



Press Office of the Constitutional Court

Press release of 6 October 2020

COVID-19 EMERGENCY: JUSTICES AND LAWYERS WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC HEARINGS REMOTELY

From 20 October 2020 to 31 January 2021, individual justices and lawyers will be able to participate in public hearings remotely, if reasons relating to the COVID-19 health emergency prevent them from attending the Constitutional Court in person.

This is established in the [Decree](#) of the President of the Constitutional Court issued today by President Mario Rosario Morelli, in conformity with the decisions taken by the full panel of justices.

The decree was adopted to help fight the COVID-19 emergency, with particular reference to the epidemiological situation at the Court and to ensure continuity and timeliness in the conduct of constitutional justice in full observance of the adversarial principle.

In light of the Court's autonomy and the specific nature of constitutional proceedings, the decree is in line with those adopted earlier during this health emergency. The decree re-introduces a number of measures that have already been tested and includes new ones, in particular to ensure that addressing cases via public hearings can proceed.

To this end, the option to join the proceedings remotely has been extended to individual justices or lawyer staking part in public hearings; previously, this option was available only for the Court sitting in closed chambers. The request must reach the Court's Registry by 12.00 hrs on the day before the hearing and must be granted by the President of the Court.

All of the decrees of the President of the Constitutional Court issued during the health crisis are available on the Court's website and are notified via the

Court's mobile application. It is recommended to consult and download these media, respectively.

Rome, 6 October 2020

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