incumbent National Assembly shall end and the term of office of the newly-elected National Assembly shall start at the moment of opening the first session of the newly-elected National Assembly, convened on the second Monday following the formation of the newly-elected National Assembly.
4. If, for reason of martial law or a state of emergency, the election of the National Assembly has been held in the time period stipulated by Paragraph 2 of Article 91 of the Constitution, then the term of office of the incumbent National Assembly shall end and the term of office of the newly-elected National Assembly shall start at the moment of opening the first session of the National Assembly, convened on the second Monday following the formation of the newly-elected National Assembly.

5. In case of an extraordinary election, the term of office of the incumbent National Assembly shall end and the term of office of the newly-elected National Assembly shall start at the moment of opening the first session of the National Assembly, convened on the second Monday following the formation of the newly-elected National Assembly.

6. The formation of the National Assembly shall be confirmed in accordance Electoral Code.

Article 91. Regular Election of the National Assembly

1. A regular election of the National Assembly shall be held no earlier than 60 and no later than 50 days before the end of the term of office of the National Assembly.

2. During martial law or a state of emergency, an election of the National Assembly shall not be held. In this case, the regular election of the National Assembly shall be held no earlier than 50 and no later than 65 days after the end of the state of emergency or martial law.

Article 92. Extraordinary Election of the National Assembly

1. An extraordinary election of the National Assembly shall be held after dissolution of the National Assembly in the cases stipulated by Paragraph 3 of Article 149 or Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 151 of the Constitution.

2. An extraordinary election of the National Assembly shall be held no earlier than 30 and no later than 45 days after dissolution of the National Assembly.

Article 93. Setting Elections of the National Assembly

Regular and extraordinary elections of the National Assembly shall be set by the President of the Republic.

Article 94. Representation Mandate

A parliamentarian shall represent the whole people, shall not be bound by imperative mandate, and shall be guided by his conscience and beliefs.

Article 95. Incompatibility of the Parliamentarian Mandate

A parliamentarian may not hold office not stemming from his function in other state or local self-government bodies, or any office in commercial organizations, or engage in entrepreneurial activities or perform other paid work, except for scientific, educational, and creative work.

Article 96. The Immunity of a Parliamentarian

1. During and after the term of his powers, a parliamentarian may not be prosecuted and held liable for the voting or opinions expressed in the framework of parliamentarian activities.
2. Criminal prosecution of a parliamentarian may be initiated only with the consent of the National Assembly. Without the consent of the National Assembly, a parliamentarian may not be deprived of liberty, unless caught at the time of or immediately after committing a crime. In this case, the deprivation of liberty may not last longer than 72 hours. The Chairman of the National Assembly shall be notified immediately of the parliamentarian's deprivation of liberty.

Article 97. Remuneration Amount and Other Safeguards of Activities of a Parliamentarian

The remuneration amount and other safeguards of activities of a parliamentarian shall be stipulated by law.

Article 98. Cessation and Termination of Powers of a Parliamentarian

1. The powers of a parliamentarian shall cease upon the expiration of the term of office of the National Assembly, loss of citizenship of the Republic of Armenia or acquisition of the citizenship of a different state, entry into legal force of a judgment convicting him to imprisonment, entry into legal force of a judgment declaring him as legally incapable, as missing, or as having deceased, or his death or his resignation.
2. The powers of a parliamentarian shall be terminated in case of the inexcusable absence from at least half of the votes during each calendar semester, as well as in case of a violation of the terms of Article 95 of the Constitution.

[...]

CHAPTER 5.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

Article 123. Status and Functions of the President of the Republic

1. The President of the Republic shall be the head of the state.
2. The President of the Republic shall observe compliance with the Constitution.
3. In exercising his powers, the President of the Republic shall be impartial and shall be guided exclusively by state and national interests.

4. The President of the Republic shall perform his functions through the powers stipulated by the Constitution.

Article 124. Term of Office of and Requirements on the President of the Republic

1. The President of the Republic shall be elected for a seven-year term.
2. Everyone who has attained the age of 40, has been a citizen of only the Republic of Armenia for the preceding six years, has permanently resided in the Republic of Armenia for the preceding six years, has voting right, and has a command of the Armenian language may be elected as President of the Republic.
3. The same person may be elected as President of the Republic only once.
4. The President of the Republic may not hold any other office, engage in entrepreneurial activities, or perform other paid work.
5. During the term of exercising his powers, the President of the Republic may not be a member of any party.

