

PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

"We, the People, in the exercise of the power vested upon us by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, do hereby firmly petition the Congress of the United States, that with all deliberate haste, and after one hundred years of political subordination, the political condition of the People of Puerto Rico and the scope of the sovereignty of the United States of America be defined in an unequivocal manner in order to resolve the present territorial problem of the island under the following option:

1 1.1%	2 3%	3 46.5%	4 2.5%	NONE OF THE ABOVE 50.3%
<p>"The application of the sovereignty of the Congress over Puerto Rico, which by virtue of Federal Act 600 of July 3, 1950, delegates upon the Island the establishment of a governmental limited to matters of a social local order under its own Constitution. Said local government shall be subject to the authority of the Congress, the Constitution and the laws and treaties of the United States. By virtue of the Treaty of Paris and the Territorial Clause of the Federal Constitution, the Congress may treat Puerto Rico differently from the states, provided a rational basis exists for doing so. The United States citizenship of the Puerto Rican people shall be statutory. English shall continue to be the official language of the agencies and the courts of the Federal Government which operates in Puerto Rico."</p>	<p>"A Treaty which recognizes the full sovereignty of Puerto Rico is developed in a relationship with the United States in a non-territorial, non-territorial association. The United States shall relinquish all of its powers over Puerto Rico upon entering into the Treaty. Puerto Rico shall retain all powers not expressly delegated to the United States. Puerto Rico shall provide over the Puerto Rican citizenship. Current United States citizens in Puerto Rico shall retain their United States citizenship if they so desire, and may pass it on to their descendants, subject to the provisions of United States laws or the Treaty. It should be ensured that, as of the effectiveness of the Treaty, the mere fact of having been born in Puerto Rico shall not constitute the right to United States citizenship. The Treaty to be negotiated shall provide for in matters concerning the market, defense, the use of the dollar, economic assistance, and the protection of personal vested rights. The Treaty shall also recognize the sovereign capacity of Puerto Rico to enter into agreements and other international treaties."</p>	<p>"The admission of Puerto Rico into the Union of the United States of America as a sovereign state, with rights, responsibilities and benefits completely equal to those enjoyed by the rest of the states. Retaining, furthermore, the sovereignty of Puerto Rico in those matters which are not delegated by the Constitution of the United States to the Federal Government. The right to the presidential vote and equal representation in the Senate and proportional representation in the House of Representatives, without impairment to the maintaining the present Constitution of Puerto Rico and the same Commonwealth laws and with permanent United States citizenship guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America. The provisions of the Federal law on the use of the English language in the agencies and courts of the Federal Government in the fifty states of the Union shall apply equally in the State of Puerto Rico, as at present."</p>	<p>"The recognition of the fact that Puerto Rico is a sovereign republic with full authority over its territory and its international relationships, with a Constitution that shall be the Supreme Law that provides for a republican government system and the protection of human rights. The residents of Puerto Rico shall have citizenship, and shall have the citizenship and nationality of the Republic of Puerto Rico. Having been born in Puerto Rico or having relatives with statutory United States citizenship by birth, shall no longer be grounds for United States citizenship; except for those persons who had the United States citizenship, who shall have the statutory right to keep that citizenship for the rest of their lives, by right or by choice, as provided by the laws of the Congress of the United States. The benefits of the individuals residing in Puerto Rico, acquired because of services or contributions made to the United States, shall be honored by the United States. Puerto Rico and the United States shall develop cooperation treaties, including economic and programmatic assistance for a reasonable period, free commerce and travel, and military force-stated."</p>	

STATE ELECTIONS COMMISSION
PLEBISCITE DECEMBER 13, 1998

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- 1= Territory
- 2= Independence in free association with the United States
- 3= Statehood
- 4= Independence