

Rules of the Senate*

Ege İşeri†

Provisional of January 2026

Abstract

This document is intended to guide the staff and participants of the *Parliament of Italy* committee on procedural matters including and not limited to parliamentary ethics, and ways and means of debate. Any scenario permitted, but not specified, under these rules is covered by the 12th edition of *Robert's Rules of Order New Revised*.

Contents

1	Behaviour of Senators and other Officers	2
2	Committee flow	2
3	Flow of debate	3
4	Miscellaneous provisions	5

*Prepared for and with the support of the Çapa High School of Sciences' Model United Nations Society.

†Under-Secretary-General for the *Parliament of Italy* committee.

1 Behaviour of Senators and other Officers

The Italian Senate, which was once the Senate of the Kingdom, and before that, Senate *in the Senate and the People of Rome*, is one of the oldest political institution in the world. With its age, certain norms have been erected, and introduced for its sake, that regulates how one should act within the Senate. These norms (and other affiliated proses of communication committee participants and staff) are as follows:

1. Usage of the first-person pronouns for addressing oneself is permitted when delivering speeches.
2. Directly referring to a fellow Senator is **not** allowed. Senators should refer their fellows in third-person via addressing to the chair, as exhibited in this example as follows:

Mr. (or Madam) President, I completely agree with the words that
Senator A gave.

And not:

I completely agree with *your* speech, *Senator A.*

3. Presidency of the Senate is not bound by the aforementioned limitations of pronoun usage.
4. Senators shall always give addresses respective, appropriate, and honourably suited for the confines of the Senate and its members. Senators not abiding to this provision may be appropriately disciplined by the committee staff by having their speech terminated as a minimum, and expulsion from the Senate as a maximum measure.

2 Committee flow

Stipulated below is the overall structure on how the committee will work from its start to finish:

1. At first, the President of Italy will be appointed by lottery. This figure will form the basis of the soon-to-be established executive.
2. The President is then immediately tasked with naming a President of the Council of Ministers (hereinafter referred as the 'Prime Minister'), who shall create a Council of Ministers (hereinafter referred as the 'Cabinet') comprised of the following offices:
 - Deputy Prime Minister;
 - Minister of the Interior;
 - Minister of Justice;
 - Minister of Economy and Finance.

3. This proposed Cabinet is presented to the President, who may veto and instruct the Prime Minister to present another Cabinet. If not vetoed, the Cabinet is presented to the committee for a vote of confidence.
4. The Presidency and the Cabinet remains unshaken and assumes the duties of their respective offices upon receiving confidence of the committee. If not, they are relinquished from their positions and a new president is appointed by lottery.
5. No person that failed to secure the confidence of the committee may be presented as a candidate to the Presidency or to the Cabinet in the first succeeding (if applicable) round of elections.
6. Upon the completion of the elections, President of the Senate calls for the legislature session to take place. Where, initial time to prepare proposals are granted.
7. A proposal made by a Cabinet member can be immediately submitted to the Senate Presidency for future debate. Proposals written by an ordinary Senator may only submit such proposal if it has the support (shown by signatures) of one-fifth of the present Senators.
8. President of Italy cannot submit proposals himself, but may instruct the Cabinet his will.
9. After the Senate Presidency is satisfied with the amount of proposals submitted, debate is called. Submitted proposals then get shuffled. President is relayed three proposals, of which he can remove one, which he then passes the remaining proposals to the Prime Minister, who also discards one more proposal, and sets the agenda to the last remaining proposal.
10. This cycle resumes. If and when the Cabinet and the Presidency is shaken or relived from duty, new elections are called.
11. For extraordinary reasons, interruptions to this flow may be made by the committee staff to address such unusual and urgent business.

3 Flow of debate

The following provisions establish the rules for debate: motions, points, and as such:

1. Whenever a proposal is introduced, a general debate is permitted that encompasses the entire merits of said proposal. Written amendments may be introduced at this time by submission to the Senate Presidency.
2. Time allocation for the general debate may be set by the proposal itself (if mentioned), or the Senate Presidency.
3. Only Senators, and the submitter of the proposal (if a member of the Cabinet), can participate in the general debate. Individuals who wish to signify their inclusion to the debate may signal the Senate Presidency by correspondence papers.

4. All members of the Cabinet, and the President may give a speech after the Senate Presidency declares the general debate to be over and permit the last remarks from government representatives.

5. Motions applicable independent of a proposal:

Adjourn the meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting terminates the ongoing sitting for that day. *This is the expected ‘special motion’ to be used in closing the committee for the day.* This motion is not debatable.

Suspend the meeting: Motion to suspend the meeting is used to pause the ongoing sitting for the day, to give coffee breaks in between set sessions. *This is the expected ‘special motion’ to be used for terminating debate in between conference sessions.* This motion is not debatable.

Confidence/no confidence: A motion of confidence, or no confidence can be submitted with the support (shown with signatures) from one-third of the present Senators.

6. Motions applicable to use on a proposal during debate:

Blocking motion: A motion to block (or blocking motion) can be entertained when the Senate does not wish to consider the proposal. No debate occurs on this motion and is adopted by a simple majority of those present.

Declaration of inadmissibility: A motion may be recommended as inadmissible on the grounds of being unaffiliated with the merits of the question. Upon moving to declare a proposal inadmissible, the President of the Senate shall give their decision.

Postponement: A proposal may be postponed to be debated on a set date, or *postponed indefinitely* (effectively killing the debate on that proposal). Motion to postpone indefinitely ranks above to postpone definitely (to a set date), neither motion is debatable.

Table: A motion may be tabled (a.k.a. ‘paused’) to allow for the consideration of another question. Motion to *take from the table*, ranks below this motion (which is to ‘unpause’ the debate on that motion). None of the motions are debatable.

Separately consider: Motion to separately consider is used to divide a question into parts that can be debated and voted on individually. It is debatable.

Amend: A proposal may be amended as to **add**, **remove**, or **change** its wording. Such motion must be submitted to the Senate Presidency in writing. Motions to amend motions (sub-amendments) may be submitted verbally during its consideration.

7. Aforementioned motions to block, declare inadmissible, postpone definitely and indefinitely table, take from the table, and consider separately are also applicable to the motion to amend.

8. Displayed ranking of the motions from clause (1) to (2) is those motions' precedence over one another.
9. Following points may be entertained when recognised by the Senate Presidency:
 - Point of personal privilege:** If you are unaware what this point is or its implications, please refrain from partaking in the conference.
 - Point of order:** May be introduced to notify the Senate Presidency if the procedure is not being followed. An urgent decision must be made, and may be overridden by two-thirds of the present Senators.
 - Point of parliamentary inquiry:** Used to raise a question to the Senate Presidency over how procedure ought to be followed.
10. During debate, speeches may be interrupted by question-seeking Senators, if the speaker *gives way* for such Senator to raise their question to the speaker. A Senator may signify their desire to *have way* by raising up. Only one question can be asked per person for each speech.

4 Miscellaneous provisions

1. In regard to rule 2(9), the Prime Minister may choose not to introduce any agenda (or 'veto') the legislative process with the consent of the President. In doing so, a debate is immediately called upon where Senators are free to inquire both the Prime Minister and President over their choice to veto, and pursuant to rule 3(5), force out the government by a motion of no confidence. Motions of no confidence are assumed to be debated and immediately put to vote under this circumstance.
2. Proposals may include powers which may grant the President to take certain 'executive actions', such acts may be taken after the completion of each legislative session.