

APPENDIX A3

POLITICAL PARTIES, ESS9 - 2018 ed. 1.1

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Version Notes, ESS9 Appendix A3 Political Parties

ESS9 edition 1.1 (published 30.01.20):

Documentation for Germany: Section 2, Electoral system, Description of the electoral system for this assembly updated.

Austria

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	German
Year of last election:	2017
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs (SPÖ) - Social Democratic Party of Austria - 26.9 % 2. Österreichische Volkspartei (ÖVP) - Austrian People's Party - 31.5 % 3. Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs (FPÖ) - Freedom Party of Austria - 26.0 % 4. Liste Peter Pilz (PILZ) - PILZ - 4.4 % 5. Die Grünen – Die Grüne Alternative (Grüne) - The Greens – The Green Alternative - 3.8 % 6. Kommunistische Partei Österreichs (KPÖ) - Communist Party of Austria - 0.8 % 7. NEOS – Das Neue Österreich und Liberales Forum (NEOS) - NEOS – The New Austria and Liberal Forum - 5.3 % 8. G!LT - Verein zur Förderung der Offenen Demokratie (GILT) - My Vote Counts! - 1.0 %
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. The Social Democratic Party (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs, or SPÖ) is a social democratic/center-left political party that was founded in 1888 as the Social Democratic Worker's Party (Sozialdemokratische Arbeiterpartei, or SDAP), when Victor Adler managed to unite the various opposing factions. The party was reconstituted as the Socialist Party of Austria in 1945 (renamed to the Social Democratic Party of Austria in 1991) after being outlawed in 1934. Between 1970 and 1999, it governed the country either alone or with a junior partner, and all but two of the Presidents of Austria since 1945 have either been members of the SPÖ or nominated by it. Originally having a high following among blue-collar workers, it sought to expand its focus on middle class and white-collar workers in the late 1950s. In the 1990s, it started viewing privatization of nationalised industries more openly, after large losses of state owned enterprises came to light. Along with the conservative Austrian People's Party (ÖVP), the SPÖ is one of the two major political parties in Austria, and has ties to the Austrian Trade Union Federation (ÖGB) and the Austrian Chamber of Labour (AK). The party is currently in opposition and is led by Pamela Rendi-Wagner. (see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Democratic_Party_of_Austria)</p> <p>2. The People's Party (Österreichische Volkspartei, or ÖVP) was found by leaders of the former Christian Social Party in 1945 as a conservative/center-right party with loose ties to the Catholic Church. Between 1945 and 1970 it provided the Chancellor of Austria and since 1987 it has continuously been in government, its leader Wolfgang Schüssel being Chancellor between 2000 and 2007. It finds support from farmers, large and small business owners, and lay Catholic groups, but also from voters without party affiliation, with strongholds in the rural regions of Austria. In federal governance, the ÖVP is currently the larger partner in a coalition government with the FPÖ, with ÖVP party leader Sebastian Kurz as Chancellor of Austria. (see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austrian_People's_Party)</p> <p>3. The Freedom Party (Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs, or FPÖ) is a right-wing populist political party that was founded in 1955 as a successor to the Federation of Independents. According to polls, it mainly attracts votes from young people and workers, predominantly males. Their nationalist rhetoric targets Muslims, immigrants and the European Union. The party steadily gained support after Jörg Haider took over leadership of the party in 1986, until it attracted about 27% of the vote in the 1999 elections. After being reduced to 10% in the 2002 elections, they achieved 26.0% in 2017. They are currently governing as the smaller partner in a coalition government with party leader H.C. Strache as Vice-Chancellor (own extensions of http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics_of_Austria#Freedom_Party_of_Austria)</p> <p>4. The Liste Peter Pilz formed as an break-away from the Austrian Green Party and achieved in 2017 4.4% of the votes. They are currently in opposition. On 4 November 2017, Pilz resigned his seat in Parliament amid sexual assault allegations. (see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NOW_%E2%80%93_List_Pilz)</p> <p>5. The Greens were formed in 1986 with the name Grüne Alternative, following the merger of the more conservative Green party Vereinte Grüne Österreichs (United Greens of Austria VGÖ, founded 1982) and the more progressive party Alternative Liste Österreichs (Alternative List Austria, ALÖ, founded 1982). Since 1993, the party has carried the official name Die Grünen – Die Grüne Alternative (Grüne), but refers to itself in English as "Austrian Greens". There are still differences between the former members of the old Alternative and VGÖ factions within the party, which is reflected in the different opinions between the national party and the state parties. Apart from ecological issues such as environmental protection, the Greens also campaign for the rights of minorities and advocate a socio-ecological (ökosozial) tax reform. The Greens did not manage to enter parliament again in 2017 and are currently not member of the Austrian Nationalrat. Their basic values according to their charter in 2001 are: "direct democracy, nonviolence, ecology, solidarity, feminism and self-determination". (see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Greens_%E2%80%93_The_Green_Alternative)</p> <p>6. The Communist Party of Austria established in 1918, it is one of the world's oldest Communist parties. The KPÖ was banned between 1933 and 1945 under both the Austrofascist regime and the Nazi German control of Austria after the 1938 Anschluss. It played an important role in the Austrian resistance against the Nazis. The party currently holds two seats in the Styrian Landtag (state parliament), but has not had representation in the National Council (Nationalrat, Austria's federal parliament) since 1959. It is part of the New European Left Forum (NELF) and the Party of the European Left. (see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communist_Party_of_Austria)</p> <p>7. NEOS is a young political movement founded in October 2012, contested the 2013 legislative election on a joint electoral list with the Young Liberals Austria and Liberal Forum. On 25 January 2014 NEOS formally absorbed the Liberal Forum, creating "NEOS - The New Austria and Liberal Forum". In March 2014, it also absorbed the formerly independent Young Liberals (JuLis), forming the party's youth wing JUNOS – Young liberal NEOS. NEOS became a full member of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) on 2 May 2014. In the 2014 European elections held on 25 May 2014, the party received 8.1% of the national</p>

	<p>vote, and returned a single MEP. The party supports direct democracy using referenda and the ending of conscription, and opposes increased property taxes and public financing of political parties. (see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NEOS_%E2%80%93_The_New_Austria)</p> <p>8. G!LT - My Vote Counts! is a political party in Austria. It was founded on 14 August 2016 by Roland Düringer, a popular Austrian comedian. It defines itself not as a party but as an un-party proposing a new, decentralised democratic system somewhat similar to demarchy. The party is anti-establishment and criticises the government of the many by only a few elected politicians (see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Vote_Counts!).</p>
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2. Electoral system

Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:

Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No

Belgium

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	Dutch and French
Year of last election:	May 25th, 2014
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Groen - Green (Flemish) - 5.3% 2. CD&V (Christen-Democratische en Vlaams) - Flemish Christian Democrats (Flemish) - 11.6% 3. N-VA (Nieuw-Vlaamse Alliantie) - New Flemish Alliance (Flemish) - 20.3% 4. Lijst Dedecker - List Dedecker (Flemish) - 0.4% 5. SP.A (Socialistische Partij Anders) - Socialist Party (Flemish) - 8.8% 6. PVDA+ (Partij van de Arbeid) - Labour Party (Flemish) - 1.8% 7. Vlaams Belang - Flemish Interest (Flemish) - 3.7% 8. Open VLD (Open Vlaamse Liberalen en Democraten) - Open Flemish Liberals and Democrats (Flemish) - 9.8% 9. CDH (Centre Démocrate Humaniste) - Humanistic and Democratic Center (French) - 5.0% 10. Ecolo - Ecologists (French) - 3.3% 11. Front National - National Front (French) - 0.0% 12. MR (Mouvement Réformateur) - Reformist Movement (Liberal French) - 9.6% 13. PS (Parti Socialiste) - Socialist Party (French) - 11.7% 14. PTB (Parti du Travail de Belgique) - Labour Party (French) - 2.0% 15. Parti Populaire - People's Party - 1.5% 16. DéFI (Démocrate Fédéraliste Indépendant) - Democratic Federalist Independent (French) - 1.8%
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. Groen (left) Flemish progressive and ecologist party. Works closely together with its Francophone counterpart Ecolo. Good score at the federal elections in 1999. Part of the purple-green federal government under prime minister Verhofstadt. Kicked out of government after defeat in the federal elections in 2003. Since then, it won votes election after election but very slowly. At the 2014 elections 5.3% of the Belgian votes went to Groen. In opposition during fieldwork period.</p> <p>2. CD&V (center) Flemish Christian democratic party. One of the three traditional political movements in Belgium (liberals, socialists and Christian democrats). Had a huge political influence on post-war Belgium. Was part of the government in every coalition and produced a lot of prime ministers. At the start of 21st century its influence started to wane. Formed a cartel with a much smaller but very Flemish nationalistic party N-VA in 2004. Won election after election but in 2008 the cartel with N-VA ceased to exist. At the next federal elections of 2010 CD&V has got the lowest score in history, while the former cartel partner N-VA became the biggest party in Belgium. CD&V is part of the government coalition during the fieldwork period.</p> <p>3. N-VA (right) Flemish-nationalistic, conservative, republican, economically ultraliberal. Was formed in 2001 after the split of Volksunie (also Flemish nationalists). Flirted with the electoral threshold of 5% at the federal elections in 2003. Formed a cartel with CD&V (see above) in 2004 and together they won elections. In 2008 the cartel with CD&V ceased to exist. At the federal elections of 2010 - where the communitarian relations stood central - N-VA became the biggest Flemish party. At the federal elections in 2014 was clearly the biggest party in Belgium. N-VA was part of the government, but left the coalition during fieldwork in december 2018.</p> <p>4. Lijst Decker (right) Flemish right liberal, republican, neoliberal, libertarian political party founded in 2007 by former Open VLD senator Jean Marie Dedecker. Good result in first few years but lost heavily in 2010. The result was even worse in 2014. No representatives anymore in the Kamer/Chambre.</p> <p>5. SP.A (left) Flemish social democratic party and one of the three traditional movement in Belgium. Very strong electoral scores at the start of the 21st century under chairmanship of Steve Stevaert. Lost seats since then. Biggest Flemish opposition party during the fieldwork period.</p> <p>6. PVDA+ (extreme left) Marxist-Leninist, unitarian political party that was formed in 1979. Strong links with the Francophone PTB. Quite good scores in the most recent elections (in the French part of Belgium) but still small compared to the other parties. In opposition during the fieldwork period.</p> <p>7. Vlaams Belang (extreme right) Flemish nationalistic, rightwing conservative political party and is know for their pursuit for an independent Flanders, its opposition to immigrants who - according to VB - are reluctant against integration or assimilation to Western standards, defense of traditional values and opposition to the alleged advance of political islam and islamic fundamentalism in Europe. Based on their "racistic values" of VB, the other parties decided that rapprochement with that party is undesirable at every political level (so called cordon sanitaire). Grew steadily in the 90's with a peak in 2004. It became the largest political party in Flanders. At the federal elections in 2007 the party stagnated but at the regional elections of 2009 they lost one third of all votes. A second electoral defeat followed at the federal elections of 2010 and in 2014 it became almost insignificant. In opposition during the fieldwork period.</p> <p>8. Open VLD (center right) Flemish, progressive liberal political party. Is a descendant of the first political party in Belgium, the Liberal Party (1846). Guy Verhofstadt transformed the party and renamed it VLD in 1992. After the Dioxin crisis in 1999, the VLD achieved a good score and became the biggest party in Flanders. Guy Verhofstadt became prime minister of the federal government and Patrick Dewael (also VLD) from the Flemish government (both in purple-green coalitions). At the federal elections in 2003 the party won again and Verhofstadt made a new (purple) coalition with him as prime minister. But leading up to the regional elections in 2004, the party was characterized by heavy clashes between figures at the top of the party. The party also abstained to vote on a bill granting foreigners to vote, although it was always said that the party opposed it. All this resulted in a very bad result in the Flemish elections in 2004. Also at the municipal and provincial elections in 2006 the party lost heavily.</p>

For the federal elections of 2007 the party changed his name to Open VLD but they lost and the initiative to form a government went to the Christian-Democrats again. The regional elections of 2009 brought about a major defeat for the Open VLD. The party achieved a score of 14.6%, a decrease of 5.2% in comparison to 2004. On April 26, 2010 Open VLD left the federal governing coalition of Leterme II because the party saw no way out of the negotiations on the split of BHV and the reform of the state. New federal elections were necessary and on June 13, 2010 the party lost five seats in the Chamber to 13. In the most recent federal elections of 2014, Open VLD was one of the few parties that won votes next to the domination of N-VA. Is part of the governing coalition during the fieldwork period.

