



Royal Federal Act No. 2025:16

Electoral Certification & Executive Transition Act of 2025

An Act to strengthen the integrity, transparency, and continuity of electoral certification and the peaceful transition of executive power in the Mabruenian Kingdom.

Preamble

Whereas the stability of the Realm depends upon clear, reliable procedures for counting votes, certifying election results, resolving disputes, and ensuring orderly transfer of executive authority; and whereas it is in the public interest to codify timelines, responsibilities, and safeguards to protect the rights of voters and the functioning of government; now, therefore, be it enacted by the Grand Assembly of Mabruenia and assented to by Her Majesty the Monarch:

Article I — Short Title

This Act shall be known as the **Electoral Certification & Executive Transition Reform Act of 2025** (hereinafter, “this Act”).

Article II — Definitions

For purposes of this Act:

1. “**Election Day**” means the final day of voting for a national executive election as prescribed by law.
2. “**National Election**” means any election to select the Monarch’s nominated Prime Minister subject to Grand Assembly confirmation, or any direct national popular vote for a head of government office recognized by statute.

3. **“Provincial Board”** means the officially recognized electoral authority for each province.
4. **“National Certification Board” (NCB)** is the temporary national body established under this act to assemble and certify provincial results for the Grand Assembly.
5. **“Certification”** means a formal written declaration by a Provincial Board or the Grand Assembly that a candidate has won the election in accordance with law.
6. **“Contested Result”** means any claim, petition, or legal action seeking to alter a certified election result.
7. **“Supremaía Díkeion”** means the Supreme Court of Mabruenia.

Article III — Principles

1. The electoral process shall be transparent, secure, auditable, and consistent with the rights guaranteed by the Politèia and the Bill of Rights.
2. Certification and transition procedures shall prioritize: (a) timely resolution; (b) legal certainty; (c) protection of voters’ rights; (d) continuity of government.

Article IV — Provincial Certification & Reporting (Initial Certification Stage)

1. Within three (3) calendar days after Election Day each Provincial Board shall:
 - a. Complete the official count of votes cast within its province;
 - b. Publish an itemized summary of results (including total ballots cast, absentee ballots, rejected ballots, and vote tallies by candidate/party) on its official website and at the Provincial Board office; and
 - c. Transmit by secure means to the National Certification Board (NCB) — and to the Ministry of Citizenship — the certified provincial certificate of results using the template in Annex A.
2. If a Provincial Board is unable to complete official counting within three (3) days due to extraordinary circumstances (natural disaster, infrastructure failure, credible security threat), it must immediately notify the Ministry of Citizenship and the NCB, provide an estimated time for completion, and publish a public progress report every 24 hours until resolution.

Article V — The National Certification Board (NCB)

1. **Establishment & Composition**
 - a. Within **one (1) day** after Election Day the Ministry of Citizenship shall convene the National Certification Board (NCB).
 - b. The NCB shall consist of: one representative from each Provincial Board (or their designee), two nonpartisan legal advisors appointed by the Ministry of Justice, and one representative appointed by the Office of the Monarch to serve ex officio as an observer.
2. **Function & Timeline**
 - a. The NCB shall assemble all provincial certificates and supporting documentation and publish an aggregated national results report within **seven (7) calendar days** after Election Day.
 - b. The NCB shall forward its aggregated report, the provincial certificates, and any minority or dissenting reports to the Grand Assembly and the Office of the Monarch within the same seven (7) day period.
3. **Safe Harbor**
 - a. If a candidate's victory is certified by Provincial Boards representing a majority of the Grand Assembly's membership quota and those certifications are transmitted to the NCB by **Day 10** after Election Day, the Grand Assembly shall, consistent with Article VI, accept such certifications unless a Contested Result meeting the standards of Article VII has been timely filed.

