

PUBLIC CALL TO THOSE PEOPLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY INTERESTED TO BE ACCREDITED AS FOREIGN VISITORS TO WITNESS AND ATTEND THE EXTRAORDINARY ELECTION FOR A SIMPLE MAJORITY SENATE SEAT IN THE STATE OF TAMAULIPAS IN 2023

The National Electoral Institute is a public and autonomous body with legal entity and own assets. The Legislative Power of the Union, the national political parties and the citizens participate in its integration in the terms stated by the Law. This Institute is bestowed with electoral authority and is responsible of the state function of organizing the Mexican federal elections. In the exercise of this state responsibility, it holds the guiding principles of certainty, legality, independence, impartiality, maximum publicity, and objectivity.

The General Council is the highest governing body, responsible for monitoring compliance with constitutional and legal provisions on electoral matters. In the exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 44, paragraph 2, of the General Law on Electoral Institutions and Procedures; Article 219, paragraph 1, of the Elections Regulations of the National Electoral Institute, as well as in terms of First Point of the Agreement of the General Council of the National Electoral Institute by which issues the Public Call to those people of the international community interested to be accredited as foreign visitor to witness and attend the 2022-2023 Extraordinary election for a simple majority Senate seat in the State of Tamaulipas, INE/CG845/2022, approved on December 14, 2022, issues this Public Call in accordance with the following

BASES

I. GENERAL BASES

1. The present Call is addressed to any non-Mexican citizen interested to witness and attend the Extraordinary election for a simple majority Senate seat that will take place on February 19, 2023, in State of Tamaulipas, including representatives of:
 - a. Electoral authorities from other countries.
 - b. International organizations.
 - c. Continental or regional organizations.
 - d. Political parties and organizations from other countries.
 - e. Legislative bodies from other countries.
 - f. Governments of other countries.
 - g. Higher education, research and academic institutions from other countries.
 - h. International organizations specialized in activities of electoral cooperation or assistance activities.
 - i. Foreign private organizations or non-governmental organizations whose activities specialize or related to political and electoral issues or to the defense and promotion of human rights.
2. Foreign visitors accredited for the 2022-2023 Extraordinary election for a simple majority Senate seat in the State of Tamaulipas, could witnessed it at any stage and at any place of Tamaulipas land.
3. Foreign citizens will have a period of time starting at the moment of the formal publication of this Call, until Wednesday February 8, 2023 to send to the President Councilor of the General Council of the National Electoral Institute, through the International Affairs Unit, their Accreditation Application Form, along with a copy of main pages of his/her passport, including the one that appears his/her signature, and a clear and recent digital photo.

4. Accreditation Application Form as Foreign visitor would be available at the International Affairs Unit office located in Calzada Acoxta No. 436, 8th floor, Col. Ex Hacienda de Coapa, Alcaldía Tlalpan, C. P. 14300, Mexico City; at the Local Office of the National Electoral Institute in Tamaulipas State, located in Francisco I. Madero y Rosales 701, Colonia Centro, C. P. 87000, en Ciudad Victoria; as well as Web page of the National Electoral Institute www.ine.mx.

Additionally, the National Electoral Institute would request to Mexican Foreign Affairs Ministry proper support in order to Accreditation Application Form as Foreign visitor would be available at Mexican embassies and consulates in other countries.

5. The documentation referred to in Point 3 of this Base, must be sent to the electronic address visitantes.extranjeros@ine.mx, considering Accreditation Application Form must include the autograph signature of the interested person; or the advanced electronic signature, which must contain the name of the certification authority and the corresponding digital seal or certificate.
6. In order to be accredited by the National Electoral Institute, foreign applicants must meet the following requirements:
 - a. To be recognized as foreigner citizen by the Political Constitution of the Mexican United States, as established on article 216 of the Elections Regulations of the National Electoral Institute.
 - b. To fill in and submit an individual Accreditation Application Form to the President of the General Council, via the International Affairs Unit, making sure they fulfil all the requirements and enclosing the requested documentation, according to this Public Call.
 - c. To pursue non-lucrative purposes.
7. Within 3 working days after their submittal, the International Affairs Unit will ponder each application duly filled in and received in due course and time.
8. In the event that incomplete documentation has submitted, within 24 calendar hours of its receipt, the International Affairs Unit shall inform the interested person by electronic means. Therefore, if desired, during the 24 calendar hours following the issuance of said communication, the interested person could send the omitted documentation.
9. The deadline for submitting the documentation to be accredited as a foreign visitor to the National Electoral Institute, specifically to the International Affairs Unit, will be Wednesday February 8, 2023. After that date, no documentation will be accepted, except from those interested who send complementary documentation, and based on the terms established in Point 8 of this Base.
10. Any application in which the applicant submits one of the following conditions shall be rejected:
 - a. Be recognized as a Mexican citizen by the Constitution of this country;
 - b. The signature at the Accreditation Application Form does not correspond to the signature presented in the passport of the applicant person; or not include proper name of the certification authority and the corresponding digital seal or certificate; or
 - c. Failure to submit the complete documentation, within the terms established in Point 9 of this Base.
11. The interested persons will be notified in due time of the resolution issued to the accreditation request submitted, within 3 working days after the submission of their documentation, by means of a communication signed by the Head of the International Affairs Unit. Notifications of accreditation will be sent electronically to the e-mail address specified by each interested person in its Accreditation Application Form.