Article 125. Election Procedure of the President of the Republic

1. The President of the Republic shall be elected by the National Assembly.
2. The regular election of the President of the Republic shall be held no earlier than 40 days and no later than 30 days before the end of the term of office of the President of the Republic.
3. At least one quarter of the total number of parliamentarians shall have the right to nominate a candidate of the President of the Republic.
4. The candidate who receives at least three quarters of the votes of the total number of parliamentarians shall be elected as President of the Republic. If a President of the Republic is not elected, a second round of the election shall be held, in which all the candidates that participated in the first round may participate. In the second round, the candidate who receives at least three fifths of the votes of the total number of parliamentarians shall be elected as President of the Republic. If a President of the Republic is not elected, a third round of the election shall be held, in which the two candidates that received the largest number of votes in the second round may participate. In the third round, the candidate who receives the majority of the votes of the total number of parliamentarians shall be elected as President of the Republic.
5. If a President of the Republic is not elected, a new election of the President of the Republic shall be held within a 10-day period.
6. The Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly shall stipulate the details of the procedure of electing the President of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 126. Extraordinary Election of the President of the Republic

In the event of the impeachment of the President of the Republic, impossibility to discharge his powers, or his resignation or death, an extraordinary election of the President of the Republic shall be held no earlier than 25 and no later than 35 days after the office of the President of the Republic has become vacant.

[...]

**CHAPTER 7.
COURTS AND THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

Article 162. The Administration of Justice

1. In the Republic of Armenia, justice shall be administered solely by courts in accordance with the Constitution and laws.
2. Any interference with the administration of justice shall be prohibited.

Article 163. The Courts

1. The Constitutional Court, the Cassation Court, appellate courts, general jurisdiction first instance courts, and the administrative court shall operate in the Republic of Armenia. In cases prescribed by law, specialized courts may be created.
2. The creation of extraordinary courts shall be prohibited.

[...]

Article 167. The Constitutional Court

1. Constitutional justice shall be administered by the Constitutional Court, ensuring the primacy of the Constitution.
2. When administering justice, the Constitutional Court shall be independent and shall abide only by the Constitution.

3. The powers of the Constitutional Court shall be stipulated by the Constitution, while the procedure of its formation and functioning shall be stipulated by the Constitution and the Law on the Constitutional Court.

Article 168. Powers of the Constitutional Court

The Constitutional Court shall, in the manner stipulated by the Law on the Constitutional Court:

[...]

5) Resolve disputes related to decisions adopted with respect to the results of a referendum or the results of elections of the National Assembly and the President of the Republic;

[...]

Article 169. Applying to the Constitutional Court

1. The following may apply to the Constitutional Court:

[...]

3) A faction of the National Assembly – for disputes related to decisions adopted with respect to the results of a referendum or the results of election of the President of the Republic;

[...]

6. Details of the procedure of application to the Constitutional Court shall be stipulated by the Law on the Constitutional Court.

7. The Constitutional Court shall examine a case only when a respective application is present.

Article 170. Decisions and Opinions of the Constitutional Court

1. The Constitutional Court shall adopt decisions and opinions.

2. Decisions and opinions of the Constitutional Court shall be final and shall enter into force at the moment of being published.

3. The Constitutional Court may set out in its decision a later date of invalidating a normative legal act contravening the Constitution or a part of such normative act.

4. Concerning the matters prescribed by Article 168 of the Constitution, except for the matter prescribed by Paragraph 7, the Constitutional Court shall render decisions. Concerning the matter prescribed by Paragraph 7 of Article 168, it shall issue an opinion.

5. Opinions, as well as decisions on the matters prescribed by Paragraphs 10 and 12 of Article 168 of the Constitution, shall be adopted by at least a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of judges of the Constitutional Court. Other decisions shall be adopted by majority vote of the total number of the judges.

6. If the opinion of the Constitutional Court is negative, the matter shall fall outside the examination of the competent body.

[...]