9. CDH (center left) French Christian-democratic and humanistic party and was given its name in 2002 (before PSC - Parti Social Chrétien). Has the same political roots as its Flemish counterpart CD&V (split in 1972). The party faced a crisis at the elections in 1999 due to two external events: the Dutroux affair and the dioxin crisis. PSC went into opposition at all levels of government and Joëlle Milquet became the new president of the party. Under her presidency PSC changed to CDH. At the federal elections of 2003 the party does not progress and remains in the opposition. But at the regional elections of 2004 CDH wins which enabled it to return to power in the Walloon Region, French Community and the Brussels-Capital, in coalition with the PS and Ecolo in Brussels-Capital. In 2007 the party won 5 seats in the Federal Parliament and CDH participated to the government of Leterme I after a long negotiation process. After the federal elections in 2010 and yet another long negotiation process, it was part of the governing coalition under Di Rupo. At the federal and regional elections of 2014 the party had to choose: form a regional government with PS in Wallonia and Brussels or form a federal government with MR as the only other Frenchspeaking party and tolerate the Flemish nationalistic party N-VA. It chose for the former and is thus not part of the federal coalition during the fieldwork period.

10. Ecolo (left) - Ecologistes Confédérés pour l'Organisation de Luttes Originales - is a French ecologist party, a sister of the Flemish Groen and has been small and insignificant until the elections of 1999. It achieved a score of 18% of the votes in Wallonia and 14% in Brussels-Capital. Joined the federal government coalition under Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt. In the following years Ecolo has conflicts with other government parties. Bad elections in 2004. Fell below 10% and went in opposition. At the federal elections in 2007 Ecolo won again and doubled its representation in parliament but did not join the government coalition because sister party Groen was too weak. Groen and Ecolo formed a common parliamentary fraction. Ecolo again made a great leap forward in the regional elections in 2009. In the Walloon Regional Parliament it jumped from 3 to 14 seats. In Brussels from 7 to 16 seats. In Brussels, the Walloon Region and the French Community Ecolo joined the government coalition together with PS and CDH. In 2010 Ecolo could consolidate its 2007 federal result. At the elections of 2014 Ecolo lost about 1/3 of its electorate compared to 2010 and is back at the level of 2004. Ecolo is not part of the government coalition during the fieldwork period.

11. Front National (extreme right) is a French far-right political party and is an advocate for a unitary Belgian nationalism and is strongly against immigration. Founded in 1985 by Daniel F  ret. In comparison to the Flemish far right party Vlaams Belang, FN always remained a fairly insignificant party except for some municipalities. In 1991 the party got his first seat in the Chamber. Two seats in 1995. At the regional elections in 1995 FN also won 2 seats in the Walloon parliament and 6 in the Brussels-Capital parliament. Their was a general decline at the federal and regional elections in 1999. In 2003 (federal) and 2004 (regional) the voting rate for the party rises again but not significantly. From then onwards it goes up and down again. The party is known for its internal problems and racist scandals. No representatives in the federal parliament.

12. MR (right, center right) is a French liberal party and was formed in 2002 by the merging of four existing parties. PRL (Parti R  formateur Lib  ral), the Francophone liberals and counterpart of the Flemish VLD. FDF (Front D  mocratique des Francophones) a party which strongly defends the Francophone interests in the Brussels region. MCC (Mouvement des Citoyens pour le Changement) a movement torn from the PSC (now CDH) and PFF (Partei f  r Freiheit und Fortschritt), the sister party of PRL in the Germanophone region. At the federal elections of 2003 MR won 24 seats in the Chamber and went joined the government coalition under Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt. After a tax scandal by Brussels Minister-President Ducarme MR experienced a loss at the regional elections in 2004 and was rejected into opposition at the coalitions for the Walloon region, the French community and the Brussels-capital region. But MR continues to participate in the federal government. There is a rivalry between MR and PS to be the biggest party in the french regions. Had to break up the cooperation with the communitarian radical FDF in order to join the government coalition. At the elections of 2014, the party won a little while PS - biggest competitor in Frenchspeaking Belgium - lost a bit, though PS is still the biggest party on the Frenchspeaking side. Big rivalry between those two parties immediately after the elections. CDH was in the middle of the bed and CDH chose for PS to form a Walloon and Brussels government. MR was furious and decided to form a federal government with MR as the only Frenchspeaking party (thus federal government has a minority on the Frenchspeaking side) in a government with N-VA, CD&V and Open VLD. MR was able to deliver the prime minister (Charles Michel). Heavy opposition from PS on MR during fieldwork.. especially on the fact that MR is in a government with N-VA (which has - according to PS - some racist individuals). Is part of the federal government coalition during fieldwork.

13. PS (left) is a French social-democratic political party. It's Flemish counterpart is SP.a. At the elections of 2010 it became the second largest party in the Chamber and the largest Francophone party. The PS is very commonly part of governing coalitions especially in the Francophone areas. Since 1999 and until 2014 the party was always part of the government coalition in the French Community, the Walloon Government, Brussels-Capital region and the German-speaking Community. The party, or its members, have from time to time been brought into connection with criminal activities and political scandals. At the elections of 2014 the party lost a few seats but still the biggest party on the Frenchspeaking side. Heavy rivalry between PS and MR after election (see above). Is part of the Walloon and Brussels government but not part of the federal government coalition. Heavy opposition on the government under prime minister Charles Michel (MR).

14. PTB (extreme left) is the Francophone wing of PDVA+ (see above).

15. Parti Populaire (right) is a right wing liberal political party with a bilingual/federal structure (in Dutch 'Personenpartij') - but in fact primarily a Francophone party - which was formed in

	<p>November 2009. The party manifesto emphasizes efficiency and disinterestedness in governance, plain speaking and individual autonomy. PP wants to reform the justice system and strengthen the Belgian federal government relative to the regions and communities. No representatives in the federal parliament.</p> <p>16. DéFI (right, center right) was founded in 1964 as FDF. The party is a strong defender of Francophone interests in Brussels. The party is strong in Brussels and surrounding area, but is also active in the rest of Wallonia. From 2002 FDF was part of a cartel with MR. The cartel broke in 2011 due to communitarian disagreements with MR. In 2015 the party changed its name to the current DéFI and wants to move to a more social liberal course. It currently has two seats in the Chamber.</p>
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2. Electoral system

Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:

Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>The primary legislative assembly at the national level is the Chamber (English) / Kamer (Dutch) / Chambre (French) of Representatives and is the most important 'house' of the Federal Parliament next to the Senate. The elections for this assembly are based on a system of open list proportional representation. Elections for the Chamber are held every 5 years. To obtain a representative distribution, the Chamber is composed of candidates from 11 constituencies. The constituencies follow the boundaries of the 10 provinces + Brussels Capital Region. Citizens have to be 18 years old to vote. Belgium is one of the few countries where voting is compulsory.</p>

Bulgaria

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	English
Year of last election:	2017
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grazhdani za evropeisko razvitie na Bŭlgariya (GERB) / Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria 2. Bălgarska sotsialisticheska partiya (BSP) / Bulgarian Socialist Party 3. Obedineni patrioti - NFSB, ATAKA i VMRO / United Patriots 4. Dvizhenie za prava i svobodi (DPS) / Movement for Rights and Freedoms 5. Volya / Will 6. Reformatorski blok / Reformist Bloc 7. Koalitsiya Dvizhenie Da, Bŭlgariya / Coalition "Movement for Bulgaria" 8. Demokrati za otgovornost, svoboda i tolerantnost / Democrats for responsibility, freedom and tolerance 9. Nova republika / New Republic 10. Koalitsiya "ABV – Dvizhenie 21" / Coalition "ABV - Movement 21" 11. Vŭzrazhdane - Revival
Description of political parties listed above	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grazhdani za evropeisko razvitie na Bŭlgariya (GERB) / Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria: Center-right, populist Bulgarian political party established in 2006. Joined the European People's Party in 2008. Maintained its position as the largest political party in Bulgaria in the 2017 elections. 2. Bălgarska sotsialisticheska partiya (BSP) / Bulgarian Socialist Party: Center-left. Successor to the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party (BSDP) that governed Bulgaria in the totalitarian period (1944 – 1989). It is a member of the Party of European Socialists with a pro-EU stance, although it has taken some eurosceptic positions and called for an end to EU sanctions against Russia. 3. Obedineni patrioti - NFSB, ATAKA i VMRO / United Patriots: Nationalist electoral alliance in Bulgaria formed by three political parties: IMRO – Bulgarian National Movement (IMRO), the National Front for the Salvation of Bulgaria (NFSB) and (until 25 July 2019) Attack. Third biggest party in the 2017 elections. Member of the Eurosceptic political group European Conservatives and Reformists in the European Parliament. 4. Dvizhenie za prava i svobodi (DPS) / Movement for Rights and Freedoms: Liberal party, whose main goal are the interests of the Muslims, especially Turks. However, its principal electorate are also the Pomaks (Muslim Bulgarians) and the party relies on the biggest share of all the Romani voters. It is a member of the Liberal International and the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party in the European Parliament. 5. Volya / Will: Centrist/populist political party in Bulgaria, founded by Bulgarian businessman, Veselin Mareski. The party was established around anti-corruption and anti-elitist principles. Volya advocates Bulgarian withdrawal from NATO, which it views as being economically draining on the Bulgarian people whilst providing no benefits to national security. Member of the Identity and Democracy Party, which organises nationalist parties across Europe, in the European Parliament. 6. Reformatorski blok / Reformist Bloc: Centre-right electoral alliance. Member of the European People's Party in the European Parliament. 7. Koalitsiya Dvizhenie Da, Bŭlgariya / Coalition "Movement for Bulgaria": Electoral alliance between Yes, Bulgaria!, DEOS and the Greens. 8. Demokrati za otgovornost, svoboda i tolerantnost / Democrats for responsibility, freedom and tolerance: A liberal and centrist political party in Bulgaria, mainly representing the Turkish minority. Failed to meet the 4% electoral threshold in the 2017 elections and has no seats in the Bulgarian parliament. 9. Nova republika / New Republic: Party established by former Bulgarian Prime Minister Ivan Kostov (1997–2001). The motto of the party is "For a Strong Bulgaria in Unified Europe", and is a member of the European People's Party. 10. Koalitsiya "ABV – Dvizhenie 21" / Coalition "ABV - Movement 21": Electoral alliance consisting of Alternative for Bulgarian Revival, a centre-left political party in Bulgaria, and Movement 21. 11. Vŭzrazhdane - Revival: Centrist, nationalist party formed in 2014.

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	The 240 members of the National Assembly are elected by closed list proportional representation from 31 multi-member constituencies ranging in size from 4 to 16 seats. The electoral threshold is 4%.