12. Once the person concerned is notified that his/her application for accreditation has been approved, if necessary, she/he must carry out the required immigration formalities at the consular representation of Mexico closest to his place of residence, or at the National Institute of Migration within the national territory, in compliance with the provisions of the applicable immigration regulations.
13. Once the above procedures have been completed, no later than 6:00 p.m. (Central Mexican Time) on Saturday, February 18, 2023, accredited foreign visitors must obtain the official badge that identifies them as such and facilitates their activities, presenting a copy of their immigration form, if applicable, or the instrument that guarantees their legal presence in national territory.

The badges will be available at the Local Office of the National Electoral Institute in Tamaulipas State. According to current sanitary measures, foreign visitor must request an appointment to receive these badges.

14. The Presidency of the General Council of the Institute shall inform to the General Council and the proper federal authorities, about characteristics of the accreditation badge for foreign visitors.
15. Political parties, political groups and, if it's the case, electoral coalitions and independent candidates, as well as observer organizations and all Mexican institutions and civil associations specializing or interested in the subject, may publicize this Public Call and invite persons with a nationality other than Mexican, who meet the requirements set out by the General Council, to be accredited as foreign visitors.
16. Accredited foreign visitors will be responsible for their expenses regarding transportation, meals, lodging, and activities in Mexico.

II. ACTIVITIES ALLOWED FOR FOREIGN VISITORS

1. Foreign visitors will be able to know and get information about the Extraordinary election for a simple majority Senate seat that will take place on February 19, 2023, in Tamaulipas, any of their stages and in any area of the State territory.
2. For the purpose of obtaining guidance or additional information on federal electoral rules, institutions and procedures, accredited foreign visitors may request, through the Coordination of International Affairs, interviews or briefings with officials of the National Electoral Institute of central bodies.

In the case of the State of Tamaulipas, they shall do so through Local Office of the National Electoral Institute in that State, and in the federal electoral districts in the State, through the district offices, through their respective executive officers, who within a period of no more than five working days shall inform the Presiding Councilor of the General Council, through the International Affairs Unit.

3. Political parties, organized groups and, if it is the case, electoral coalitions and independent candidates may present their views to accredited foreign visitors and provide them with the documentation they consider relevant related whit the Extraordinary election for a simple majority Senate seat that will take place on February 19, 2023, in Tamaulipas.
4. The International Affairs Unit shall provide, to the extent of its possibilities, the information support available to facilitate the proper conduct of the activities indicated in the preceding paragraphs by accredited foreign visitors, keeping the General Council informed.

III. OBLIGATIONS TO FOREIGN VISITORS

During their stay in the country and carrying out their activities, accredited foreign visitors must comply Mexican laws and other applicable legal provisions permanently. Additionally they must refrain from:

1. Substitute or obstruct the electoral authorities in the exercise of their functions, or interfere in any way in their development, including the cast of the vote by the citizenry.
2. Carry out any kind of proselytism.
3. Take a position for or against any political party or candidate, or any other form of citizen participation.
4. To carry out any activity that affects fairness of the contest.
5. State any offence, slander or false accusation against the institutions, electoral authorities, political parties or candidates.
6. Declare any trends on the voting, either before or after de Polling Day.
7. Declare any triumph by any political party or candidate, either before or after de Polling Day.
8. Wear or use any emblems, badges, or any other image related to political parties, candidates, political or ideological stance related to any of possible options related with the election.

IV. CRITERIA

1. Any matter not considered in this Public Notice will be resolved in sole and final instance by the International Affairs Unit, after consultation with the Presidency of the General Council of the National Electoral Institute.

Mexico City, December 14, 2021

**THE PRESIDENT COUNCILOR OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL INSTITUTE
LORENZO CÓRDOVA VIANELLO**

**THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL INSTITUTE
EDMUNDO JACOBO MOLINA**