

GLOSSARY FOR THE PRIOR, FREE, AND INFORMED CONSULTATION OF GUANAJUATO MIGRANTS AND RESIDENTS ABROAD

Affirmative actions: These are special, specific, and temporary measures in favor of individuals or groups in situations of discrimination, whose purpose is to remedy clear situations of inequality in the enjoyment or exercise of rights and freedoms, applicable for as long as such situations persist.¹

Self-adscription: This is the individual recognition a person holds in relation to their identity, and it serves to establish a person's membership in a particular population group.²

Elected offices: These are the public offices held by persons who have been elected by the citizenry through the vote, in one of the executive or legislative branches at the federal, state, and municipal levels of government.³

Popularly elected offices within the Executive Branch are:

- Federal level: President of the Republic.

¹Federal Law to Prevent and Eliminate Discrimination, Article 15 Septimus.

²National Electoral Institute and El Colegio de México. Specialized study on the effectiveness of the application of affirmative actions and the barriers faced by groups in situations of discrimination in political representation during the 2020–2021 Federal Electoral Process. Mexico, 2022. Accessed June 17, 2026 at: <https://repositoriodocumental.ine.mx/xmlui/handle/123456789/1472743>

³Ministry of the Interior. Legislative Information System. Accessed June 17, 2026 at: <http://sil.gobernacion.gob.mx/Glosario/definicionpop.php?ID=31>

- State level: Governor.
- Municipal level: municipal president (mayor), municipal trustees, and council members.

Popularly elected offices within the Legislative Branch are:

- Federal level: deputies and senators of the Congress of the Union.
- State level: deputies of the Congress of the State of Guanajuato.

Political-electoral rights: This refers to the rights that citizens have to participate in the formation and exercise of the Political Powers and in the affairs of their community.⁴ Article 35 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States states that it is a right of citizens to vote in popular elections, to run for elected office, and to associate in order to participate in the country's political affairs.⁵ Article 29 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which Mexico is a State party, establishes that persons with disabilities have the right to participate fully and effectively, to vote, to be elected, and to take part in the public affairs that concern them.

Candidacy formula: This refers to the way in which candidates are registered to run for a popularly elected office. It is composed of a principal candidate and an alternate.⁶

⁴Electoral Institute of the State of Guanajuato. Equality and Democracy. Accessed June 17, 2026 at: <https://igualdadydemocracia.ieeg.mx/index.php/violencia/derechos-politico-electorales/>

⁵Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, Article 35, Sections I, II, and III.

⁶Law of Electoral Institutions and Procedures for the State of Guanajuato, Article 184, first paragraph, in correlation with Article 185.

Principle of relative majority: This is the voting principle by which the winner of an election is declared to be the candidate who obtains more votes than any of their opponents.⁷ In the State of Guanajuato, the following popularly elected offices are chosen under this principle:

- *Governor* of the State of Guanajuato.⁸
- 22 seats in the Congress of the State of Guanajuato.⁹

During the electoral process, candidates running under the principle of relative majority carry out campaign activities in favor of their candidacy within the territory of the district for which they were registered.

Municipal president (mayor) and trustees of the Town Council.¹⁰ Political parties must register a full slate made up of candidacy formulas for each of the town council offices.¹¹ The municipal president and the trustees are elected under the principle of relative majority; this means that the candidacies of the party, or the independent candidacies, that obtain the highest number of votes in the election win.

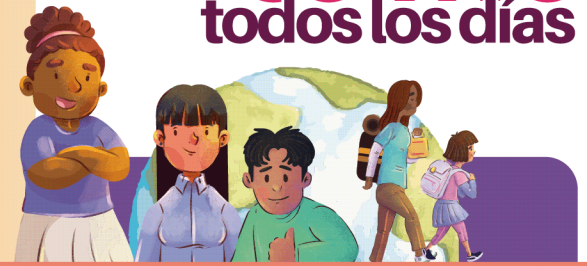
⁷National Electoral Institute. Electoral Glossary. Available at:
<https://centralectoral.ine.mx/2018/07/23/glosario-electoral-principio-de-mayoria-relativa/>

⁸Political Constitution of the Free and Sovereign State of Guanajuato, Article 67.