Cyprus

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	English
Year of last election:	2016
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AKEL, Progressive Party of Working People - 25.67 % 2. DIKO, Democratic Party - 14.49 % 3. DISY, Democratic Rally - 30.69 % 4. ELAM, National Popular Front - 3.71 % 5. KINIMA ALLILEGII, Solidarity Movement - 5.24 % 6. The Cyprus Green Party - 4.81 % 7. SYMMACHIA POLITON, Citizens' Alliance - 6.01 % 8. KS EDEK, Social Democrats - 6.18 %
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. It was founded in 1926 with the name Communist Party of Cyprus (CPC). The party became illegal in 1931 when the British colonial government imposed restrictions on civil rights following a nationalist riot. In 1941, leading members of the underground communist party and others founded AKEL. At the legislative elections on 27 May 2001, the party won 34.7% of the popular vote and 20 out of 56 seats. After this election, AKEL's General Secretary, was elected as President of the House of Representatives and until 2006, for first time in the History of Republic of Cyprus. It is a member of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left in the European Parliament and it is considered as moderately eurosceptic. In the 2004 European election, AKEL elected 2 members. AKEL remained the largest political party on the island in the 2006 Cypriot legislative elections, however the party lost two seats in the parliament winning 18 seats with 31.31% of the votes. In the second round presidential election held on 24 February 2008, General Secretary of AKEL was elected President of the Republic of Cyprus. On 22 May 2011, the Cypriot legislative election took place. AKEL gained 32.67% of the votes and elected 19 out of the 56 members of parliament and in 2016 it gained 25.67% and 16 seats in the parliament.</p> <p>2. The Democratic Party is a centrist political party in Cyprus, founded in 1976 by Spyros Kyprianou. As it is reported in its founding statement (manifesto), the Democratic Party proposes to the Cypriot society the political philosophy of "social centrism", which constitutes "a total of attributes and values that offer in the state social cohesion, political prospect, improvement of terms of life and development of human culture, that should be shared between the entire population and not only between the privileged teams of the population". From 2000 until 2006, the party was led by Tassos Papadopoulos, who was President of Cyprus. It was the third-largest party in Parliament, with 9 of 56 seats. In the elections of 21 May 2006, the party won 17.9% and 11 out of 56 seats. Papadopoulos was defeated in his bid for re-election in the February 2008 presidential election, placing third in the first round. It is a member of the European Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats.</p> <p>3. DISY is a liberal conservative party. The party was founded on 4 July 1976 by veteran politician Glafkos Klerides. Clerides served as Cyprus president from 1993 until 2003. DISY is a member of the European People's Party (EPP). In the 2004 European Parliamentary Election it gained the 28.2% of the vote, and elected 2 MEPs who joined the EPP-ED Group. In the elections of 21 May 2006, the party won 30.52% and 18 out of 56 seats. In the elections of 22 May 2011, the party won 34.27% and 20 out of 56 seats. In the elections of 2016, the party won 30.69% and 18 out of 56 seats. The current President of Cyprus, Nicos Anastasiades (in office since 2013), is a member and former leader of the party.</p> <p>4. The National Popular Front, or National People's Front is an ultra-nationalist movement (and later, political party) founded in 2008 in the Republic of Cyprus. It describes its ideology as "popular and social nationalism" and promotes Greek nationalism. As of May 2011, it has been approved as a legal political party. ELAM organised protests against Turkish Cypriots and migrants. ELAM is a Eurosceptic political party</p> <p>5. The Solidarity Movement is a Greek Cypriot nationalist party in Cyprus. It was founded in 2016 by Eleni Theocharous. Theocharous departed the conservative Democratic Rally in November 2015, in protest to their support of a bizonal, bifederal settlement to the Cyprus problem. She established the Solidarity Movement in January 2016 and right-wing Evroko merged with the party in March of the same year. On 9 March 2016, Eleni Theocharous joined the Alliance of European Conservatives and Reformists, after she retired from the Democratic Rally and the European People's Party.</p> <p>6. The Ecological and Environmental Movement also rendered as Cyprus Green Party, is a green political party in Cyprus. It is affiliated with the European Green party. At the legislative elections, 27 May 2001, the party won 2.0% of the popular vote and 1 out of 56 seats. In the elections of 21 May 2006, the party won 2.0% and 1 out of 56 seats. In the elections of 22 May 2011, the party won 2.21% and 1 out of 56 seats.</p> <p>7. Citizens' Alliance is a political party that aims for a unitary republic of Cyprus and rejects a federation of the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish parts. The party's leader is Giorgos Lillikas (Former Minister). It opposes the austerity program in Cyprus and is in opposition to the privatization of state assets.</p> <p>8. The Movement for Social Democracy EDEK is a Social Democratic party in Cyprus. It was originally founded by Dr Vasos Lyssaridis in 1969 as the United Democratic Union of Centre, EDEK and it was a socialist party. It has gradually evolved into a social-democratic political party. In the 2001 general elections it won 6.5% of the votes case and 4 of the 56 seats in the House of Representatives of Cyprus. In the elections of 21 May 2006, the party won 8.9 % and 5 out of 56 seats. It is a member of the Party of European Socialists. Several members of the party's youth section (EDEN) with Trotskyist tendencies were expelled between 1979 and 1984 and formed Aristeri Pteryga (Left Wing). EDEK backed Dimitris Christofias of AKEL in the second round of the February 2008 presidential election. In February 2010 EDEK quit from the government coalition due to its dispute concerning the Cyprus Problem.</p>

2. Electoral system

Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:

Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	Cyprus is a Presidential republic. The head of state and of the government is elected by a process of Universal suffrage for a five-year term. Executive power is exercised by the government with legislative power vested in the House of Representatives. The 1960 Constitution provided for a presidential system of government with independent executive, legislative and judicial branches. The House of Representatives currently has 56 members elected for a five year term, 56 members by proportional representation from six districts: Nicosia, Famagusta, Kyrenia, Larnaca, Limassol and Paphos. The current parliament was elected in May 2016 for a five year term.

Czechia

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	Czech
Year of last election:	2017
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Komunistická strana Čech a Moravy (KSČM) - Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia - 7,761 % 2. Česká strana sociálně demokratická (ČSSD) - Czech Social Democratic Party - 7,27 % 3. Tradice Odpovědnost Prosperita 09 (TOP 09) - Tradition Responsibility Prosperity 09 - 5,31 % 4. Akce nespokojených občanů 2011 (ANO 2011) - Action of Dissatisfied Citizens - 29,64 % 5. Občanská demokratická strana (ODS) - Civic Democratic Party - 11,32 % 6. Křesťanská a demokratická unie - Československá strana lidová (KDU-ČSL) - Christian and Democratic Union - Czechoslovak People's Party - 10,79 % 7. Česká pirátská strana - Czech Pirate Party - 10,79 % 8. Svoboda a přímá demokracie (Tomio Okamura) - Freedom and direct democracy (Tomio Okamura) - 10,64 % 9. Starostové a nezávislí - Mayors and independents - 5,18 %
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. The Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSČM) is extreme-left party. It was formed in 1989 by the Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, which decided to create a party for the territories of Bohemia and Moravia. Its ideology is based primarily on Marxism and communism. In the past, the party was largely isolated, but recently it has become a supporting party of the minority cabinet of ANO 2011 and ČSSD. The party is stronger with older voters, with the majority of the membership being over 60. The membership base of the KSČM is steadily decreasing. The KSČM has never been part of any government coalition since the advent of democracy in Czech Republic in 1989, although it has always been part of the Parliament. European Parliament political group: European United Left - Nordic Green Left. In the last European Parliament elections, the party gained three seats. In the 2017 parliamentary elections, the party received 7,76 % of the vote for the Chamber of Deputies. This is its worst result ever, with the loss of more than a half of votes from last election it has won only 15 seats in the Chamber of Deputies. The party chairman is Vojtěch Filip.</p> <p>2. The Czech Social Democratic Party (ČSSD) is a major left-wing political party in the Czech Republic. To support freedom, solidarity and justice, and to support the socially responsible development of country - these are the main goals of the party, as declared on its official website. The party is a member of the Socialist International and the Party of European Socialists. It claims to be inspired by Keynesianism and political ideology of social democracy. In the European Parliament, the party belongs to the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats. The ČSSD currently has four elected seats in the European Parliament. The origin of the party can be traced back to the Austro-Hungarian times. The party has its current name since 1993. In the 2017 parliamentary elections, after leading an economically successful government with ANO 2011, the ČSSD obtained only 7,27 % of the votes and 15 off 200 seats. This is one of its worst results since 1993, although the party is part of the minority government led by ANO. The current chairman of the party is Jan Hamáček.</p> <p>3. TOP 09 (Tradition Responsibility Prosperity 09) is a conservative centre-right party. It is noted for its support of the free market and the European Union. The party claims to be based on the platform of conservatism and fiscal responsibility with a strong emphasis on European Judeo-Christian tradition. TOP 09 is a member of the European People's Party. The party was established shortly before the 2010 parliamentary elections, in 2009, by Miroslav Kalousek, Minister of Finance in the Topolánek government, who left the KDU-ČSL. The party leader became the popular political figure Karel Schwarzenberg, Topolánek's Minister of Foreign Affairs. TOP 09 was led by Karel Schwarzenberg until November 2015. After the 2017 parliamentary elections, the party formed with other three parties (ODS, KDU-ČSL, STAN) "Democratic block" to cooperate effectively in the parliamentary opposition. In the elections, TOP 09 obtained only about 5 % of the total vote share and thus 7 of 200 seats in the Chamber of Deputies (after the breakup of its previous electoral alliance with STAN). The current party leader is Jiří Pospíšil.</p> <p>4. ANO 2011 is a centre-right political party founded in 2012. It is based on the former movement Action of Dissatisfied Citizens founded in autumn of 2011 by agronomic oligarch Andrej Babiš. The main objectives of the party include fighting against corruption and unemployment, and improving the transport infrastructure. The party targets voters who are dissatisfied with traditional parties and the current situation in the country. In the European Parliament, the party belongs to the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Group. ANO 2011 won 2014 Czech European Parliament election obtaining 16,13 % of votes and 4 seats. In the 2017 parliamentary elections, ANO 2011 became a winner party with the total amount of nearly 30% of votes and 78 seats in the Chamber of Deputies. The party formed a minority government with ČSSD, supported by KSČM. Andrej Babiš, the current Prime Minister, have been chairman of the party since its establishment. The party is currently the most popular party in the Czech Republic.</p> <p>5. The Civic Democratic Party (ODS) had been for a long time the largest right-wing political party in the Czech Republic. The party was founded by Václav Klaus (President of the Czech Republic in the period 2003-2013) in 1991 as the pro-free market wing of the Civic Forum (political movement in the Czech part of Czechoslovakia established during the Velvet Revolution in 1989). Until 2013, the ODS had been the strongest governmental party. However, in the 2013 parliamentary election, the party was marginalized by only securing 16 seats in the Chamber of Deputies. Its ideology is mainly liberal and national conservatism, economic liberalism and euroscepticism. It is a member of the International Democrat Union and the Alliance of European Conservatives and Reformists. European Parliament political group: European Conservatives and Reformists. The ODS has two seats in the European Parliament. In the last parliamentary election the party gained 11% of votes, i.e. 25 seats and became a second biggest party in the Chamber of Deputies and the biggest opposition party. The current party leader is Petr Fiala.</p>

	<p>6. The Christian and Democratic Union - Czechoslovak People's Party (KDU-ČSL) is a medium sized, centrally-oriented party. It expresses particularly Christian democratic views. Ideology of the party includes social conservatism, Christian democracy and regionalism. It is a member of the Centrist Democrat International and European People's Party. The KDUČSL is one of the oldest Czech political parties, it was originally created in 1919 as Czechoslovak People's Party (ČSL), reuniting other Catholic parties. After the Velvet Revolution in 1989, the ČSL attempted to shed its compromised figures and policies of the past: this included a change of name in 1992 after the merger with the Christian Democratic Union. The KDUČSL has relatively low but stable support of voters (6-10 %), which is strongest in the traditionally Catholic rural areas in Moravia. The party has been the most frequent member of the coalition government since 1993, because of its ability to cooperate with parties on the right and on the left as well. In the last parliamentary election the party gained 5,80% of votes, i.e. 10 seats. The current party leader is Pavel Bělobrádek.</p> <p>7. Czech Pirate Party (Piráti) was founded in 2009. Economically the party ideology contains social liberalism, with focus on modern digital technologies - e-Government, government transparency. The party is a member of Pirate Parties International and European Pirates (PPEU). The party is affiliated with, and signed up to the manifesto of, the pan-European political movement Democracy in Europe Movement 2025 (DiEM25). The party won its first elections in 2012, with Libor Michálek as a first Pirate Senator. In local elections 2014 the party entered many local assemblies, including the first Pirate Mayor in Mariánské Lázně. Since the elections 2017 is the party also present in the Chamber of Deputies with 22 seats (and more than 10% of votes). In the local elections 2018 the party ranked second in Prague and its electoral leader Zdeněk Hřib became the Mayor. The party leader is Ivan Bartoš.</p> <p>8. Freedom and direct democracy - Tomio Okamura (SPD) was founded in May 2015 by Tomio Okamura and Radim Fiala after a number of MPs split from the parliamentary group of Dawn of Direct Democracy. Freedom and Direct Democracy is named after the European Parliament Eurosceptic political group Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy. The party represents the right-wing, anti-immigration, nationalist and anti-EU visions. In the elections 2017 the party ranked fourth with more than 10% of votes and holds 22 seats in the Chamber of Deputies. It supports ad hoc the minority government of Andrej Babiš. In the local elections 2018 the party entered several assemblies esp. in northern parts of the country (Ústí region and Moravian-Silesian region). The current party leader is Tomio Okamura.</p> <p>9. Mayors and Independents (STAN) grew out of four minor parties, including Independent Mayors for the Region, which allied itself with the liberal-conservative SNK European Democrats, and cooperated with the similarly liberal-conservative TOP 09 until 2016. In promoting the principle of subsidiarity, STAN encourages localism, decentralisation, reduced bureaucracy and corruption clampdown. It is a centrist party, promoting also European integration. In the 2013 election to the Chamber of Deputies, STAN won five seats on the TOP 09 list, in the 2017 election to the Chamber of Deputies, STAN won six seats (5,18% of votes). It has its representatives in many local assemblies, in regions, in Senate and in European Parliament as well. The current party leader is Petr Gazdík.</p>
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2. Electoral system

Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:

Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>The Chamber of Deputies has 200 members, elected for a four year term by electoral system of proportional representation. All citizens of Czechia who have reached 18 years of age are eligible to vote. Every citizen of Czechia who has the right to vote and who has attained the age of twenty-one years may be elected to the Chamber of Deputies. Voting for the Chamber of Deputies is based on party candidate lists, and each voter can use up to four preferential votes to change the order of candidates. Czechia is divided into 14 electoral districts, which correspond to the 14 administrative regions. The regions differ greatly in population, so the number of representatives elected from each region varies. In order to enter the Chamber of Deputies, a party must win at least 5 % of votes. A recalculation of votes into mandates is realized on a regional level in two rounds. Votes are translated into seats using the D'Hondt method.</p>

Estonia

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	Estonian
Year of last election:	2015 March
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eesti Reformierakond - Estonian Reform Party (27.7%) 2. Eesti Keskerakond - Estonian Centre Party (24.8%) 3. Isamaa Erakond - Pro Patria (13.7%) 4. Sotsiaaldemokraatlik Erakond - Social Democratic Party (15.2%) 5. Erakond Eestimaa Rohelised - Estonian Greens (0.9%) 6. Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond - Conservative People's Party of Estonia (8.1%) 9. Eesti Iseseisvuspartei - Estonian Independence Party (0.2%) 10. Üksikkandidaadid - Individual candidates or other (0.2%) 11. Eesti Vabaerakond - Free Party (8.7%) 12. Rahva Ühtsuse Erakond - Rahva Ühtsuse Erakond - The Party of People's Unity (nd) 13. Muud - Other
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. The Estonian Reform Party (Estonian: Eesti Reformierakond) is a centre-right, free market liberal party in Estonia. The Estonian Reform Party was founded on 18 November 1994 joining together the Reform Party — a splinter from the Pro Patria National Coalition (RKEI) — and the Estonian Liberal Democratic Party (ELDP). As the Reform Party has participated in most of the government coalitions in Estonia since the mid-1990s, its influence has been significant, especially regarding Estonia's free market and low taxes policies. The party has been a full member of Liberal International since 1996, having been an observer member between 1994–1996, and a full member of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party. The party is supported predominantly by young, well-educated, urban professionals.</p> <p>2. The Estonian Centre Party (Estonian: Eesti Keskerakond) is a centrist and social liberal political party in Estonia. The party was founded on 12 October 1991 from the basis of the Popular Front of Estonia after several parties split from it. At that time, the party was called People's Centre Party (Rahvakeskerakond) in order to differentiate from the smaller Rural Centre Party (Maa-Keskerakond). The party claims that its goal is the formation of a strong middle class in Estonia. The Centre Party declares itself as "middle class liberal party"; however, against the backdrop of Estonia's economic liberal policies, the Centre Party has a reputation of having more left-leaning policies. The Party is a member of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE). The Centre Party has become by far the most popular party among Russians in Estonia.</p> <p>3. Pro Patria (Estonian: Isamaa) is a national conservative political party in Estonia. It was founded on 4 June 2006 when two conservative parties, Pro Patria Union and Res Publica Party merged. It was formerly known as The Union of Pro Patria and Res Publica but shortened the name in May 2018. The party is a member of the European People's Party (EPP). The party is supported predominantly by ethnic Estonians.</p> <p>4. The Social Democratic Party (Estonian: Sotsiaaldemokraatlik Erakond, SDE) is a social democratic party in Estonia. The SDE was formed as Estonia's social-democratic movements merged in 1990. The party was formerly known as the Moderate People's Party (Estonian: Rahvaerakond Mõõdukad). The SDE has been a member of the Party of European Socialists since 16 May 2003 and a member of the Socialist International since November 1990. In spite of its nominal ideology, it has only governed with the right-wing parties.</p> <p>5. Estonian Greens (Estonian: Erakond Eestimaa Rohelised) is an Estonian green political party. The green environmentalist campaign, the Estonian Green Movement (Estonian: Eesti Roheline Liikumine) was established in May 1988. The Estonian Green Party was established on 19 August 1989, and a rival Green Party in May 1990. After 2 years of fragmentation the party Estonian Greens was established on December 1991. In the parliamentary elections held in March 2007, the Estonian Greens received 7.1% of the votes, and thus held six seats in the Riigikogu until 2011. The Greens dropped out from the Parliament in 2011 elections. The party is currently without parliamentary representation.</p> <p>6. The Conservative Peoples Party of Estonia (Estonian: Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond, EKRE) is a national conservative political party in Estonia. The party was founded in March 2012 when the agrarian centrist party People's Union of Estonia and the pressure group Estonian Patriotic Movement merged. Ideologically, the party is a descendant of the Estonian ethno-nationalist camp, which dates back to the Singing Revolution. The party sees the survival of Estonian ethnicity as its main objective, and many of its policies are directed towards providing support to young Estonian families, lowering emigration of Estonians and preventing immigration from outside of the European Union. It is also eurosceptic and wishes to implement Swiss-style direct democracy. In the parliamentary election of 2015, the party entered the Riigikogu with 7 seats. At the same time it is the fourth largest Estonian party by membership size.</p> <p>9. The Estonian Independence Party (Estonian: Eesti Iseseisvuspartei, EIP) is a far-right nationalist political party in Estonia. The party, founded in 1999, is a successor to the Estonian Future Party. One of the principal aims of the party is the withdrawal of Estonia from the European Union. The party is without parliamentary representation.</p> <p>10. Individual candidates - individual candidates without political party affiliation.</p> <p>11. The Estonian Free Party (Estonian: Eesti Vabaerakond) is an Estonian centre-right political party. The nonprofit Estonian Free Party Founding Group was founded in January 2014. Originally it was to be founded by two organizations, Free Patriotic Citizen and Better Estonia, but the latter decided to withdraw. Commentators have argued, that the Estonian Free Party lacks a clear ideology. The party advocates raising the personal income tax, while on the other hand also raising the non-taxable basic exemption to support the poorer majority of taxpayers. The party's program also includes increased taxes on alcohol, tobacco, and confectionery. In economic policy, the party supports a relatively liberal approach, especially to support small</p>

	<p>businesses. The party has advocated reduction of state funding of political parties. The party gained 8 seats after passing the 5-percent threshold in the 2015 Estonian parliamentary elections.</p> <p>12. The Party of People's Unity (Rahva Ühtsuse Erakond). Was established in 2014. Has been classified as conservative, anti immigration, anti EU, liberal right wing party. Does not have any seats at the Parliament.</p>
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2. Electoral system

Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:

Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>The proportional representation system applies in Estonia in both Riigikogu and local council elections, which is also the dominant system elsewhere in Europe. The proportional representation system may be seen as the right choice for Estonian society, where the spectrum of political sentiment and orientation is varied and the democratic mechanisms for defending interests have not yet had time to crystallise. The proportional representation system gives rise to a situation where one party is unable to achieve an absolute majority of votes and where on average 4-6 political forces are elected a representative body. For elections to the Riigikogu there is a three-phase cycle of distributing mandates (personal mandate, electoral list mandate, compensation mandate), which implies the transfer of votes between candidates on the same list. As a result of such procedures, candidates for whom a voter has not voted may find themselves elected. Undoubtedly this principle decreases the legitimacy of the deputy and his or her involvement with the electorate in the people's eyes. The majority of systems of proportional representation also make use of an electoral threshold, with the aim of avoiding excessive fragmentation in the elected bodies. In Estonia the 5% threshold of votes across the country for Riigikogu elections is quite high.</p> <p>Source: http://www.estonica.org/en/Society/Development_of_the_Estonian_political_landscape_until_2006/Nature_of_the_electoral_system_and_basic_trends_in_voter_participation/</p> <p>More information: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_political_parties_in_Estonia http://www.ipu.org/parline/reports/2105_B.htm</p>

Finland

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	English
Year of last election:	2015
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<p>01. Kansallinen Kokoomus - The National Coalition Party - 18,2 %</p> <p>02. Ruotsalainen Kansanpuolue - Swedish People's Party of Finland - 4,9 %</p> <p>03. Suomen Keskusta - Centre Party of Finland - 21,1 %</p> <p>04. Perussuomalaiset - The Finns Party - 17,7 %</p> <p>05. Suomen Kristillisdemokraatit - Christian Democrats - 3,5</p> <p>06. Muutos 2011 - Freedom Party – Finland's Future - 0,3 %</p> <p>07. Piraattipuolue - Pirate Party of Finland - 0,8 %</p> <p>08. Itsenäisyyspuolue - Independence Party - 0,5 %</p> <p>09. Köyhien Asialla - For the Poor - 0,0 %</p> <p>10. Vihreä liitto - Green League - 8,5 %</p> <p>11. Suomen Sosialidemokraattinen Puolue - Social Democratic Party of Finland - 16,5 %</p> <p>12. Vasemmistoliitto - Left Alliance - 7,1 %</p> <p>13. Suomen Kommunistinen Puolue - Communist Party of Finland - 0,3 %</p> <p>14. Kommunistinen Työväenpuolue - Communist Workers' Party For Peace and Socialism - 0,0 %</p> <p>15. Suomen Työväen Puolue - Workers Party of Finland - 0,0 %</p> <p>16. Sininen tulevaisuus - Blue Reform - (est. 2017)</p> <p>17. Kansalaispuolue - Citizen party - (est. 2016)</p> <p>18. Liberaalipuolue - Vapaus valita - Liberal Party - Freedom to Choose - (est. 2016)</p> <p>19. Eläinoikeuspuolue - Animal Justice Party - (est. 2016)</p> <p>20. Feministinen puolue - Feminist Party - (est. 2016)</p>
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. A moderate conservative party and the main Rightist party in Finland. Founded in 1918, the National Coalition Party is one of the four largest parties in Finland.</p> <p>2. Ruotsalainen Kansanpuolue (Svenska folkpartiet) - Swedish People's Party; the main political movement of the Swedish speaking population in Finland. Calls itself a "moderate liberal party". Swedish-speaking Finns' right to their own language and to maintain the Swedish language's position in Finland.</p> <p>3. Suomen Keskusta - Center Party; the former Agrarian Union. It is a Center-Rightist party, traditionally emphasising agrarian and a regional policies.</p> <p>4. The Finns Party, formerly known as The True Finns is a Rightist populist party; emphasizes conservative social values, sociocultural authoritarianism, and ethnic nationalism, religion, Finnish traditions. Wants to limit immigration; The main immigrants go- home party.</p> <p>5. The Christian Democrats is a small party emphasising christian values. The party describes itself as following the tenets of Christian Democracy. Opposes same sex marriages and criticizes abortion policy.</p> <p>6. Freedom Party is a very small party emphasising direct democracy, freedom of speech and the interests of Finnish citizens.</p> <p>7. The very small Pirate Party supports reform of copyright and patent law and free sharing of knowledge.</p> <p>8. Independence party. A small rightist party, wants the country to resign from EU.</p> <p>9. For the Poor is a small party describing itself as being founded on a Christian view of the world. One of the smallest parties in Finland.</p> <p>10. Green League, emphasizes environmental issues and social liberal perspectives. Multiculturalism and feminism are visible in the party.</p> <p>11. The Social Democratic Party of Finland is the main left wing party and a wage earners' party one of the four major political parties in Finland. Strong emphasis on welfare state and wage earners' interests.</p> <p>12. A traditional Left-wing party and the second important leftist party in Finland. Founded in 1990, largely as a successor of the Finnish People's Democratic League (SKLD); The party has recently adopted environmental and feminist perspectives on its agenda.</p> <p>13. A very small party continuing the political traditions of the original Communist Party after its suppression in 1997.</p> <p>14. Another very small party continuing the political traditions of the original Communist Party after its suppression</p> <p>15. One more very small party on the extreme Left.</p> <p>16. The Blue Reform was founded by a group of former True Finns MPs as a protest for the election of a new party leader for the True Finns. The party is clearly on the Right. It emphasis work and family values and entrepreneurship.</p> <p>17. Citizen party. A very small party dedicated to make Finland resign the European Monetary Union.</p> <p>18. Liberal Party - Freedom to Choose. A small party with very liberal views on alcohol policies, but claims a liberal platform overall. Formerly known as the Whisky Party.</p> <p>19. Animal Justice Party. A very small party emphasizing animal rights.</p>

	20. Feminist Party. A very small party emphasizing gender equality and opposing all forms of discrimination
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2. Electoral system

Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:

Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	The term is 4 years. Government formation follows parliamentarism, which means that usually the leader of the largest party in Parliamentary election becomes the new PM. All Finns over the age of eighteen by the year of an election are eligible to vote. Voting is not compulsory. The country is divided for national elections into thirteen electoral constituencies. Candidates for the Parliament (Eduskunta) are almost invariably nominated by political parties. Finland uses the d'Hondt constituency list system with only slight modifications. Under this system, elections are based on proportionality rather than on plurality, and seats are allotted to parties commensurately with the number of votes polled. Votes go to individual candidates. There is no electoral threshold.