CHAPTER 9. LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Article 179. The Right to Local Self-Government

1. Local self-government is the right and ability of local self-government bodies to solve public issues of community significance under its own responsibility, in the interests of the community residents, and in accordance with the Constitution and the laws.
2. Local self-government shall be exercised in the communities.

Article 180. Communities

1. A community is the whole of the population of one or several settlements.
2. A community shall be a public law legal entity.

Article 181. Elections of Local Self-Government Bodies

1. The bodies of local self-government are the community council and the community mayor, which shall be elected for a five-year term. The Electoral Code may stipulate direct or indirect election of the community mayor. In case of direct election of the community mayor, the principles of electoral law stipulated by Article 7 of the Constitution shall be applied.
2. The election procedure of local self-government bodies shall be stipulated by the Electoral Code.

[...]

Article 183. Direct Participation in the Administration of Community Affairs

1. The community residents may directly participate in the administration of community affairs by solving public issues of community significance through a local referendum.
2. The procedure of conducting a local referendum and other modes of direct participation of community residents in the administration of community affairs shall be stipulated by law.

[...]

CHAPTER 11. THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Article 194. Functions and Powers of the Central Electoral Commission; the System of Electoral Commissions

1. The Central Electoral Commission is an independent state body, which shall organize the elections of the National Assembly and local self-government bodies, as well as referenda, and shall supervise their lawfulness.
2. In the cases and manner stipulated by law, the Central Electoral Commission shall adopt sub-legislative normative legal acts.
3. The Central Electoral Commission shall present a communication about its activities to the National Assembly.
4. The system of electoral commissions and their powers, procedure of formation and operation, and safeguards of activities shall be stipulated by the Electoral Code.

Article 195. Formation Procedure and Composition of the Central Electoral Commission

1. The Central Electoral Commission shall consist of seven members.
2. The Central Electoral Commission chairman and other members shall, upon nomination by the competent standing committee of the National Assembly, be elected by the National Assembly for a six-year term by at least a three-fifths majority vote of the total number of parliamentarians. The same person may not be elected as a member, including chairman, of the Central Electoral Commission for more than two consecutive terms.
3. Anyone who has higher education and meets the requirements prescribed for a parliamentarian may be elected as a member of the Central Electoral Commission.
4. The incompatibility requirements stipulated for parliamentarians shall apply to members of the Central Electoral Commission. Additional incompatibility requirements may be stipulated for them by law.
5. During their term in office, members of the Central Electoral Commission may not be members of any party or otherwise engage in political activities. In public speeches, they shall exercise political restraint.

6. In case of violating any requirement of Paragraphs 4 or 5 of this Article, the powers of a member of the Central Electoral Commission shall be terminated by the National Assembly by at least a three-fifths majority vote of the total number of parliamentarians.

[...]

CHAPTER 15

ADOPTING AND AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION; THE REFERENDUM

Article 202. Adopting and Amending the Constitution

1. The Constitution shall be adopted, and amendments to Chapters 1-3, 7, 10, and 15, as well as Article 88, the first sentence of Paragraph 3 of Article 89, Paragraph 1 of Article 90, Paragraph 2 of Article 103, Articles 108, 115, 119-120, 123-125, 146, 149, and 155, and Paragraph 4 of Article 200 of the Constitution shall be adopted, only through a referendum. The right of the initiative to adopt or amend the Constitution shall belong to at least one third of the total number of parliamentarians, the Government, or 200,000 citizens having voting right. The National Assembly shall adopt a decision on putting a draft to the referendum by at least a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of parliamentarians.

2. Except for the Articles listed in Paragraph 1 above, amendments to the other Articles of the Constitution shall be adopted by the National Assembly by at least a two-thirds majority vote of the total number of parliamentarians. The right of the respective initiative shall belong to at least one quarter of the total number of parliamentarians, the Government, or 150,000 citizens having voting right.

3. If draft amendments to the Constitution prescribed by Paragraph 2 of this Article are not adopted by the National Assembly, then it may be put to a referendum by a decision adopted by at least a three-fifths majority vote of the total number of parliamentarians.

Article 203. Unamendable Articles of the Constitution

Articles 1, 2, 3, and 203 of the Constitution shall not be amended.

