

XIV. ITALY

Population: 57,844,017

Membership OSCE: Original - Helsinki Final Act: Original - Charter of Paris: Original

Membership Council of Europe: 05/05/49 - Membership U.N.:14/12/55 - Member of the European Union

A. CONSTITUTION

Article 3 [Freedom, Equality]

(1) All citizens are invested with equal social status and are equal before the law, without distinction as to sex, race, language, religion, political opinions, and personal or social conditions.

Article 8 [Religion]

(1) All religious denominations are equally free before the law.

(2) Religious denominations other than Catholic are entitled to organize themselves according to their own creed provided that they are not in conflict with Italian juridical organization.

(3) Their relations with the State are regulated by law on the basis of agreements with their respective representatives.

Article 19 [Freedom of Religion]

All are entitled to freely profess their religious convictions in any form, individually or in associations, to propagate them, and to celebrate them in public or in private, save in the case of rites contrary to morality.

Article 20 [Religious Institutions]

The religious character and the religious or confessional aims of an association or institution shall not involve special legal limitations or special fiscal burdens for its constitution, legal status, or any of its activities.

B. LEGISLATION

C. CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

Act containing “New Rules in the Field of Conscientious Objection”, n. 230 of 8.7.1998 (published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale, n. 163 of 15.7. 1998).