Article VI — Grand Assembly Certification & Final Acceptance

1. The Grand Assembly shall meet in a joint session to receive the NCB report no later than **fourteen (14) calendar days** after Election Day.
2. Upon receipt, the Speaker shall present the NCB aggregation and the provincial certificates to the Assembly. The Assembly shall record the certificates in the official Journal of the Grand Assembly and shall, by majority vote, formally accept the certified winner(s) as reported by the NCB absent a pending Contested Result under Article VII.
3. If the Grand Assembly refuses to accept the NCB report for procedural or legal reasons, it must identify the specific, documented irregularity and refer the matter immediately to the Supremaía Díkeion under Article VIII.

Article VII — Contested Results: Petition & Expedited Adjudication

1. **Filing**
 - a. Any candidate, political party, Provincial Board, or the NCB may file a petition to contest a provincial or national certification. Petitions must be filed in writing with the Supremaía Díkeion within **five (5) calendar days** after the NCB publishes its aggregated report.
 - b. A petition must state with specificity the legal basis for contest and the relief sought (recount, correction, annulment, provisional certification, etc.).
 2. **Urgent & Expedited Process**
 - a. The Supremaía Díkeion shall treat all election contests as matters of national urgency and shall set an initial hearing no later than **ten (10) calendar days** following filing.
 - b. The Court shall issue a written ruling within **five (5) calendar days** after the conclusion of hearings, unless extraordinary circumstances require additional time (in which case the court shall set a firm date and provide a public explanation).
 - c. The decision of the Supremaía Díkeion in election certification matters is final and binding; appeals on fact must be limited to exceptional new evidence.
 3. **Recounts & Remedies**
 - a. If the Supremaía Díkeion orders a recount, it shall establish the recount procedure, observers, and time limits. Recounts must be completed within the timetable set by the Court.
 - b. The Court may order temporary or provisional measures (including provisional certification) if necessary to preserve continuity of government.
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Article VIII — Role of the Monarch & Official Proclamation

1. Once the Grand Assembly accepts certified results (and the Supremaía Díkeion has resolved any contest), the Office of the Monarch shall issue an Official Proclamation recognizing the winner within **three (3) calendar days** of the Assembly's acceptance.
 2. The Official Proclamation shall serve as the formal instrument authorizing the transfer of executive duties and shall be transmitted to the outgoing incumbent, the incoming official, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Citizenship.
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Article IX — Transition of Power: Resources, Access & Continuity

1. **Access to Information & Personnel**
 - a. Within **forty-eight (48) hours** after the Official Proclamation or after a final judicial ruling resolving contested results (whichever occurs later), the outgoing executive branch shall:
 - i. Provide the incoming transition team with secure access to necessary classified and unclassified briefing materials;
 - ii. Arrange meetings between outgoing and incoming senior officials in the relevant ministries (defense, treasury, foreign relations, homeland security, and health) to facilitate continuity; and
 - iii. Authorize reasonable temporary access credentials for up to five (5) named members of the incoming transition team for working-level briefings and physical access to secure facilities as required for transition (subject to applicable background checks and information-security rules).
 - b. The Ministry of Justice and the Royal Guard shall coordinate security clearances where necessary and shall complete any required vetting within **seven (7) calendar days** of the Official Proclamation.
2. **Funding for Transition**
 - a. The National Treasury shall provide reasonable funding for transition activities, including security, briefing materials, staff support, and office space, subject to guidelines issued by the Ministry of the Treasury.
 - b. The Ministry of the Treasury shall publish a transition fund accounting report within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the transition.
3. **Continuity of Government**
 - a. Unless lawfully removed, the outgoing incumbent shall remain in office and exercise duties necessary for continuity until the incoming official is sworn in following the Royal Proclamation. Ordinarily swearing-in shall occur within **thirty (30) calendar days** of Election Day unless delayed by lawful contest or extraordinary cause.
 - b. If the Supremaía Díkeion determines that the outgoing official should be suspended for cause before a successor is sworn, it may specify limited interim authorities and appoint a caretaker administrator in accordance with law.