Article 204. Referendum on a Law Draft Submitted by Popular Initiative

1. If the National Assembly rejects a draft law submitted in the manner stipulated by Paragraph 6 of Article 109 of the Constitution, then the draft shall be put to a referendum if, within 60 days of such rejection, an additional 300,000 citizens having voting right join the

initiative of adopting the draft law, provided that the Constitutional Court finds the draft to be in conformity with the Constitution. The validity of signatures of the participants of the popular initiative shall be confirmed by the Central Electoral Commission.

2. Laws adopted through a referendum may be amended only through a referendum. Such an amendment may be made at least one year after the adoption of the respective law.

3. Draft laws concerning the following may not be put to a referendum: the regulatory object of constitutional laws, the state budget, taxes, duties, other compulsory fees, amnesty, state defense and security, international treaties, and other matters stipulated by the Law on Referendum.

Article 205. Referenda on the Membership of the Republic of Armenia in Supranational International Organizations and Changes of Territory

1. Questions of membership of the Republic of Armenia in supranational international organizations, as well as questions concerning changes of the territory of the Republic of Armenia shall be solved through referenda.

2. In the case stipulated by Paragraph 1 of this Article, the decision to conduct a referendum shall, by proposal of the Government, be adopted by the National Assembly by majority vote of the total number of parliamentarians.

Article 206. Setting a Referendum

Within a three-day period of the Constitutional Court adopting a decision finding that a draft law presented by popular initiative is in conformity with the Constitution, or within a three-day period of the National Assembly adopting a decision to conduct a referendum, the President of the Republic shall set a referendum. The referendum shall be conducted no earlier than 50 and no later than 65 days after setting the referendum.

Article 207. Adoption of the Act Put to a Referendum

The act put to a referendum shall be adopted if it is voted for by more than half of the referendum participants, but no less than one quarter of the citizens that have the right to participate in referenda.

Article 208. Prohibition of Conducting a Referendum

A referendum shall not be conducted during martial law or a state of emergency.

CHAPTER 16.

FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 209. Entry into Force of Certain Provisions of the Constitution

1. Chapters 1-3, Paragraph 2 of Article 103, Chapter 9, except for the provision of the last sentence of Paragraph 4 of Article 182, as well as Chapter 10 of the Constitution shall enter into force on the day following the publication of the Amendments of the Constitution in the “Official Bulletin of the Republic of Armenia”.
2. The provisions of Chapter 4 of the Constitution, as amended in 2005, except for Article 83.5, shall be in force until the opening day of the first session of the next convocation of the National Assembly.
3. The provisions of Articles 88, 90-102, Paragraphs 1 and 3-4 of Article 103, Articles 104-107, Articles 109-112, Paragraph 1 of Article 113, and Articles 114, 116, and 121 shall enter into force on the opening day of the first session of the next convocation of the National Assembly. Starting from the opening day of the first session of the next convocation of the National Assembly until the assumption of office by the newly-elected President of the Republic, the provisions of the relevant articles stipulated by the Constitution as amended in 2005 shall continue to be in force.
4. Article 89 and Chapter 11 of the Constitution shall enter into force on 1 June 2016.
5. The provision of the last sentence of Paragraph 4 of Article 182 of the Constitution shall enter into force on 1 January 2017.
6. The provisions of Article 108, Paragraph 2 of Article 113, Articles 115, 117-120, and 122, as well as Chapters 5-8 and Chapters 12-15 shall enter into force on the day on which the newly-elected President of the Republic assumes office. Meanwhile, the relevant provisions of the Constitution as amended in 2005 shall continue to be in force.

Article 210. Harmonization of Laws with the Amendments to the Constitution

1. The Electoral Code shall be harmonized with the Constitution and shall enter into force on 1 June 2016.
2. The Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly, the Constitutional Law on Parties, and the Constitutional Law on the Human Right Defender shall be harmonized with the Constitution and shall enter into force prior to the opening day of the first session of the next convocation of the National Assembly.
3. Other constitutional laws shall be harmonized with the Constitution and enter into force on the day of the assumption of office by the newly-elected President of the Republic.
4. The Law on Local Self-Government shall be harmonized with the Constitution and shall enter into force on 1 January 2017.

