



HALL OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

In the Hall of the Italian Republic on the walls are portraits of the 13 heads of state, beginning with Alcide De Gasperi, who assumed the duties of Provisional Head of State between June 13 and 30, 1946, to current President of the Republic Sergio Mattarella.

The armored case displays the original of the Constitution of the Italian Republic, signed on December 27, 1947, by the Provisional Head of State, Enrico De Nicola.

On June 2, 1946, a referendum was held in Italy to choose the institutional form of the state, Monarchy or Republic, and to elect the members of the Constituent Assembly that had to draft the text of the new Constitution. It was the first political vote by universal suffrage.

The Constitution of the Italian Republic went into effect on January 1, 1948. On the same January 1, 1948, the Council of Ministers resolved that the Quirinale – formerly the residence of the pontiffs and sovereigns of Italy – be the official seat of the President of the Republic.

This Hall also displays a copy of the Constitution in Braille characters, donated in 2015 to President Sergio Mattarella by the Italian Union of the Blind. In the Hall special attention is also paid to the Symbols of the Republic. The Presidential Banner constitutes the hallmark of the presence of the Head of State.

The Presidential Banner flies on the Torrione, to the right of the Italian flag, when the Head of State is in the Palace or in Rome. When he is not at the

Palace, the Standard is lowered and follows him around Italy or abroad.
The Hall contains a cuirass of the Corazzieri, the official guard corps of the Presidency of the Republic.

Two Display Cases contain documents, photographs and materials illustrating Italy's historical and institutional journey from the June 2, 1946 Referendum to the present.