France

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	French
Year of last election:	2017
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LO (Lutte Ouvrière) - LO (LUTTE OUVRIERE) - Worker's Fight - <1 2. NPA (Nouveau Parti Anticapitaliste) - NPA (NOUVEAU PARTI ANTICAPITALISTE) -The New Anticapitalist Party - <1 3. PCF (Parti Communiste Français) - PCF (PARTI COMMUNISTE FRANCAIS) - French Communist Party - 2.7 4. FI (La France Insoumise) - FI (LA FRANCE INSOUMISE) - French Communist Party - 11 5. PS (Parti Socialiste) - PS (PARTI SOCIALISTE) - Socialist Party - 7.4 6. EELV (Europe Ecologie Les Verts) - EELV (EUROPE ECOLOGIE LES VERTS) - The Greens - Europe Ecology - 4.3 7. LREM (La République en Marche) - LREM (LA REPUBLIQUE EN MARCHE) - The republic in motion - 28.3 8. MODEM (Mouvement Démocrate) - MODEM - Democrat Movement - 4.2 9. LR (Les Républicains) - LR (Les Républicains) - The Republicans - 15.7 10. DEBOUT LA FRANCE - DEBOUT LA FRANCE - Standing France - 1.1 11. FN (Front National) - FN (FRONT NATIONAL) - National Front - N/A 12. Autres - AUTRE (PRECISEZ) - Other political parties - N/A 13. RN (Rassemblement National) - RN (RASSEMBLEMENT NATIONAL) (ex-FN) - National Gathering - 13.2
Description of political parties listed above	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LO: Trotskyist Party 2. NPA: Extreme Left Party 3. PCF : the French communist party 4. FI : New far left Party. It is a gathering of old parties (present in ESS R8) : FDG (Front de Gauche), PG (Parti de Gauche), Parti Radical de Gauche 5. PS : Left-wing party 6. EELV : Green party 7. LREM : presidential party (created by the French president : Emmanuel Macron) 8. MODEM : center party 9. LR : Main right-wing party 10. DEBOUT LA FRANCE : far right party 11. FN : Extreme right party 12. 13. RN : new name for FN (since june 2018)

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>Maximal length of term: 5 years. 577 constituencies (magnitude =1). Voting system: Run-off electoral system. 12.5% of registered voters is necessary to move to the second round, except for the two leading candidates in the first round. Election is decided on the first round if a candidate gathers more than 50 per cent of the votes.</p>

Germany

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	German
Year of last election:	2017
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<p>Christlich Demokratische Union Deutschlands - CDU/CSU - Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union - 33%</p> <p>Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands - SPD - Social Democratic Party - 20,5%</p> <p>Die Linke - Die Linke - The Left Party of Democratic Socialism - 9,2%</p> <p>Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen - Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen - Green Party - 8,9%</p> <p>Freie Demokratische Partei - FDP - Liberal Democratic Party - 10,7%</p> <p>Alternative für Deutschland - AfD - Alternative for Germany - 12,6%</p> <p>Piratenpartei - Piratenpartei - Pirate Party - 0,4%</p> <p>Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands - NPD - National Democratic Party / German People's Union - 0,4%</p>
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. CDU/CSU: Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union. The CDU is one of the main national parties, based on Christian values. The social market economy is the basic topic of CDU policy. The CSU is the Bavaria-based sister party of the CDU.</p> <p>2. SPD: Social Democratic Party. The SPD is the second main national party. It was considered the working class party for a long time, today it calls itself a mainstream party striving for social justice.</p> <p>3. Die Linke (the Left Party) is a cooperation between the PDS (Party of Democratic Socialism, former SED) and the WASG (Labour and Social Justice – The Electoral Alternative), which was founded in 2004 by former SPD-members and trade unionists and became a political party in 2005. In June 2007, the two parties merged into Die Linkspartei or Die Linke (The Left).</p> <p>4. Bündnis 90/Die Grünen (the Green party). The Greens are a grassroots democratic party committed to promoting environmental issues, pacifism and equal rights for men/women, natives/immigrants etc.</p> <p>5. FDP: Free Democratic Party. The FDP upholds the tradition of liberalism, believing in increasing citizens' responsibility and reducing the role of government. It has been part of the national government for most of West Germany's post war history.</p> <p>6. AfD: The AfD ("Alternative für Deutschland") is a relatively new party, founded 2013, which originally focused almost solely on criticism of the European monetary system and the Euro. From then on the party evolved into a right-wing populist party which promotes anti-establishment orientations, criticizes the governments' asylum and immigration policies and supports traditional family values. Since the 2017 federal elections, the AfD is the third strongest party in the German Bundestag and the largest opposition party.</p> <p>7. Piratenpartei (Pirate Party): The Pirate Party Germany was founded 2006 as part of the Pirate Parties International. The party mainly focuses on Web policies and promotes protection of data privacy and enhancement of transparent governance. It supports reforms of copyright, genetic patents and drug policy as well as unconditional basic income and direct democracy via e-democracy.</p> <p>8. NPD: National Democratic Party. The right-wing extremist party covers nationalistic issues like the REPUBLIKANER party, but is even more extreme and is closer to the Neo-Nazi-milieu.</p>

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	No
Two or more votes registered:	Yes
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>The Basic Law guarantees the right to vote by secret ballot in direct and free elections to every German citizen eighteen years of age or older. To be eligible to vote, an individual must have resided in a constituency district for at least three months prior to an election. Officials who are popularly elected include Bundestag deputies at the federal level, Landtag representatives or senate members at the Land level, and council members at the district and local levels. Executive officials typically are not chosen in popular, direct elections; however, in a minority of municipalities the mayor is elected by popular vote. Elections usually are held every four years at the federal levels, and every five or four years in the 16 'Bundesländer' (federal states). Elections at the federal (Land) and local levels are not held simultaneously, as in the United States, but are rather staggered. As a result, electoral campaigns are almost always under way, and each election is viewed as a test of the federal government's popularity and the strength of the opposition. All elections are held on Sunday.</p> <p>Under the German electoral system, each voter casts two ballots in a Bundestag election. The elector's first vote is cast for a candidate running to represent a particular district. The candidate who receives a plurality of votes becomes the district representative. Germany is divided into 299 electoral districts with roughly 208,000 voters in each district. Half of the Bundestag members are directly elected from these districts. The second ballot is cast for a particular political party. These second votes determine each party's share of the popular vote.</p> <p>In the data file, variable prtvede1 (Party voted for in last national election 1, Germany) refers to the first vote (Erststimme). Variable prtvede2 (Party voted for in last national election 2, Germany) refers to the second vote "Zweitstimme".</p>

Hungary

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	HUN
Year of last election:	2018
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DK (Demokratikus Koalíció) - Democratic Coalition - 5.6 % 2. Együtt 2014 Mozgalom (A korszakváltók pártja) - Together – Party for a New Era - 0.7 % 3. Fidesz (Fidesz Magyar Polgári Párt) - Fidesz - Hungarian Civic Alliance - 49.3 % 4. Jobbik (Jobbik Magyarországért Mozgalom) - Jobbik Movement for a Better Hungary - 19.8 % 5. KDNP (Kereszténydemokrata Néppárt) - Christian Democratic People's Party - (Joint list with Fidesz) 6. LMP (Lehet Más A Politika) - Politics Can Be Different - 7.3 % 7. MSZP (Magyar Szocialista Párt) - Hungarian Socialist Party - 12.4 % 8. Munkáspárt (Magyar Kommunista Munkáspárt) - Hungarian Workers' Party - 0.3 % 9. Momentum Mozgalom - Momentum Movement - 3.2 % 10. Párbeszéd (Párbeszéd Magyarországért Párt) - Dialogue for Hungary - Joint list with MSZP 11. MKKP (Magyar Kétfarkú Kutya Párt) - Hungarian Two-tailed Dog Party - 1.8 %
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. The Democratic Coalition (Hungarian: Demokratikus Koalíció, DK) is a social-liberal political party in Hungary led by former Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány. Founded in 2010 as a faction within the Socialist Party (MSZP), the Democratic Coalition split from the MSZP on 22 October 2011 and became a separate party. It has nine MPs in the National Assembly and four MEPs in the European Parliament. The party platform adopted elements of social liberalism and it is strongly pro-European.</p> <p>2. Together (Hungarian: Együtt), officially Together – Party for a New Era (Hungarian: Együtt – A Korszakváltók Pártja), formerly also known as Together 2014 (Hungarian: Együtt 2014), was a social-liberal political party in Hungary formed on 26 October 2012 for the 2014 Hungarian parliamentary election by Gordon Bajnai, the former Prime Minister of Hungary, to contrast Viktor Orbán's government. Together was founded as a coalition of left-wing and liberal political movements and civil organizations that transformed itself into a party in March 2013. The party had formed an electoral alliance with the Dialogue for Hungary (PM) and they won together four seats in the national assembly and one seat in the European Parliament in 2014. The Together dissolved after its poor performance in the 2018 parliamentary election.</p> <p>3. Founded in 1988 as a liberal youth party opposing the ruling communist government, Fidesz has come to dominate Hungarian politics on the national and local level since its landslide victory in the 2010 national elections on a joint list with the Christian Democratic People's Party,[a] securing it a parliamentary supermajority that it retained in 2014 and again in 2018. Fidesz also enjoys majorities in the county legislatures (19 of 19), almost all (20 of 23) urban counties and in the Budapest city council. Viktor Orbán has been the leader of the party for most of its history. Fidesz is currently considered a national conservative party favoring interventionist policies on economic issues like handling of banks, and a strong conservativestance on social issues and European integration. Recently, the party has increasingly been described as far-right, and its ruling style has also been variously described as "soft fascism", "soft dictatorship", and "soft autocracy". The Fidesz party has denied such accusations and distanced itself from the extreme right; it has criticized such accusations as politically motivated opposition to its anti-immigrant policies and pursuit of "illiberal democracy".</p> <p>4. Jobbik (Jobbik Magyarországért Mozgalom) is an extrem right wing party in the Hungarian political palette. It was formed in 2003 and become popular in second part of the 2000nd by explicit and open xenophobic, militant, anti-Roma and anti-corruption discourse. It identifies itself with being "conservative and radically patriotic Christian party." They identify with the radical right ideology of the 1930ies and 1940ies. They voice a strong anti-EU opinion. They gained a stunningly high share of votes and have been on the rise for a few years, but lately they lost a great proportion of their supporters. Since 2014 Jobbik has started redesigning itself as a conservative people's party and changed the controversial elements of its communication.</p> <p>5. The Christian Democratic People's Party (Hungarian: Kereszténydemokrata Néppárt, KDNP) is a political party in Hungary. It is officially a coalition partner of ruling party Fidesz, but in reality it is a satellite party of Fidesz and has been unable to get into the Parliament on its own since 1994 when it barely passed the election threshold of 5% of votes. Without Fidesz, its support cannot be measured.</p> <p>6. LMP (Lehet Más A Politika): Politics could be Different (translation by the ESS team, as the party does not have an English homepage) was formed in 2009. According to its Funding Document is a liberal, center-left, community based party building also on conservative traditions. It has sustainability, ecology, social justice and community in its focus. It has always been a small party, about the threshold of 5% enabling it to enter the Parliament. It has gone through one major change; following an intensive debate whether to cooperate with the Socialist party in overthrowing the rule of FIDESZ on the 2014 parliamentary elections members of the party could not come to a consensus. On January 2013 appr. half of the members of the party have left the party and formed a new political party: Dialogue for Hungary. In the past elections LMP.</p> <p>7. Hungarian Socialist Party was founded on 7 October 1989 by the reform wing of the ruling communist Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. MSZP was one of the two major parties in Hungarian politics until 2010, however the party lost much of its popular support as a result of 2006 protests and 2008 economic crisis. Following the 2010 elections, MSZP became the largest opposition party in parliament, a position it held until 2018, when it was overtaken by Jobbik.</p> <p>8. Munkáspárt (Magyar Kommunista Munkáspárt) - Hungarian Communist Party was formed after the transition in 1989 on the ashes of the former Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (leading communist party). It is an extreme left wing but not radical party, identifying communist ideology. Ever since its formation it has not been able to pass the 5% threshold to enter the</p>