5. The Law on the Prosecution Office, the Law on Television and the Radio, the Law on the Audit Chamber, and the Law on the Central Bank shall be harmonized with the Constitution and shall enter into force on the day on which the newly-elected President of the Republic assumes office.

Article 211. Election Timeframe of the President of the Republic

The first election of the President of the Republic in the manner stipulated by Article 125 of the Constitution shall be conducted no earlier than 40 days and no later than 30 days before the end of the term of office of the President of the Republic. In the third round of election of the President of the Republic, the candidate who receives the greater number of votes shall be elected as President of the Republic.

Article 212. Resignation of the Government

On the day on which the newly-elected President of the Republic assumes office, the Government shall submit its resignation. The President of the Republic shall immediately accept the resignation of the Government.

Article 213. Tenure of the Chairman and Members of the Constitutional Court

The Constitutional Court chairman and members appointed prior to the entry into force of Chapter 7 of the Constitution shall continue to serve until the end of the term of their office stipulated by the Constitution amended in 2005. After the entry into force of Chapter 7 of the Constitution, nominations for vacant positions of Constitutional Court judges shall be made successively by the President of the Republic, the General Assembly of Judges, and the Government.

Article 214. Formation of the Supreme Judicial Council

1. In accordance with Article 174 of the Constitution, the Supreme Judicial Council shall be formed no later than one month prior to the end of term in office of the President of the Republic.
2. The powers of the Justice Council members shall lapse and the Supreme Judicial Council shall assume its powers on the day on which the powers of the President of the Republic end.
3. The National Assembly and the General Assembly of Judges each shall elect respective three members of the first composition of the Supreme Judicial Council for a five-year term, and two members of the first composition of the Supreme Judicial Council for a three-year term.

Article 215. Tenure of Judges, Court Chairmen, and Chamber Chairmen of the Cassation Court

1. Judges appointed prior to the entry into force of Chapter 7 of the Constitution shall continue to serve until the end of the term of their office stipulated by the Constitution amended in 2005.

2. Court chairmen and Cassation Court chamber chairmen appointed prior to the entry into force of Chapter 7 of the Constitution shall continue to serve until the appointment or election of court chairmen and Cassation Court chamber chairmen in the manner stipulated by Article 166 of the Constitution, which shall be carried out not later than within six months of the formation of the Supreme Judicial Council.

3. If the court chairmen and Cassation Court chamber chairmen appointed prior to the entry into force of Chapter 7 of the Constitution are not appointed as chairmen of the respective courts or respective chambers of the Cassation Court in the manner and in the time period stipulated by Article 166 of the Constitution, they shall continue to serve as judges in the respective courts.

Article 216. Tenure of the Prosecutor General

The Prosecutor General appointed prior to the entry into force of Chapter 8 of the Constitution shall continue to serve until the end of the term of his office stipulated by the Constitution amended in 2005.

Article 217. Tenure of the Community Mayors and the Members of the Community Councils

Community mayors and community council members elected prior to the entry into force of Chapter 9 of the Constitution shall continue to serve until the end of the term of their office stipulated by the Constitution amended in 2005. The provision stipulated in the last sentence of Paragraph 4 of Article 182 shall apply after the election of local self-government bodies conducted after the entry into force of the Law on Local Self-Government.

Article 218. Tenure of the Human Rights Defender

The Human Rights Defender appointed prior to the entry into force of Chapter 10 of the Constitution shall continue to serve until the end of the term of his office stipulated by the Constitution amended in 2005.

Article 219. The Formation of the Central Electoral Commission

The Central Electoral Commission shall be formed under the procedure stipulated by Chapter 11 of the Constitution prior to 1 November 2016. The powers of the Central Electoral Commission members appointed prior to the entry into force of Chapter 11 of the Constitution shall terminate when the Central Electoral Commission is formed.

Article 220. Tenure of the Members of Bodies Prescribed by Chapters 12-14 of the Constitution

After the entry into force of Chapters 12-14 of the Constitution, the members of the bodies prescribed by those Chapters shall continue to serve until the end of the term of their office stipulated by the Constitution amended in 2005 and by laws. Members of the Control Chamber shall continue to serve in office as members of the Audit Chamber.”

Article 2. These Amendments to the Constitution shall enter into force on the day following their official promulgation.