A

DMINISTRATIVE UNITES

In the Marist Institute, administrative unites are called Provinces or Districts. “In addition to its function as a structure of government, an administrative unit constitutes a broad community of life, of prayer, and of apostolic work. It brings the presence of the Institute into local Churches, and remains united to the Brother Superior General who links it to the universal Church”[[1]](#footnote-1).

There were 44 Marist Provinces in the world until 1993. Due to the process of restructuring the administrative units, approved by the 19th General Chapter, several Provinces were united. At this time, the Marist Institute has 23 Provinces and six Districts.[[2]](#footnote-2).

**PROVINCE**In the Marist Institute we call an administrative unit a Province, consisting of a group of houses (which may be: religious communities of Brothers, schools, social work, colleges, hospitals, administrative offices and others) with staff and financial resources consistent with the needs, ensuring their autonomy and sustainability. The Brother Provincial is appointed for three years by the Brother Superior General and his Council, after consultation with all the Brothers of the Province[[3]](#footnote-3). Each province seeks to ensure, in addition to the minimum management and structural conditions, the spirit of community life, prayer and apostolate. It is the Institute itself which is present in the local church.



**DISTRICT**

It is an administrative unit comprising a group of houses bound by common interests, but not having the requirements necessary to become a Province. It depends directly on the Superior General or on the Provincial Superior, and is governed by a District Superior. It is usually connected to a Province[[4]](#footnote-4).

**REGION**

The Marist Institute organizes its Provinces and Districts in regions and each region corresponds to a continent, except in the Americas. Currently,[[5]](#footnote-5) there is the Region of Africa, of Asia, of Europe and of Oceania. The Americas are divided in three Regions: Arco Norte, Brasil and Cono Sur, although, for the Americas there is only one Conference for provincials and commissions, which is unified for the three Regions. The administrative units in each region can propose joint actions in order to adapt and respond appropriately to the guidelines of the Institute, taking into account the cultural realities of the region.

1. Cf. Const. 128. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In 2015, there is the perspective of the possibility of integrating some of the Districts in the Provinces to which they belong [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Cf. Const. 144. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Cf. Const. 127. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Reference of March 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)