	<p>Parliaments.</p> <p>9. Momentum Movement (Hungarian: Momentum Mozgalom) is a centrist Hungarian political party founded in March 2017. It came to national prominence as a political association in January 2017 after organizing a petition against the Budapest bid for the 2024 Summer Olympics, calling for a public referendum on the matter. The petition, which gathered over 266,000 signatures, was successful, but the government cancelled the Olympic bid before a referendum could have been held.[10] After its establishment as a political party, Momentum quickly built a national following, and presently has approximately 4,000 members. Momentum party candidates appeared on the ballot in most electoral districts in the 2018 Hungarian parliamentary election, promoting the replacement of the government of Viktor Orbán and advocating a new generation of political change in the country. The party failed to win any seats in parliament, but is now widely considered the strongest extra-parliamentary party in Hungary, and is often involved in the organization of political events and demonstrations.</p> <p>10. Dialogue for Hungary (Hungarian: Párbeszéd Magyarországért, Párbeszéd) (also known in its shortened form Dialogue since September 2016), is a Hungarian green political party that was formed in February 2013 by eight MPs who left the Politics Can Be Different (LMP) party.</p> <p>11. The Hungarian Two-tailed Dog Party (Hungarian: Magyar Kétfarkú Kutya Párt; MKKP) is a joke political party in Hungary. It was founded in Szeged in 2006, but registered as an official political party in 2014. The party's main activity is street art – graffiti, stencils and various posters – parodying the political elite.</p>
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2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	No
Two or more votes registered:	Yes
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>The Hungarian elections are regulated by the 2011/203 law. Elections have one round, but each voter gives two votes on the elections: one on a party list and one for the representative of the given electoral district (who may represent a party or be an independent candidate). The number of members of Parliament has been decreased from 386 to 199 in 2011 out of which 106 are representatives of a geographical district (direct election) and 93 are elected through party lists. The threshold for a party to enter the Parliament is 5 per cent on the party list. For party coalitions the threshold is 10 or 15 per cent depending on the number of parties participating in the coalition.</p> <p>Parliamentary elections are held every 4 years.</p>

Ireland

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	English
Year of last election:	2016
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	Anti-Austerity Alliance - People Before Profit (3.9%) Fianna Fáil – The Republican Party - Fianna Fáil (24.3%) Fine Gael (25.5%) Green Party (2.7%) Independent (18.0%) Labour (6.6%) Sinn Féin (13.8%) Social Democrats (3.0%) Socialist Party – United Left Alliance (0%)
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. Anti-Austerity Alliance (AAA) –People Before Profit was a left-wing alliance formed for the 2016 general election. In 2017, AAA has changed its name to Solidarity; it was originally formed in 2014 by the Socialist party in Ireland to fight austerity measures such as water charges. The People Before Profit Alliance was formed in 2005 by the Socialist Workers Party and joined by the Community and Workers Action Group in 2007.</p> <p>2. Fianna Fáil was founded by Eamonn de Valera in 1926, evolving out of the War of Independence and the anti-treaty side in the Civil War of the 1920s. It first came to power in 1932 and is the party that has held the longest period of office in Ireland. However, following the 2008 economic crash and crisis in the public finances that led to the EU-IMF bailout, as well as several political scandals, Fianna Fáil suffered significant electoral losses in the 2011 election. It moved from being the largest party to the third largest party in the State. After a recovery in the 2016 elections, Fianna Fáil is today the second largest party in Ireland. Since 2009, Fianna Fáil has been part of the European Liberal Democrat and Reform Party (ELDR) in the European Parliament.</p> <p>3. Fine Gael was founded in 1933 following the amalgamation of a number groups: the pro-treaty Cumann na nGaedheal of W. T. Cosgrave, the Centre Party under Frank MacDermot, and the National Guard. It was also given a secondary name 'the United Ireland Party', as a result of which in its early years it was occasionally referred to in newspapers as 'UIP'. It is a member of the Christian Democratic European People's Party in the European Parliament.</p> <p>4. The Green Party was founded on the principles that economic and social progress should not negatively impinge on the environment. It is a member of the European Green Party in the European Parliament. The Green Party originally formed in 1981 as the Ecology Party of Ireland, becoming the Green Alliance/Comhaontas Glas in 1983, and renaming itself the Green Party/Comhaontas Glas in 1986.</p> <p>5. Independent comprise non-party candidates and are a diverse group.</p> <p>6. Labour is a party aligned to social democratic principles. The party is a member of the Party of European Socialists in the European Parliament. The Labour Party was founded in 1912 by James Connolly, James Larkin and William O'Brien as the political wing of the Irish Trade Union Congress. It is the oldest political party in Ireland.</p> <p>7. Sinn Féin is an Irish republican (nationalist) and left-wing all-Ireland party, focused on the reunification of Ireland and the establishment of a democratic socialist republic. Sinn Féin traces its origins to the 1905 party founded by Arthur Griffith and Bulmer Hobson. It came to power in the first Dáil of 1919, led by Eamonn de Valera, but split after the Anglo-Irish Treaty in 1921. Due to its refusal to recognise the Republic of Ireland, its abstentionist policy regarding taking seats in the Dáil, and its association with the IRA, it had little support in the South of Ireland. It has increased its support since the 1980s and the peace process, emerging as the second largest party in the Northern Ireland Assembly and the fourth largest party in the Republic of Ireland.</p> <p>8. Social-democrats was founded in 2015 by three independent members of Dáil Éireann, Stephen Donnelly, Catherine Murphy, and Róisín Shortall. According to the party's constitution, their first objective is to advocate for and support social democratic values and policies in communities throughout Ireland and the world.</p> <p>9. The Socialist Party is a left-wing, anti-capitalist all-Ireland party. Previously called Militant and Militant Labour, it became the Socialist Party in 1997. The Socialist Party is affiliated to the Committee for a Workers' International (CWI) which brings together socialists in over 40 countries.</p>

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	No
Two or more votes registered:	Yes
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>The system of voting in all national and local elections is proportional representation with a single transferable vote (PR-STV) in multi-seat constituencies. Voters can indicate their first and subsequent choices for the candidates on the ballot paper.</p> <p>The names of the candidates appear in alphabetical order on the ballot paper, together with their photographs and their party emblem (if they wish).</p>

Italy

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	Italian
Year of last election:	2018
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<p>Partito Democratico / Democratic Party (18,7) + Europa (2,7) Italia Europa Insieme / Italy Europe Together (-) Civica Popolare Lorenzin / Popular Civic List (0,5) SVP - PATT (0,4) Liberi e Uguali / Free and Equal (3,4) Movimento 5 Stelle / Five Star Movement (-) Forza Italia (14,0) Lega/Lega Nord / Northern Lega (-) Fratelli d'Italia / Brothers of Italy (4,3) Noi con l'Italia - UDC / Us with Italy – UDC (1,3) Potere al popolo / Power to the People (1,1) Casapound Italia (0,9)</p>
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1: Partito Democratico: Social-democratic party born as a merger of the "Democrats of the Left (DS)" and "The Daisy (DL)". It gathers different ideological positions, from social democracy, to christian left, social liberalism and green politics.</p> <p>2: + Europa: Liberal, pro-European and centrist political party, within the centre-left coalition. Born from Italian Radicals, Democratic Centre and Forza Europa movement.</p> <p>3: Italia Europa Insieme: Centre-left coalition of political parties: Italian Socialist Party, Federation of the Greens and Area Civica movement. Its main ideological trends are social democracy, green politics and progressivism.</p> <p>4: Civica Popolare Lorenzin: A centrist coalition of political parties, named after its leader, Beatrice Lorenzin. It has as main ideology Christian democracy and Populism.</p> <p>5: SVP - PATT: Centre-left coalition, combined by the South Tyrolean People's Party (SVP) and The Trentino Tyrolean Autonomist Party (PATT). It is a regionalist, autonomist, Christian-democratic political coalition party representing South Tyrol, an autonomous province in northern Italy, and the Autonomous Province of Trento.</p> <p>6: Liberi e Uguali: A left-wing federation of parties in Italy, launched by the Democratic and Progressive Movement, Italian Left and Possible. The leader of the alliance was Pietro Grasso, former President of the Senate and former anti-Mafia prosecutor. It combined elements of Social democracy and Progressivism.</p> <p>7: Movimento 5 Stelle: Anti-establishment party founded by the comedian Beppe Grillo. It did not embraced any clear ideological position. It combines elements of environmentalism, sustainability, protest against established parties, anti-corruption, direct participation, digital democracy.</p> <p>8: Forza Italia: Centre-right party whose ideology includes elements of liberal conservatism, Christian democracy, and liberalism. Its leader is Silvio Berlusconi, former Prime Minister of Italy (1994–1995, 2001–2006, 2008–2011).</p> <p>9: Lega Nord: It is a right-wing regionalist political party strongly characterized by anti-immigration positions, euro-scepticism and other "populist" policies.</p> <p>10: Fratelli d'Italia: A right-wing party that traces its roots in the history and values of the Italian Social Movement and National Alliance. The party's main ideological trends are Italian nationalism and conservatism, and its ideology includes also a Eurosceptic sentiment.</p> <p>11: Noi con l'Italia - UDC: A centre-right coalition of political parties, characterized by Christian-democracy and liberal-conservatism ideology.</p> <p>12: Potere al popolo: A coalition of political parties described by its membership as "social and political, anti-liberist and anti-capitalist, communist, socialist, environmentalist, feminist, secular, pacifist, libertarian and southernist left-wing", whose goal as coalition is "to create real democracy, through daily practices, self-governance experiments, socialisation of knowing and popular participation".</p> <p>13: Casapound Italia: A neo-fascist political party whose main ideological trends are ultranationalism, hard euroscepticism, souverainism, anti-immigration and anti-capitalism.</p>

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>The electoral system of the national Parliament use a parallel voting system which act as a mixed system for the election of the 630 Chamber of Deputies' members and the 315 Senate of the Republic's ones. 37% of seats are allocated using a first-past-the-post voting while the other 63% are allocated using the proportional largest remainder method, with one round of voting.</p>

Both at the Chamber of Deputies and at the Senate, organised political parties or groups may stand for elections as a single list or in a coalition. The coalition shall be the same at a national level, and the parties joining forces in a coalition shall present common candidates in single-member districts, (exception made for the lists representing recognised linguistic minorities, which may present their candidates separately).

Both at the Chamber of Deputies and at the Senate, in every multi-member district, each roll is made up of a list of candidates, presented according to a numerical order.