Article X — Protection Against Interference & Penalties

1. Prohibited Conduct

Any person who: (a) knowingly files a false certification; (b) tampers with ballots or official records; (c) knowingly submits forged or fraudulent electoral documents; or (d) intimidates election officials to alter certification outcomes, shall be subject to administrative sanctions and criminal prosecution under the laws of Mabruenia.

2. Penalties

a. Administrative penalties may include fines, forfeiture of public office, removal from position, and revocation of professional licenses.

b. Criminal penalties shall be applied in accordance with the Penal Code and may include fines up to **2,500 Éklatos**, imprisonment up to **two (2) years**, or both for serious offenses such as forgery or tampering.

c. Officials convicted of interfering with an election shall be disqualified from holding public office for a period of not less than five (5) years.

3. Enforcement Agencies

The Ministry of Justice, in cooperation with the Royal Police Service and the Royal Guard, shall investigate allegations of interference and refer cases for prosecution. The Supremaía Díkeion may issue orders for emergency preservation of evidence.

Article XI — Records, Transparency & Audits

1. All Provincial Boards, the NCB, and the Grand Assembly shall maintain electronic and physical records of votes, certifications, chain-of-custody logs, and audit trails for at least **ten (10) years**.
2. The Directorate of Audit (Ministry of Justice) shall conduct a public, post-election audit within **ninety (90) days** of final certification and shall publish a summary report accessible to the public.

Article XII — Emergency & Extraordinary Circumstances

1. In time of declared national emergency (natural disaster, cyberattack crippling electoral infrastructure, or other extraordinary cause), the Ministry of Citizenship, acting with the concurrence of the Ministry of Justice and with notification to the Grand Assembly, may extend any deadline in this Act by up to **fourteen (14) calendar days**; any extension beyond that shall require approval by the Grand Assembly.

2. All extensions must be publicly posted, with rationale and an expected timeline for resumption.

Article XIII — Implementation & Rulemaking

1. The Ministry of Citizenship and the Ministry of Justice shall promulgate implementing regulations and forms required by this Act within **forty-five (45) calendar days** of its enactment.
2. The Ministries shall consult with Provincial Boards, civil-society election monitors, and the Office of the Monarch in drafting those regulations.

Article XIV — Severability

If any provision of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to that end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Article XV — Effective Date

This Act shall take effect immediately upon receiving Royal Assent.

Signed and enacted,

By the Authority of the Grand Assembly and Her Majesty the Monarch of the Gaelic Kingdom of Mabruenia.

Date of Royal Assent: _____

Annex A — Provincial Certificate of Election (Template)

Provincial Certificate of Election

Province of: _____

Election: National Executive [Year]

Election Day: [Date]

Candidate: [Full Name] — Party/Designation: []

Total Ballots Cast: []

Total Valid Ballots: []

Votes for Candidate: []

Percent of Votes: []%

Spoiled/Rejected Ballots: []

Certification: I, [Name], Chair of the Provincial Board of [Province], hereby certify that the foregoing tally is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that all vote tabulation procedures required by law were followed.

Signed: _____ (Chair)

Date: _____

(Attach chain-of-custody and tabulation logs)

Annex B — Suggested Timeline (Illustrative)

- Day 0 — Election Day.
- Day 1–3 — Provincial counts completed; Provincial Certificates transmitted to NCB.
- Day 1 — Ministry of Citizenship convenes NCB.
- Day 7 — NCB publishes aggregated national report and sends to Grand Assembly.
- Day 5–10 — Period to file Contested Results to Supremaía Díkeion (within 5 days of NCB report).
- Day 10–20 — Expedited judicial resolution (Supremaía Díkeion initial hearing within 10 days of filing; ruling within 5 days of close of evidence).
- Day 14 — Grand Assembly meets to accept certification (unless stayed by Court).
- Day 17 — Official Proclamation by the Office of the Monarch (within 3 days of Assembly acceptance).
- Day 17–47 — Transition period (up to 30 days for swearing-in unless extended by Court or Assembly).

