

Voting on the Rule of Life - Procedure

Bethlehem, 14 – 31 May 2011

1. **Preparation stage** - Each delegate has received the Rule of Life in his own language and in French. The reference text (submitted to the CIVCSVA) is the text in French. It is the task and the duty of each delegate to read it and write down the modifications he deems appropriate after listening to what was said in the Vicariate Assembly and in the Regional Chapter. It is important that each delegate reads carefully the text before coming to the Chapter. Please note that some modifications have already been submitted to the Commission for the revision of the Rule of Life (according to what was decided in the Vicariate Assemblies and the Regional Chapters) and have already been added to the text.
2. **During the General Chapter**
 - Each delegate will be given each day a list of the articles of the R. o. L. to be voted on.
 - Each delegate will be given three cards: **green** for I AM IN FAVOUR, **red** for I AM AGAINST; **blue** for I ABSTAIN..
 - Each delegate will receive a **form to write the modifications on**.
3. **MODIFICATIONS:**
 - If a delegate wants to propose a modifications to the R. o. L.
 - ✓ He will write in full the modified text. The form must be given to the coordinators **before 12 noon of the day preceding the discussion of the articles to be modified. Forms submitted on the day of discussion in the assembly will not be accepted** (for organizational reasons)
 - ✓ The procedures will speed up if a digital text too is provided.
 - ✓ In the assembly, floor will be given to the delegates who have submitted the form. They have two or three minutes to give reasons for the modification.
 - ✓ Short interventions (touching the core of the subject) in favour or against the modification are allowed.
4. **Voting procedures:**
 - The R. of L. will be voted by groups of chapters or part of them having the same content. Inside each group of chapters a single article can be amended.
 - **For an amendment to be put to the vote, three other delegates must give their approval.**
 - **If there are several texts to be modified**, the coordination team and the Commission of the revision of the R of L will submit the different texts to the Assembly for the approval. If different texts have the same content, they will be amalgamated and one text will be produced and put to the vote.
 - Each modification will be put to the vote only after going through the procedures described above.
 - Then the voting will take place. The amendments to be accepted **need the favorable vote of two thirds of the delegates present** at the moment of the ballot. If this is not the case, the article of the R. of L. in question will be voted on with the rest of the group of the other articles.
 - **If there are no amendments the group of the chapters will be voted in its entirety**
5. **Approval of the Rule of Life:**
 - Before each ballot the number of the delegates with the right of vote will be called out;
 - **The delegates present will be counted;**
 - The text is approved definitively if **the quorum of the two thirds of those present at that moment in the assembly in reached.**
 - The ballot takes place with the three cards (green, red, blue).
 - The scrutators will count the votes in favour, against and the abstentions.