As regards the Chamber of Deputies, the national territory is divided into 28 constituencies. Each constituency is divided into single-member districts, and in one or more multi-member districts, made up of the territorial aggregation of neighbouring single-member districts. The 232 single-member districts of the national territory are distributed in each constituency on the basis of the population. In each district, the candidate obtaining the highest number of votes is elected.

As regards the seats to be allocated to the lists and coalitions of lists in multi-member districts, the allocation is performed at a national level for the Chamber of Deputies, through a proportional method, among the coalitions of lists and the lists exceeding the election thresholds.

The threshold to access the allocation of seats is 3% of the votes validly cast at a national level for single lists, and 10% of the votes validly cast at a national level for coalitions, provided that at least one of the lists of the coalition obtained 3% of the votes validly cast at a national level (the threshold for inter-coalition lists is 3% of the votes validly cast at a national level, also in case the coalition does not reach the 10% threshold). As far as coalitions are concerned, the votes obtained by the lists not exceeding the threshold of 1% will not be taken into account.

As regards the Senate, the national territory is divided into 20 constituencies corresponding to the territory of each Region. Every regional constituency is divided into single-member districts and in one or more multi-member districts. The national territory is divided into 116 single-member districts. In each district, the candidate obtaining the highest number of votes is elected.

As regards the seats to be allocated to the lists and coalitions of lists in multi-member districts, the allocation is performed at a regional level for the Senate, through a proportional method, among the coalitions of lists and the lists exceeding the election thresholds. The threshold to allocate the seats is set – as it happens with the Chamber of Deputies – at 3% of the votes validly cast at a national level for individual lists, and 10% for coalitions, provided that at least one of the lists in the coalition obtains 3% of the votes validly cast nationally or 20% in a Region (the threshold for inter-coalition lists is in any case 3% of the votes validly cast at a national level or 20% of the valid votes in at least one Region, even in case the coalition does not reach the threshold of 10%). As far as coalitions are concerned, the votes obtained by the lists not exceeding the threshold of 1% will not be taken into account.

The allocation of regional seats to the Senate also involves the lists – either individual or in coalition – that obtained at least 20% of votes validly cast in at least one Region. Special provisions protect the lists representing recognised linguistic minorities standing for elections in a Special Autonomous Region whose statutes or relevant laws provide for particular protection of such minorities.

Netherlands

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	Dutch
Year of last election:	2017
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie, VVD, People's party for freedom, 21.3 2. Partij van de Arbeid, PVDA, Labour Party, 5.7 3. Partij voor de Vrijheid, PVV, Party for Freedom, 13.1 4. Socialistische Partij, SP, Socialist Party, 9.1 5. Christen Democratisch Appèl, CDA, Christian Democratic Appeal, 12.4 6. Democraten 66, D66, Democrats 66, 12.2 7. Christenunie, ChristenUnie, Christian Union, 3.4 8. GroenLinks, GroenLinks, Green Left, 9.1 9. Staatkundig Gereformeerde Partij, SGP, Reformed Political Party, 2.1 10. Partij voor de Dieren, Partij voor de Dieren, Party for the Animals, 3.2 11. 50PLUS, 50PLUS, 50PLUS, 3.1 12. DENK, DENK, DENK, 2.1 13. Forum voor Democratie, Forum voor Democratie, Forum for Democracy 1.8 14. Artikel1, Artikel1/Bij1, Article 1, 0.3
Description of political parties listed above	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VVD is a rightist-liberal party with progressive standpoints (favouring entrepreneurship and economic values). VVD was founded in 1948 and since 31 May 2006 it has been led by Mr. Rutte (currently the Prime Minister of the VVD/D66/CDA/CU cabinet). In the 2012 Dutch general elections, VVD forms a coalition cabinet with the PvdA. Between 2010 and 2012 it formed a coalition cabinet with the CDA, with parliamentary support from the PVV. 2. PvdA is a leftist social democratic party, led by Mr. Asscher since 2016. It was founded in 1946 and is now in the opposition again after a cabinet with VVD until 2017. 3. PVV is a conservative-liberal party led by Geert Wilders (former of the VVD). PVV was founded in 2006 and it has strong stances on Islam and immigration. The party is considered being populist, conservative, liberal, and leftist at the same time. Between 2010 and 2012 it supported the VVD-CDA cabinet. Currently it is in opposition. 4. SP is a Leftist (socialist) party led by Mr. Roemer since 2010. The party was founded in 1971. It gained its first parliamentary seats in 1994, and grew to 16.6% in 2006. But declined to 9.7% in 2012 and 9.1% in 2017. After the election Mrs. Lilian Marijnissen (daughter of one of the earlier party leaders Jan Marijnissen) took over the party. 5. CDA is a Christian democratic party at the centre of the Dutch political centrum. Since 2012, Mr. Van Haersma Buma is the political leader of the party. It was founded in 1980 after a fusion of several smaller Christian parties. Currently it is in cabinet after 4 years of opposition. 6. D66 is a centre (social-liberal) party with many progressive standpoints. It is considered left wing on immigration, and right wing on economic issues. Since 2006 it has been led by Mr. Pechtold. In recent years, D66 often forms a coalition with GroenLinks. In 2010 it supported a budget agreement together with GL, CU, and the VVD-CDA coalition cabinet, after that cabinet collapsed following the PVV's withdrawal of parliamentary support. They are currently in cabinet with the VVD/CDA and CU. Pechtold left in October 2018 and is replaced by Mr. Jetten. 7. Christen Unie is a Christian (Protestant) democratic party led by Mr. Segers from 2015. CU has conservative stances on abortion, euthanasia and gay marriage. For other issues, the party is considered centre-left. 8. Groen links is a Leftist party with green environmentalist ideals, led by Mr. Klaver since 2015. It was founded in 1990, after a fusion of several smaller leftist parties. 9. SGP is an orthodox Protestant party with conservative standpoints. The party was founded in 1918 and is led by Mr. Van der Staaij. Only as of 2006, women have been allowed to become members of this party. Only in 2013 party regulations formally allow passive voting rights for women following a court order. 10. Partij voor de Dieren is an animal rights party with natural affinity for environmental issues (center-left). The party is led by Ms. Marianne Thieme. 11. 50PLUS is a special interest party for the elderly. It was founded in 2014 and is led by Mr. Krol. 12. DENK is a migrant political party which has been formed by two former PvdA members. They remained in parliament after their first election in 2017. It is led by Mr. Kuzu. 13. Forum voor Democratie is founded in 2016 and led by Mr. Thierry Baudet. It is a populist conservative anti-immigrant right-wing party. 14. Bij1 was formerly known as Artikel1 is a Dutch political party founded in 2016 by Sylvana Simons. She was first part of DENK but close to the elections she started her own party. The standpoint of the party is to promote radical equality and economic fairness. The name Artikel1 refers to the first amendment in the constitution.

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	Yes

Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	The Dutch House of Representatives is composed of 150 seats which are elected by proportional representation in a single nation-wide constituency. One full seat is 0.67% of votes and residual seats are assigned with the D'Hondt method. This means that there is no electoral threshold except for gaining enough votes for one seat. The House of Representatives has a term of four years, although new elections might be held when the cabinet falls. Based on the election results the largest party often takes the initiative to form a coalition cabinet.

Norway

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	English
Year of last election:	2017
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<p>01. Rødt - The Party Red - 2.4 %</p> <p>02. Sosialistisk Venstreparti - Socialist Left Party - 6.0 %</p> <p>03. Arbeiderpartiet - Norwegian Labour Party - 27.4 %</p> <p>04. Venstre - Liberal Party - 4.4 %</p> <p>05. Kristelig Folkeparti - Christian Democratic Party - 4.2 %</p> <p>06. Senterpartiet - Centre Party - 10.3 %</p> <p>07. Høyre - Conservative Party - 25.0 %</p> <p>08. Fremskrittspartiet (FRP) - Progress Party - 15.2 %</p> <p>09. Fremskrittspartiet - Coast Party - 0.1 %</p> <p>10. Miljøpartiet De Grønne - Green Party - 3.2 %</p>
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. The Red Party is a far-left political party and the leading party to the left of the Socialist Left and the Labour Party in Norway. Since 2007 the party has sought a seat in parliament. The party was founded in March, 2007 by a merger of the Workers' Communist Party and the Red Electoral Alliance</p> <p>2. Socialist Left Party: Formed in 1975 by a radical break-away group from Labour, opposed to Norwegian membership in NATO and the EU. In 2005 the party became a governing party for the first time, participating in the Red-Green Coalition with the Labour and the Centre Party.</p> <p>3. Norwegian Labour Party is a social-democratic party with a hegemonic hold on government in post-war years. It is the senior partner in the current Norwegian government as part of the Red-Green Coalition, and its leader, Jens Stoltenberg, was the previous Prime Minister of Norway</p> <p>4. The Liberal Party is a liberal political party and the oldest in the country (formed in 1884). It has enacted reforms such as parliamentarism, freedom of religion, universal suffrage and free education. Having initially been a major party in Norway, it has in recent times become marginalized, and has struggled to get above the election threshold.</p> <p>5. Christian Democratic Party was established in 1933 with the aim to uphold conservative moral and values. Centre-right party which has had a "king maker" position in Norwegian politics during the last decades. Due largely to their poor showing in the 2009 elections, the party has seen a conflict between its conservative and liberal wings over which direction their political ideology should shift in the future.</p> <p>6. Centre Party: Agrarian party established in 1920. Have participated in centre-right coalitions in the post-war era and in centre-left coalitions in the 1930s. From its founding until 2000, the party had joined only non-socialist governments, but in 2005 changed allegiance and joined the Red-Green government. The party is firmly against Norwegian membership in the EU.</p> <p>7. Conservative Party: Established in 1884 as the erstwhile bourgeois opposition party to Liberals. However, the party has historically included both conservatives and liberals. Until the 2005 elections the Conservatives were the main non-socialist opposition party. In 2005, the party achieved a very weak election result, but has seen a strong surge in polls since the 2009 election. The conservative Party currently holds the Prime Minister position (Erna Solberg) in Norway.</p> <p>8. Progress Party: Originally formed as a one-man populist opposition party in 1973, largely as an anti-tax movement. Developed into a right-liberal party, but after a break-away and ideological schism in 1993, the party has consolidated itself as a right-populist party.</p> <p>9. Coastal Party was established in 1999 and has attracted defectors primarily from Centre Party and Christian Democratic Party. Occupied one seat in parliament in two successive periods (1997-2001 and 2001-2005). The party has district, fishing and coastal issues among its primary policies and is a staunch opponent of Norwegian EU membership.</p> <p>10. Green Party was formed in 1988 from a number of local environmental election lists. The party has no members of parliament, but has some representation in municipality councils. The party does not have a leader in the traditional sense - it is led by the national board which consists of five persons.</p>

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for	The primary legislative assembly at the national level in Norway is called the Storting. There are

<p>this assembly:</p>	<p>169 seats or members of the Storting and general elections are held every four years for each of those seats. The Storting can not be dissolved and there is no opportunity to call for new elections outside the general election year.</p> <p>Every Norwegian citizen aged 18 or older by the end of the election year has the right to vote at the election. Norway practices universal suffrage. Everyone who is entitled to vote and who has lived in Norway for the last 10 years is eligible to be voted into the Storting with the exception of civil servants and people working in the Foreign Service.</p> <p>The Norwegian electoral system is based on the principle of direct election and proportional representation, and voting is by secret ballot. The ballot is a vote for a list of representatives from a political party and the names on the party list are candidates representing that particular party. These candidates have been chosen on the nomination conventions of each party, and the list is closed, i.e. voters are not permitted to rank candidates on the list. There are 19 counties in Norway which constitute the constituencies. These are divided into polling districts where the voters come to take ballot.</p> <p>150 constituency representatives are elected to the legislative assembly - the Storting. Another 19 are distributed among the counties after the election. The allocation of seats is derived through a modified Sainte Laguë method</p>
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Poland

