## **Elections**

## Thematic vocabulary: ELECTIONS + Chapter 12

A swing A change in favor of a particular political party

Floating voters Voters who haven't decided who to vote for yet

Popularity ratings The results of surveys of public opinion showing how popular

politicians are with the people who are going to vote

Electorate

To roll out a program To implement, launch or introduce a programme, particularly if it

is going to be done at slightly different times in different places

A hawk A supporter of aggressive foreign policy

A right winger A political conservative

A hardliner A politician who strongly believes in a fixed set of ideas and

refuses to change

Ballot scrutin / bulletin de vote

Caucus Closed meeting of party members to determine nominations

Constituency électeurs / circonscription

Crossover vote A vote by a member of one party for a candidate of another

party

Electorate Those eligible to vote

Franchise The constitutional right to vote

Independent voter A voter who doesn't belong to a political party

Incumbent A person currently holding office (le candidat sortant)

Nominee The person that a political party names, or nominates, to

represent it in a general election

Non partisan Not associated with a particular political party

Office A political position

A plank A stand on an issue by a political party

Pollster Person or company that researches public opinion

Polling place/station Bureau de vote

Voting suppression Any effort, either legal or illegal, by way of laws, administrative

rules, and/or tactics that prevents eligible voters from

registering to vote or voting

Election rigging

The act of dishonestly organizing an election to get a particular

result, it is an electoral fraud and an interference with the

election process.

Absentee voting Vote par correspondance

Proxy vote Vote par procuration
Opinion poll Sondage d'opinion

Personation The offence of impersonating someone else in order to use

their vote.

To spin The attempt to place a favourable interpretation on an event so

that people or the media will interpret it in that way. Those

performing this act are known as spin doctors.

Spoiled ballots Ballot papers which have been filled in incorrectly. The

returning officer has the final say over whether any paper not

marked with a single cross is valid.

Tactical voting This is when people vote not for the party they really support,

but for another party in order to keep out a more disliked rival.

Turnout Taux de participation

Constituent Electeur

Gerrymandering To redraw electoral district boundaries for political advantage.

Party platform Formal set of principal goals which are supported by a given

party

Straw vote Also known as straw poll, it is an ad-hoc or unofficial vote which

is used to show the popular opinion on a certain matter

(sondage non officiel)

To abstain To refuse to exercize the right to vote

Blank vote Vote blanc

Endorsement The support or approval for a candidate by a prominent

individual (soutien officiel)

but has not yet been formally nominated

Running mate A candidate who is running for office with another candidate on

the same ticket (co-listier / candidat à la vice-présidence)

To recall The act of removing an official by petition

Recall election Method of election in which voters can oust elected officials

before their terms have ended (Référendum révocatoire)

Representative Représentant, délégué