

2025 CZN 1: Electoral Reform

Authors:

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Abstract ID: 437

Event: USI/AMLÉ Comhdháil 2025

Topic: Citizenship

Keywords: Elections, Voter, Voting

BEGIN YOUR MOTION OR AMENDMENT BELOW THE DASHED LINES BENEATH THE INSTRUCTIONS

**Please put the title of the motion at the
top of the motion in H1**

**Please put your SU name (or the committee on behalf
of which you are proposing a motion or amendment) at
the top of the motion in H2**

Formatting: put any 'Congress notes/believes/' etc prefixes in **H3 or Bold** and make sure a space exists between each clause paragraph. Have a look at <https://congress.usi.ie/writing-a-motion-for-usi-congress/> for advice.

2025 NA: Electoral Reform

Proposed by: TUS Students Union

Comhdháil Notes that

Absentee voting & Overseas voting (For the vast majority of Irish citizens), Automatic voter registration and voting at 16 does not exist in Ireland.

Comhdháil Further Notes that

That many Irish Citizens have emigrated from Ireland, many in part due to the failures of the Irish

government. The current system of overseas voting does not allow those who have emigrated to

vote only those who are Members of the armed forces and the diplomatic services.

Comhdháil Acknowledges

The current system for absentee ballot submissions is too rigid and if a snap election is to be called it

allows students only a small few days to get the documentation ready for an absentee ballot.

Comhdháil Believes that

Absentee voting & Overseas voting, Automatic voter registration and voting at 16, would increase

voter participation among young people and facilitate better political engagement.

Comhdháil Mandates

The USI/AMLE President with the support of the Coiste Gnó to lobby the government and the

relevant Minister, to allow

- Votes at 16
- Automatic voter registration
- Absentee voting
- Overseas voting

Repeals 2022 NA 3: Electoral Reform

2025 CZN 2: Coiste Access & Employability

Authors:

Chris Stewart, USI/AMLÉ

Abstract ID: 400

Event: USI/AMLÉ Comhdháil 2025

Topic: Citizenship

Keywords: Coiste Gnó, elections, immigration, non-EEA, salary, work permit

Coiste Access & Employability

USI/AMLÉ Vice President for the Border, Midlands, & Western Region

COMHDHÁIL NOTES:

That USI/AMLÉ is the representative organisation for third-level students and candidates in the Republic, regardless of their background. As a democratic and public union, all members of USI/AMLÉ should be empowered and able to run for any elected position in the organisation.

COMHDHÁIL FURTHER NOTES:

The Irish Government puts onerous restrictions on residents in the State that are not EU/EEA nationals. Specifically, student visas preclude full-time employment during semesters, and there are salary requirements & employment category restrictions for visas that would allow these individuals the right to work for an organisation like USI/AMLÉ.

COMHDHÁIL BELIEVES:

That all members of USI/AMLÉ deserve the right to accessible, free, and fair elections as candidates and constituents.

THEREFORE, COMHDHÁIL MANDATES:

That the President work with USI/AMLÉ's Governance Committee to ensure that Coiste salaries, as a minimum index, meet the threshold for the General Employment Permit, avoiding potential legal expenditures and remedies otherwise.

COMHDHÁIL FURTHER MANDATES:

That the President & Vice President for Equality & Citizenship create organisational guidelines to ensure that non-EEA nationals have a clear pathway to employment as officers within USI/AMLÉ upon a successful election. This should include material that can be circulated to MOs and/or potential candidates to answer common questions on topics surrounding immigration & Students' Union elected positions.

COMHDHÁIL LASTLY MANDATES:

The President and Vice President for Equality & Citizenship, with support from the Coiste Gnó, to lobby the Department of Trade, Enterprise and Employment to provide a specific, reliable schema for elected Students' Union officers to ensure their employments are valid and will not require legal intervention to safeguard in each instance. This lobbying must include that Union employment remain excluded from the "Ineligible Categories of Employment" list.

References:

[General Employment Permit](#)

[Ineligible Categories of Employment](#)