

## Referendum on the Tenth Amendment of the Constitution Bill 1987 (ratification of the Single European Act) (26 May 1987)

**Caption:** The Crotty v. An Taoiseach judgment handed down by the Irish Supreme Court ruled that the Single European Act (SEA) could only be ratified if the Constitution was first changed. 44.1 % of the electorate turned out to vote in the referendum held on 26 May 1987, with 69.9 % voting in favour of changing the Constitution. The Tenth Amendment to the Irish Constitution expressly permits the state to ratify the SEA.

**Source:** Referendum Results 1937-2012 Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, Dublin, July 2012, pp. 40-41 .

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**URL:**

[http://www.cvce.eu/obj/referendum\\_on\\_the\\_tenth\\_amendment\\_of\\_the\\_constitution\\_bill\\_1987\\_ratification\\_of\\_the\\_single\\_european\\_act\\_26\\_may\\_1987-en-66adc396-281f-41c9-80bc-4b18f36d5ba1.html](http://www.cvce.eu/obj/referendum_on_the_tenth_amendment_of_the_constitution_bill_1987_ratification_of_the_single_european_act_26_may_1987-en-66adc396-281f-41c9-80bc-4b18f36d5ba1.html)

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19. **Referendum on ratification of the Single European Act (1987)**  
**(Tenth Amendment of the Constitution Bill 1987)**

Polling at the referendum took place on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May 1987 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

The subject matter of the referendum was described as follows on the official polling card circulated to each elector:

**"THE TENTH AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION BILL, 1987,** proposes to enable the State to ratify the Single European Act by inserting the sentence here following into subsection 3° of section 4 of Article 29 of the Constitution after the first sentence:

The State may ratify the Single European Act (signed on behalf of the Member States of the Communities at Luxembourg on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1986, and at the Hague on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1986)."

*(The statement was prescribed by the Referendum (Amendment) Act 1987).*

The total number of votes recorded in favour of the proposal was 755,423 and the total number of votes recorded against the proposal was 324,977. As the proposal was duly approved by the people, the Bill was signed by the President on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1987 and promulgated as a law.

The following table contains details of the voting in each constituency:

**Referendum on Tenth Amendment of the Constitution Bill 1987**  
**(Ratification of the Single European Act)**

Constituency	Total Electorate	Total Poll	Percentage Poll	Votes in favour of the proposal	Votes against proposal	Spoilt votes
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Carlow-Kilkenny	78,653	35,385	45.0	25,284	9,856	245
Cavan-Monaghan	75,913	31,416	41.4	24,913	6,294	209
Clare	63,510	27,067	42.6	20,816	6,129	122
Cork East	55,940	26,122	46.7	17,285	8,747	90
Cork North-Central	64,011	27,931	43.6	15,068	12,759	104
Cork North-West	41,244	19,948	48.4	14,296	5,549	103
Cork South-Central	77,231	39,167	50.7	24,040	14,983	144
Cork South-West	42,304	19,944	47.1	13,734	6,100	110
Donegal North-East	44,055	16,984	38.5	11,040	5,834	110
Donegal South-West	47,526	16,278	34.2	11,090	5,117	71
Dublin Central	72,116	31,479	43.6	18,182	13,150	147
Dublin North	48,071	22,097	46.0	16,090	5,927	80
Dublin North-Central	57,247	29,300	51.2	19,263	9,944	93
Dublin North-East	51,377	24,098	46.9	15,165	8,816	117
Dublin North-West	50,742	22,047	43.4	11,916	10,018	113
Dublin South	79,614	42,790	53.7	31,614	11,074	102
Dublin South-Central	76,743	35,026	45.6	21,313	13,574	139
Dublin South-East	68,638	28,984	42.2	19,542	9,305	137
Dublin South-West	62,489	25,760	41.2	15,177	10,513	70
Dublin West	77,363	32,589	42.1	19,994	12,537	58
Dun Laoghaire	78,721	41,843	53.1	31,821	9,914	108
Galway East	42,491	16,806	39.5	13,897	2,823	86
Galway West	78,785	28,540	36.2	20,817	7,571	152
Kerry North	46,427	17,998	38.8	10,709	7,201	88
Kerry South	42,565	17,423	40.9	11,560	5,778	85
Kildare	76,003	32,307	42.5	23,685	8,514	108
Laoighis-Offaly	75,693	31,245	41.3	22,758	8,332	155
Limerick East	68,065	29,963	44.0	21,350	8,517	96
Limerick West	43,146	19,780	45.8	15,846	3,836	98
Longford-Westmeath	61,589	24,569	39.9	18,686	5,729	154
Louth	62,545	27,784	44.4	19,397	8,270	117
Mayo East	41,117	16,451	40.0	13,406	2,946	99
Mayo West	40,895	15,939	39.0	12,779	3,057	103
Meath	75,382	32,472	43.1	23,822	8,502	148
Roscommon	41,329	17,600	42.6	14,001	3,494	105
Sligo-Leitrim	59,608	26,849	45.0	20,110	6,540	199
Tipperary North	41,507	19,338	46.6	14,343	4,888	107
Tipperary South	55,560	25,792	46.4	19,180	6,464	148
Waterford	60,409	27,287	45.2	18,442	8,688	157
Wexford	69,773	30,856	44.2	22,208	8,524	124
Wicklow	65,393	30,050	45.9	20,784	9,163	103
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,461,790</b>	<b>1,085,304</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>755,423</b>	<b>324,977</b>	<b>4,904</b>