



European Elections 2009

How can you "Use Your Vote"?



I'm a Latvian citizen living in Ireland. Can I participate in the 2009 European Elections?

Yes, you can participate in the European Elections 2009. You have two options:

- You can vote in the European Elections in Ireland (see below)
- or**
- You can vote in the European Elections in Latvia (see next page)

Please be aware that you can only choose **one** of the above options.

How can I participate in the European Elections in Ireland?

You can participate in the European Elections 2009 in Ireland, if

- You are citizen of an EU Member State,
- Were 18 years or older on the day of the Elections,
- Have been resident in Ireland since before 1 September 2008 and
- Are enrolled on the voting register the "Irish Register of Electors".

If you have registered in Ireland previously you can check if you are registered to vote in the European Elections at the offices of the registration authority and at public libraries, post offices and Garda stations(during working hours). You can also check the register online at www.checktheregister.ie.

If you are not already included in the Register for Electors, you can apply for entry into the supplement to the register. To do so you have to fill in an application form (RFA2), which you can obtain from you City/County Council or download from the "check the register" website (<http://www.checktheregister.ie/Portals/128/RFA2%20English%20-%20form.pdf>)

As an EU citizen you also have to fill in a form for registration as a European Elector (Form EP1) which you can obtain from your City/County Council or download from the following website: http://www.dlrcoco.ie/gp/European_Elector_Form.pdf

Your application form (RFA2) must be witnessed by a member of the Garda Síochána or, if you cannot go to your local Garda station, by an official of your local county or city council provided you state the reason why you were unable to attend a Garda Station.

Your application for entry in the supplement has to be received by your responsible registration authority at least 15 working days before polling day in order to be considered for the European Elections. Therefore your application has to be received by **18 May 2009**.



Be aware:
You can only vote in one country
Ireland OR Latvia



You can vote in the European Elections in Latvia...

If

- You are an Latvian citizen,
- Aged 18 years or older on the day of the Elections,
- Are in full possession of your voting rights in Latvia and
- Are entered in the electoral register in Latvia.

How can I check if I'm registered in the voting register and how can I enrol? Is there a deadline for registration?

Voter Lists are drawn up by the Central Election Commission, local authorities and the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs. According to the Voters Register Law from March 23 to 28 the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs will send by post, to a voter's declared address, a notice concerning the polling district where he/she is registered. Intending voters may ask the Central Election Commission for details of their polling districts. Voters can change the registered polling district by **12 May** at latest.

How can I vote in the European Elections in Latvia?

Voters residing in foreign countries can participate in the EP elections by postal voting. Diplomatic and consular mission of the Republic of Latvia will accept applications for postal voting **until 25 April**. The application can be submitted to the postal vote station in Riga **until 7 May**. A voter can apply for postal voting either personally or by sending the respective application by mail. You can find more information on the European Election on the website of the Latvian Embassy: <http://www.latvia.ie/lv/ireland/konsulara-informacija/EP-velesanas/>

Where can you find more information?

You can find more information on the website of the Central Election Commission of Latvia (<http://web.cvk.lv>) or you can get in contact with the Embassy of the Republic of Latvia in Ireland:

<p>Embassy of the Republic of Latvia 92 St. Stephen's Green Dublin 2 Tel.: (01) 428 3320 Fax: (01) 428 3311 E-mail: embassy.ireland@mfa.gov.lv Website: www.mfa.gov.lv/en/ireland/</p>
