
Information for members of the committees representing the options

A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE REFERENDUM PERIOD

During the referendum period, which lasts about two weeks, you will have the opportunity to advertise, give speeches and promote your option.

The referendum period comprises several steps. They are:

- calling of the referendum;
- preparation and revision of the list of electors;
- referendum campaign;
- referendum day;
- official announcement of the results.

The chief electoral officer will send you the detailed calendar of the events as well as the regulations to ensure the holding of a fair and honest referendum. It is up to you to be properly informed.

REFERENDUM SPEECH: A VITAL TOOL

The presentation of referendum speeches is an important step in the referendum campaign.

Your challenge is to convey in a very short time, for example five minutes, information on the option of which you are the spokesperson and on its advantages. That is why it is important to prepare your speech carefully. To do this, you can draw inspiration from the following points which many communicators have found to be very useful.

Introduction

Even if you are introduced by another person, be sure to mention your name, indicate your field of studies and specify the option that you are defending.

Development

- Talk about the advantages of the option that you are representing.
- Clearly explain the objectives of your committee.
- Introduce the members of your committee and summarize their experience.

Conclusion

- Summarize, in a single sentence, the previous three points.
- Repeat your name and invite the students to vote for your option.
- Thank the public.

HOW TO GIVE YOUR SPEECH

In addition to evaluating the content of your speech, students will react to how you present it. What you do or don't do will be just as important as if not more important than what you say.

The following tips could be useful:

It is not easy to go before a group, it can be frightening. Sitting behind a table or standing behind a lectern often helps allay your fear. It's as if the table or the lectern were a shield...

Arrange your text or your notes on the desk or the lectern. You don't want to have to hold a sheet that can conceal a part of your face or that can shake because you are nervous.

Remain still for a few seconds before beginning to speak. There is nothing like a few moments of silence to get a group to settle down and to capture the attention of your public.

Your hands are very useful communication tools. They support and illustrate what you say, often without your even realizing it. Don't put your hands in your pockets or fold your arms. Keep your hands and arms free.

Don't be a prisoner of your text. You can refer to it from time to time, but avoid reading or reciting it. Students want to hear you say something about yourself and your ideas. Give them what they want!
