

General Election Calendar - Poland - Presidential Election May 2020

(excerpt)

date	days till election day	event	meaning
05/02/2020	95 days	General election of the President of the Republic of Poland is ordered	Date of election (May 10) and time limits for election activities, e.g. candidate registration, are established
24/02/2020	76 days	NEC (National Election Commission) adopts resolutions on ballots	The resolutions apply to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the ballot template and Braille overlays for ballot papers, ○ guidelines for ballots print and delivery
14/03/2020	57 days	State of epidemic emergency is announced on the territory of the Republic of Poland	
20/03/2020	51 days	State of epidemic is announced on the territory of the Republic of Poland	
26/03/2020	45 days	Closing date for candidate registration	
31/03/2020	40 days	The adoption of the “Act of March 31, 2020 on special solutions related to the prevention, counteracting and combating of COVID-19, other infectious diseases and crisis situations caused by them, as well as some other acts”	The Election Code is amended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apart from voters with disabilities, <u>postal voting</u> is also available for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ voters who, on election day, are subject to mandatory quarantine, isolation or home isolation, ○ voters who are 60 years or older on the day of the election, • proxy voting is available for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ voters who are 60 years or older on the day of the election
06/04/2020	34 days	The “Draft Act on special rules for conducting the general election of the President of the Republic of Poland in 2020” is introduced and immediately adopted by the <i>Sejm</i>	The provisions of the Act introduce postal voting as the only form of voting during Presidential Elections in 2020. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • within 4 hours the Draft Act passes three readings in the Sejm, • the Act has not been consulted with NEC, Ombudsman, local government members or NGOs, • Act is passed on to the Senate

15/04/2020	25 days	NEC announces candidates for President of the Republic of Poland in the general election ordered for May 10, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there are 10 candidates accepted to run in the presidential election
16/04/2020	24 days	The “Act on special support instruments in connection with the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus” (Shield 2) is adopted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • main objective of “Shield 2” Act is to counteract the crisis caused by the epidemic, • the Act includes one provision affecting the application of the Election Code (Article 102)
		Prime Minister orders PWPW (Polish Security Printing Works) to print ballots, along with the entire electoral package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWPW prepares the ballots’ template, • the template is disclosed to the public by one of the candidates, • the template does not comply with the provisions of the Election Code nor with NEC resolution
18/04/2020	22 days	The “Act on special support instruments in connection with the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (Shield 2)” enters into force	<p>Article 102 exempts, during the state of epidemic, from the application of the provisions of the Election Code in presidential election regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ providing the voters with information on polling districts, date and hours of voting, ○ postal voting and proxy voting, ○ NEC making decision on ballot template and managing the process of ballot printing
05/05/2020	5 days	The Senate adopts a resolution upon the complete rejection of the “Act on special rules for conducting the general election of the President of the Republic of Poland in 2020” passed before by <i>Sejm</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Senate takes advantage of the 30-day time limit to vote on the bill • broad consultations are being held, legal opinions on proposed bill are submitted - mostly highly unfavourable
07/05/2020	3 days	<i>Sejm</i> rejects the Senate’s resolution on the “Act on special rules for conducting the general election of the President of the Republic of Poland in 2020” - the bill is adopted	The Act has to be signed by the President, so that it can enter into force
07/05/2020,	3 days	NEC issues a communication that it is impossible to conduct voting on May 10	<p>The NEC states that: “depriving the NEC of legal possibilities to print ballots has made the voting in the general election of the President of the Republic of Poland on May 10, 2020 impossible”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • this does not constitute a generally applicable legal act,
08/05/2020	2 days	President signs the Act on special rules for conducting the general election of the President of the Republic of Poland ordered in 2020	

08/05/2020	2 days	The Council of Ministers' position from May 8, 2020 on the possibility of conducting the general election of the President of the Republic of Poland on May 10, 2020	<p>It is indicated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • within duties and powers of the government administration, it is not possible to conduct general election of the President of the Republic of Poland on the date indicated by the <i>Marshal</i> (Speaker) of <i>Sejm</i>, i.e. May 10, 2020, • the items of electoral packages have already been printed out and Poczta Polska (Polish Post) was ordered to perform the necessary activities leading to preparation and conduct of postal voting in presidential election, • printed materials should be used in general election of the President of the Republic of Poland that will be conducted in accordance with the amended regulations • the Council of Ministers offers all necessary assistance to all national authorities and institutions in order to conduct the elections as soon as possible <p>The position is not legally binding.</p>
09/05/2020	24 hours	The “Act of April 6, 2020 on special rules for conducting the general election of the President of the Republic of Poland ordered in 2020” enters into force.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • postal voting as the only form of voting in Presidential elections, • dissolution of appointed Precinct Election Commissions, • the Ministry of State Assets is involved in the preparation of presidential election, including preparing and printing ballots and supervising the Polish Post (Poczta Polska) which is responsible for the delivery of electoral packages
		Ministry of State Assets adopts a regulation on transferring the electoral register to the municipal precinct election commission and the designated service provider (Polish Post) in preparation for the conduct of the general election of the President of the Republic of Poland	This regulation describes the procedure and form of providing the electoral register from the municipality to the municipal precinct election commission and to the Polish Post
10/05/2020		Voting day with no voting	Only postal voting is possible, but no voting takes place