

Puerto Rico Student/Parent Mock Election



INSTITUTO DE FORMACIÓN DEMOCRÁTICA

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- Organize School Forums and debates about local, national and international issues.
- Discuss with your fellow classmates the issues of terrorism and security, the presidential vote, Puerto Rico's New Economic Model (a technology and services oriented economy), corruption, investment in education, crime, etc.
- Discuss with your fellow classmates, parents, teachers and community leaders, the feasibility of Puerto Rico becoming an Antilles Confederacy, an Independent Republic, a Free Associated Republic, a state in the United States of America, maintaining the current status of Commonwealth.
- Define the following terms: citizenship, nation, state, confederacy, language, corruption, freedom, constitution, law, democracy, Congress, the division of powers (the three branches of government: Executive, Legislative, Judicial), the Fourth Power (the press), and entitlements.
- Make a list of all the democratic countries in the world. Organize a quiz contest about the world's democracies. Break up into teams – with each team member responsible for becoming an “expert” on a different democracy. Then, discuss why some democracies succeed over other.
- Organize speeches and debates before students and parents by local candidates and stand-in.
- Organize a quiz team and speech writing competitions.
- Make weekly meetings to follow the course of the campaigns.
- Organize school and neighborhood campaigns to increase voter turnout; design newsletters, poster, telephone calls and coordinate transportation for senior citizens on elections day.
- Cut newspaper articles on the issues of the upcoming general election and discuss them in school forums or debates.
- Discuss the historical background of elections and the right to vote in Puerto Rico.
- Look ahead and imagine the possible scenario on each of the status formulas.
- Compare the Puerto Rico status issue with the one in Scotland, Ireland, Quebec, Guam, the Marshall Islands, Taiwan, the Falkland Islands, and others.
- Discuss other ways of addressing the status issue and look for solutions.
- Write a letter to the Resident Commissioner and the President of the United States on the status of Puerto Rico.
- Write a letter to your representative in the state legislature on the status of Puerto Rico and their actions to address the issue.
- Write a letter on the status issue of Puerto Rico to the editor of a local newspaper or magazine.

How to participate:

1. Send in your registration to the Instituto de Formacion Democratica.
2. Contact your school coordinator and follow the rules of the Mock Election on how to organize an Electoral College.
3. Speak out ... Vote!
4. Call in your vote to the Instituto de Formacion Democratica:

Telephones: 273-6724, 530-7575, 781-7294, 787-430-7575, 720-1022

Fax: 793-0250, 720-1092, 720-6841

e-mail: ifd@mockelectionpr.com, rbarquin3@barquin.com

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