



Press Office of the Constitutional Court

Press release of 30 October 2020

COVID-19 EMERGENCY: FACILITATING JUDGES' AND LAWYERS' REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC HEARINGS

Judges and lawyers will be able to take part in public hearings remotely by simply making a request to this effect.

This is established by the [Decree](#) of the President of the Constitutional Court Mario Rosario Morelli, after hearing the full panel of justices that met this morning, for the Court's activities "starting from the public hearing of 3 November 2020 until further provision is made". The measure broadens those introduced under the [decree of 6 October 2020](#).

The latest Decree fits into the framework of the measures that have already been adopted both to ensure the continuity and timeliness in the conduct of constitutional justice in full observance of the adversarial principle, and to face the ongoing health emergency.

In light of the experience gained and of the need to develop and adapt the existing measures to the evolving circumstances, this Decree expands the option for individual judges and lawyers to take part in public hearings remotely. Indeed, the request to this effect can now be made regardless of any certified health reasons strictly related to Covid-19. The request must reach the Court's Registry by 12.00 hrs on the day before the hearing, via e-mail to the following address: cancelleria@cortecostituzionale.it.

It is confirmed that, in compliance with the health measures currently in force, up to a maximum of 20 members of the public can attend the hearings, in order of reservation. Reservations must be made via e-mail to ufficio.cerimoniale@cortecostituzionale.it by 10.00 hrs on the day before the public hearing. The public nature of the hearings is also guaranteed by the verbatim record thereof made by the Registrar, as well as by the recording of the hearings and their subsequent publication on the Court's website.

This is without prejudice to the possibility to file case documents, temporarily and with the exception of references and applications, via certified e-mail (PEC) to the e-mail address created specifically for the purpose under the Decree of the President of the Constitutional Court of 1 October 2020: cancelleria.emergenza2020@cortecostituzionale.mailcert.it.

In any event, the Registry will make the case documents available to lawyers according to the standard procedures.

As done for the measures previously issued, this Decree too is available on the website and on the app of the Constitutional Court, where all updates on the performance and organization of the Court's activity during the health emergency are posted in real time.

Rome, 30 October 2020

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