⁹Political Constitution of the Free and Sovereign State of Guanajuato, Article 42.

¹⁰Political Constitution of the Free and Sovereign State of Guanajuato, Article 109, Section I.

¹¹Law of Electoral Institutions and Procedures for the State of Guanajuato, Article 189, Section III.



Principle of proportional representation: This is the principle of indirect voting by which offices are assigned based on the percentage of votes obtained by a political party in the election. Its objective is to guarantee the participation of political minorities.¹² In the State of Guanajuato, the following popularly elected offices are chosen under this principle:

- 14 seats in the Congress of the State of Guanajuato.¹³

Political parties must register a list of 8 candidacy formulas in order of priority and include the candidacy formulas under the principle of relative majority that they have registered.¹⁴ The candidates on that proportional representation list may carry out campaign activities in favor of their party, but by law they must not incur any type of campaign expense.¹⁵

Council members of the Town Council.¹⁶ Political parties must register a full slate made up of candidacy formulas for each of the town council offices.¹⁷ Council members are assigned under the principle of proportional representation to ensure that minority parties have representation in the composition of the municipal governing body.

Migration: Migration is the movement of people from their place of habitual residence to a new place of residence, whether across an international border or within a country. While

¹²National Electoral Institute. Electoral Glossary. Available at: <https://centralectoral.ine.mx/2018/07/30/glosario-electoral-principio-de-representacion-proporcional/>

¹³Political Constitution of the Free and Sovereign State of Guanajuato, Article 42.

¹⁴Law of Electoral Institutions and Procedures for the State of Guanajuato, Article 189, Section II.

¹⁵Law of Electoral Institutions and Procedures for the State of Guanajuato, Article 188, last paragraph.

¹⁶Political Constitution of the Free and Sovereign State of Guanajuato, Article 109, Section II.

¹⁷Law of Electoral Institutions and Procedures for the State of Guanajuato, Article 189, Section III.

there are no universally agreed definitions for the concepts of “migration” or “migrant,” several definitions developed in different contexts enjoy wide acceptance.¹⁸

Migrant: The United Nations defines a migrant as any individual who has changed their country of residence. This includes all migrants, regardless of their legal status or the nature or motive of their movement.¹⁹ The word migrant (or, more precisely, international migrant) has been used to refer to people who choose to cross international borders not because of a direct threat of persecution, serious harm, or death, but solely for other reasons, such as improving their living conditions by seeking work or educational opportunities, or reuniting with family. Migrants in this sense—unlike refugees—continue, in principle, to enjoy the protection of their own government, even when they are abroad. If they return, they will continue to receive that protection.²⁰

Refugees and asylum seekers: They have fled their countries of origin due to persecution, war, generalized violence, or serious human rights violations. These persons require mandatory international protection from States.²¹

¹⁸International Organization for Migration, Migration Fundamentals. Available at: <https://www.iom.int/es/fundamentos-de-la-migracion>

¹⁹United Nations, Peace, dignity and equality on a healthy planet. Available at: <https://www.un.org/es/global-issues/migration>

²⁰UNHCR. Available at: <https://www.acnur.org/mx/solicitantes-de-asilo>

²¹UNHCR Mexico. Asylum seekers. Available at: <https://www.acnur.org/mx/solicitantes-de-asilo>



Resident abroad: A Mexican citizen whose habitual or principal residence is located outside the national territory and who, in accordance with the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, the General Law of Electoral Institutions and Procedures, and the regulations issued by the National Electoral Institute, retains the exercise of their political-electoral rights and may vote from the country in which they reside, provided that they meet the legal requirements for registration in the Nominal List of Voters Abroad and for the corresponding voting method.²²

²²Tax Administration Service. Available at: <https://www.mat.sat.gob.mx/consulta/06710/que-se-entiende-por-residente-en-el-extranjero>