

Appointment of the Attorney General of the Public Prosecutor's Office (*Ministerio Público* – MP) for the 2026–2030 term

How is the Attorney General of the Public Prosecutor's Office appointed?

1. Congress must convene the formation of a Nominating Commission (*Comisión de Postulación*), a group of professionals and public officials whom the law designates to draw up the shortlist from which the next Attorney General will be elected, four months before the expiration of the constitutional or legal term of the current Attorney General.
2. The Nominating Commission must be formed and installed two months prior to the inauguration of the new Attorney General.
3. No less than 60 days before the term of the current Attorney General ends, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice—who will preside over the Nominating Commission—must summon the Deans of the Faculties of Law or of Legal and Social Sciences of the country's universities, the President of the Board of Directors of the Guatemalan Bar Association (*Colegio de Abogados y Notarios de Guatemala*), and the President of that same Association's Tribunal of Honor, to form the Nominating Commission.
4. The Nominating Commission must, with the favorable vote of at least two-thirds of its members, **prepare a shortlist of six candidates**, which must be submitted to the President of Guatemala at least 15 days before the current Attorney General's term expires.
5. **Once the shortlist has been received, the President of Guatemala must proceed with the appointment of the new Attorney General of the Public Prosecutor's Office**, who must take office on **May 17, 2026**, for a period of four years. Re-election is permitted.

Why is the appointment of the Attorney General of Guatemala for the 2026–2030 term so important?

In 2026, Guatemala's institutional and democratic course will be defined. Since the end of Alejandro Giammattei's presidency in 2024, the Public Prosecutor's Office, under Consuelo Porras, has served as a stronghold of impunity and selective persecution, with the support of the Judicial Branch and the Constitutional Court. Replacing Porras with a suitable candidate would be key to halting the manipulation of the criminal justice system and the violation of rights. Although the election of magistrates in 2024 did not bring about major changes, a shift toward greater independence at the top of the Public Prosecutor's Office could weaken current abusive practices.