



Press Office of the Constitutional Court

Press release of 17 March 2021

COVID-19 EMERGENCY: PUBLIC HEARINGS TO TAKE PLACE WITHOUT AN AUDIENCE

Starting with the public hearing of 23 March 2021, and until further notice, members of the public will not be allowed to attend the Constitutional Court's hearings in person.

This was established with the Decree of 16 March 2021 of the President of the Constitutional Court, Giancarlo Coraggio, after hearing the full panel of justices, in light of the urgent measures adopted by the Government to contain and manage the Covid-19 epidemiological emergency in the regions of Emilia-Romagna, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Lazio, Lombardy, Piedmont and Veneto. However, upon request by members of the press, the President of the Court can provide for the livestreaming of the discussion of one or more cases. The livestream will be available on the Constitutional Court's website.

In any event, the public nature of the hearings is also guaranteed by the verbatim record made thereof by the Registrar, as well as by the recording of the hearings and their subsequent publication on the Court's website.

The Decree confirms the measures already in force to address the health emergency.

In particular:

- 1) Justices and counsel can also participate in the public hearings via remote connection and unrobed.
- 2) Case documents (except references and applications) can also be filed, temporarily, via certified e-mail (PEC) to the e-mail address created for the purpose pursuant to the Decree of the President of the Constitutional Court of 1 October 2020 (cancelleria.emergenza2020@pec.cortecostituzionale.it). This is without prejudice to the fact that the parties' case documents will be

made available to the lawyers by the Registry according to the standard procedure.

- 3) The Registry of the Constitutional Court remains open to the public from Monday to Friday from 09.00 to 13.00.

As always, all communications on the organisation of the Court's jurisdictional activity during the ongoing health emergency are published on the Court's website and its mobile app.

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