

Sri Lanka

<p><b>Background</b></p>	<p><b>Name of EMB:</b> Election Commission (Sri Lanka)  <b>Status:</b> Permanent  <b>Number of commissioners:</b> Two members and the chairperson.  <b>Number of full-time EMB staff:</b> 555</p>
<p><b>Establishment of the EMB</b></p>	<p>Article 103 of the Constitution of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.</p> <p><b>EMB's mandate:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. responsible for conducting referenda and presidential, parliamentary, provincial council and local authorities elections;</li> <li>2. continuous voter registration;</li> <li>3. registration and deregistration of political parties;</li> <li>4. voter education;</li> <li>5. dispute resolution among electoral stakeholders;</li> <li>6. development of codes of conduct for candidates and contesting political parties and groups;</li> <li>7. issuing of media guidelines; and</li> <li>8. accreditation of election observer groups.</li> </ol> <p><b>EMB model:</b> Independent</p> <p><b>What standards are established in the constitution or other legislation for democratic legitimacy?</b>          Article 103(2) stresses that the Election Commission should assure the conduct of free and fair elections.</p>

<b>Appointment, tenure and removals</b>	<b>Provisions for the appointment of commissioners:</b>	By the President of the country, with the recommendation of the Constitutional Council.
	<b>Political status of commissioners:</b>	Experts
	<b>Chair qualifications:</b>	None specified
	<b>Commissioner qualifications:</b>	None specified
	<b>Tenure of chair and commissioners:</b>	Five years
	<b>Provisions for the removal of commissioners:</b>	No person shall be appointed as a member if such member is a Member or becomes a Member of Parliament, a provincial council or local authority, or is appointed as a judicial officer or public officer, or enters into employment of the state.
	<b>Provisions for the appointment of EMB senior staff:</b>	Through the Constitutional Council.
	<b>Tenure of EMB senior staff:</b>	Five years
	<b>Provisions for the removal of EMB senior staff:</b>	By the Constitutional Council.
<b>Funding arrangements</b>	<b>Setting and control of EMB's budget:</b>	By the Election Commission.
	<b>Financial autonomy:</b>	Yes
	<b>Legal provisions for financial autonomy:</b>	No such provisions; the Election Commission submits the annual performance appraisal to parliament within the first two months of the following year.
	<b>Number of chambers/houses within the legislature:</b>	Unicameral
<b>Electoral system</b>	<b>Voting system:</b>	Proportional representation (PR).
	<b>Amendments to electoral laws:</b>	Developing a system of mixed electoral practice.
	<b>Drafting of electoral regulations:</b>	No
	<b>Electoral dispute resolution mechanisms:</b>	Meeting with representatives of political parties, observer groups and media, while focusing on ongoing matters.

<p><b>Other issues:</b></p>	
<p><b>Secretariat</b></p>	<p>Yes, but with the consultation of the Constitutional Council.</p>
<p><b>Administrative autonomy:</b></p>	<p>There are no women in the commission itself. However, in the Secretariat, three of the 17 senior-level posts are held by women.</p>
<p><b>Women in senior positions:</b></p>	<p>The chairperson and the members are the policy organ of the commission.</p> <p>There are nine main divisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Voter registration, parliament, presidential elections and referenda</li> <li>2. Party registration, elections for provincial council and local authorities</li> <li>3. Legal and investigation</li> <li>4. Research, development and voter awareness</li> <li>5. Human resources development and administration</li> <li>6. Finance and procurement</li> <li>7. Information communication technology</li> <li>8. Internal auditing</li> <li>9. Secretariat of the Election Commission</li> </ol>
<p><b>Administrative structure:</b></p>	