

**Representing the Nations and Regions in a new Upper House:
Lessons from Overseas**

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Executive Summary

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Introduction

France

départements

communes

Italy

Spain

Which level of government should be represented?

communes

- **Members of the chamber are selected directly for that purpose:**

disadvantage

- **Members have no automatic connection with other governmental structures in the area of their jurisdiction.**

- **Links with the assemblies may not be meaningful:**

Option 3: Representation of governments

advantages

- **It creates real institutional links between states and the centre:**

- **It makes intergovernmental relations transparent:**

- **It genuinely binds regional and national concerns together:**

- **No voter fatigue:**

disadvantages

- **Dual mandates:**

 - **Lack of public involvement:**
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practical issues

Powers

Achieving genuine territorial representation

- **Sitting in territorial groups:**

- **Voting in territorial groups:**

- **Reporting to territorial assemblies:**

- **Territorial committees or debates in the upper house:**

- **Initiation of legislation by territories:**

- **Powers**

- **Achieving genuine territorial representation**

maturity and expertise