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	English (original names in the Polish version of questionnaire)
Year of last election:	2015
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. KORWiN - KORWiN (4.76%) 2. Kukiz' 15 - Kukiz' 15 (8.81 %) 3. Nowoczesna - Modern Poland (7.60 %) 4. Platforma Obywatelska - Civic Platform (24.09 %) 5. Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe - Polish Peasants' Party (5.13 %) 6. Prawo i Sprawiedliwość - Law and Justice (37.58%) 7. Razem - Together Party (3.62 %) 8. Zjednoczona Lewica - United Left (7.55 %) 9. Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej - Democratic Left Alliance (na) 10. Wolność - Wolnosc (na)
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. KORWiN – (see also “Wolność” below)– a radically conservative liberal and Eurosceptic political party established in 2015 by Janusz Korwin-Mikke, following his removal from his former party, Kongres Nowej Prawicy [Congress of the New Right]. The party promotes the idea to eliminate income taxes and constrain the role of the state in the economy. Until 8 October 2016, the party was known as Koalicja Odnowy Rzeczypospolitej Wolność i Nadzieja [Coalition for the Renewal of the Polish Republic – Liberty and Hope]. The party's Polish name was originally an acronym identical with the founder's surname (KORWiN). In the 2015 parliamentary elections, KORWiN received 4.8% of the vote, falling below the 5% threshold and winning no seats in the parliament.</p> <p>In 2016, the party attempted to change its name into "Wolność", but due to problems with name registration, it restored its previous name in December 2018. This issue is important because in the ESS 9 questionnaire this party is listed as “Wolność” in question PRTCLPL.</p> <p>2. Kukiz'15 is a right-wing political party in Poland led by a former rock musician Paweł Kukiz. In terms of the economy, the party favours liberal solutions, such as the reduction or even abolishing income taxes. Kukiz'15 criticises politicians for representing the interests of their respective political parties rather than the citizens who elected them, and criticises the current electoral system for benefiting large parties. Kukiz'15 promotes the idea of single-seat constituencies (which, according to its leader, will reduce the role of political parties), and more opportunities for the citizens to express their views via referendums. This grouping opposes excessive EU integration, and criticises many EU regulations (the climate & energy package or the refugee policy). The movement was founded after the 2015 presidential elections, when Paweł Kukiz ran as a candidate, and has been particularly popular among young people. In the 2015 parliamentary elections, Kukiz'15 won some parliamentary seats. Its electoral lists included many members of other groupings, also nationalist ones, who were subsequently excluded from the parliamentary caucus. According to opinion polls, this party enjoys a support of approx. 5–10%.</p> <p>Kukiz'15 has criticised some decisions by the ruling PiS, but has been more inclined than other parliamentary opposition to support the government, and was criticised for this favourable stance. Kukiz'15 does not exclude the possibility of a future coalition with PiS. The leader of Kukiz'15 is often criticised for crude language and controversial posts in social media.</p> <p>3. Nowoczesna [Modern Poland] is a classic liberal political party, both in terms of the economy and worldview. It promotes the idea of tax reductions and solutions to help entrepreneurs. The party postulates a neutral state and has decidedly criticised the attempts by PiS to tighten the current abortion law. The party favours further integration with the EU. The party was founded in May 2015 by economist Ryszard Petru, and joined the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE). In the 2015 parliamentary elections, Nowoczesna received 7.6% of the vote. Initially, the grouping scored high in opinion polls (above 20%), but its support began to dwindle over time. In 2017, leadership was assumed by Katarzyna Lubnauer. In subsequent months, many politicians left the party (including its founder Ryszard Petru) and its popularity in the polls began to drop under 5% (which is the electoral threshold for political parties in Poland). Nowoczesna is a very active opposition party, critical of the PiS government, along similar lines as PO. To a large extent, Nowoczesna competes with PO for the same electorate. In 2018, PO and Nowoczesna launched co-operation by forming a coalition – Koalicja Obywatelska [Civic Coalition].</p> <p>4. Platforma Obywatelska Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej (PO) [the Civic Platform of the Republic of Poland] – the largest opposition party with a centre-right orientation. Since 2005, PO has mainly competed for power with PiS [Law and Justice] (PiS; see above). Initially, PO proclaimed liberal economic slogans, but subsequently began to introduce socially-oriented promises into its programme. The party initially favoured tax reductions and opposed the idea of adopting a central budget with a deficit. However, after coming to power, it withdrew from these ideas. PO raised the retirement age to 67. In its joint government with PSL (see below), it also extended maternity leave from 26 weeks to 12 months. Despite its criticism of the socially-oriented policy of the current PiS government, which it sees as a threat to the central budget, PO declares that it will maintain some of the existing welfare solutions, including the '500 plus' programme (see above). As far as worldview is concerned, PO holds more liberal views than PiS: it is in favour of government financing of in vitro fertilisation, it is against tightening the abortion law, and favours the current legal solutions, allowing abortion only in specific cases. On the other hand, PO has been criticised by left-wing parties for not introducing any significant liberalisations into</p>

the law during its time in power (2007–2015). For example, PO failed to adopt any laws to legalise civil unions. PO has also criticised PiS for its excessive financial support for the Roman Catholic church in Poland. However, PO's position on many issues is difficult to identify clearly. Its members include many left- and right-wing politicians. PO highlighted its effective spending of EU funds on infrastructure development, including contracts for the construction of approx. 400 km of motorways and 360 km of expressways. PO stresses the need for stronger integration with the EU and wants to initiate a discussion on the adoption of the euro by Poland. PO is a member of the European People's Party (EPP).

PO was founded in 2001. It headed the government cabinet in 2007–2015, in a coalition with PSL [Polish Peasants' Party]. Until 2014, the Prime Minister was Donald Tusk from PO. In 2014, he stepped down to assume the post of President of the European Council (re-elected in 2017, with strong opposition from PiS). In 2015, PO lost the national elections and became the major opposition grouping. Since 2016, PO has been led by Grzegorz Schetyna, who has been trying to build a coalition to remove PiS from power. The first opportunity to do so was during the 2018 local government elections, when PO formed a coalition with Nowoczesna [Modern Poland] (see below). In connection with the European elections in May 2019, the European Coalition [Koalicja Europejska] was formed, including PO and Nowoczesna, as well as PSL, SLD and Partia Zieloni [Green Party]. The decision to establish the coalition was not made until February 2019, but the media had speculated about this possibility during the ESS 9 fieldwork; see below.

During its time in power, PO was criticised for its reforms (e.g. raising the retirement age, introducing changes in the education system) without any wide-ranging public consultations. PO was also criticised for introducing changes in private retirement plans in order to improve the situation of the central budget in the short term. On the other hand, PO was criticised for having no welfare-oriented programmes and the failure to take energetic steps in many areas, e.g. improving the collectability of VAT. Moreover, it is pointed out that PO has focused on criticising the ruling party, PiS, without proposing any economic ideas of its own.

5.

Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe (PSL) [Polish Peasants' Party] – an agrarian centre-right party with a traditional outlook. Initially, the party was sceptical about the EU integration but it has become more positive about the benefits of Poland's EU membership over time. Its programme contains strong socially oriented elements, such as the idea of financial support for the elderly and families in a difficult financial situation (e.g. when its leader, Władysław Kosiniak-Kamysz, was a labour minister in the PO-headed cabinet (see above), he introduced a law which provided financial support to people without the right to a maternity or paternity leave, in an amount of PLN 1000 (approx. EUR 240) per month for 12 months after childbirth). Relative to other parties, PSL places the greatest emphasis on representing the interests of farmers (e.g. families earning their living from agriculture can use a more advantageous social security system). PSL also supports the development of renewable energy sources. Importantly, PSL has been present in all successive Polish parliaments since 1989. This party formed a ruling coalition with the post-communist Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej (SLD) [Democratic Left Alliance, see above] in 1993–1997 and in 2001–2005. In 2007–2015, PSL formed a ruling coalition with PO. In the 2015 parliamentary elections, PSL received just over 5% of the vote.

PSL group criticises the ruling PiS party, competing for countryside voters with it. In connection with the 2019 European elections, PSL joined a broad European Coalition [Koalicja Europejska], whose main aim is to remove PiS from power (the decision to establish the coalition was not made until February 2019, but the media had speculated about this possibility during the ESS 9 fieldwork).

6.

Prawo i Sprawiedliwość (PiS) [Law and Justice] – the ruling party with a strong right-wing orientation. One of the two largest political parties in Poland. Since 2005, it has been competing for power mainly with the Civic Platform (PO; see below). The nation and patriotic values are the fundamental elements of this party's ideology. The party has a conservative stance on issues such as abortion, in-vitro fertilisation (IVF), rights of the LGBT community, or the role of the Catholic Church in public life (as a result, the Catholic Church in Poland strongly backs up PiS). The party promotes welfare-oriented ideas. Among others, it has introduced the so-called '500 plus' programme, consisting in a monthly cash benefit of PLN 500 (approx. EUR 120) for the second and each subsequent child in the family. The party has also reversed the unpopular pension reform introduced earlier by the PO, which had raised the retirement age to 67 years. On the other hand, after coming to power, PiS did not introduce any changes that would clearly increase taxes for the highest earners. PiS is a Eurosceptic party. It is a member of the Alliance of European Conservatives and Reformists (ACRE), a European political party. PiS attaches great importance to closer relations with the USA.

PiS was founded in 2001 by brothers Jarosław and Lech Kaczyński (the latter subsequently became the president of Poland in 2005–2010, and died in an air crash at Smolensk-North airport in Russia). The party often stresses the importance of dealing with the communist past and has a declared focus on fighting corruption. It was the leading party in the government in 2005–2007. After the 2007 elections, and until today, PiS has been the key rival to PO, which ruled the country until 2015. After the parliamentary elections in 2015, PiS has held a majority in the Sejm and Senate. In the 2015 elections, PiS was running in the same electoral committee with two smaller parties: Polska Razem [Poland Together] and Solidarna Polska [Solidarity Poland]. Politicians from the two parties have performed important roles in the PiS-led cabinet.

PiS has been criticised for a number of changes it introduced after coming to power, primarily for its judicial reforms which, according to the opposition, violated the constitution. PiS has earned criticism for these steps also in the European Union. In addition, PiS has been criticised for its changes in the public mass media, which, according to the opposition, strongly favour the ruling party. Attempts to tighten the abortion law in 2016 and 2018 triggered social protests, and PiS withdrew from the idea to implement those reforms afterwards. PiS has been also criticised for its reforms in education and foreign policy. According to its opponents, the foreign policy of the PiS-led government has undermined Poland's position in the EU. PiS supports the idea for hard coal to remain the main source of energy, which has triggered criticism from environmental activists. PiS supports Polish coal mines even if they are not profitable.

	<p>PiS is the party of origin for the current President of Poland, Andrzej Duda, who won the presidential elections in 2015.</p> <p>7. Partia Razem [Together Party] is an opposition party formed in May 2015, with a strong left-wing orientation. The party highlights the need to introduce welfare-oriented solutions, higher taxes for higher earners and observance of workers' rights. In terms of worldview, the party stresses the need for a secular state and liberalisation of the abortion legislation.</p> <p>In the 2015 parliamentary elections, Razem received 3.6% of the vote, falling below the 5% threshold and winning no seats in the parliament. As a result, Razem has been primarily active in various political protests and activities outside the parliament. Unlike other political parties in Poland, Razem has a collective leadership. The party has criticised the current PiS government for violating the constitution and expressed criticism about the PO-led government in 2007–2015. Razem has also been highly critical of the economic reforms introduced by the first non-communist government after 1989. The party has been criticized for its inability and unwillingness to join electoral alliances with other leftist parties, notably SLD. At present, the party has very weak support in opinion polls. Please note: The left-wing Partia Razem [Together Party] is not to be confused with Polska Razem [Poland Together], which is a different grouping with a right-wing orientation. See comments to PiS and NTS ESS7 for further explanations.</p> <p>8. Zjednoczona Lewica [United Left]. In July 2015, Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej (SLD) [Democratic Left Alliance] along with Twój Ruch [Your Movement], Unia Pracy [Labour Union], Polska Partia Socjalistyczna [Polish Socialist Party, POINTS], and Partia Zieloni [Green Party] formed an electoral alliance called 'United Left'.</p> <p>SLD is described below.</p> <p>In the 2015 parliamentary elections, the alliance received 7.6% of the vote. Since they were a coalition, and the threshold for coalitions in the parliamentary elections is 8%, they did not win any seats in the parliament. The coalition was dissolved in 2016.</p> <p>9. Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej (SLD) [Democratic Left Alliance] – a left-wing party which favours a progressive tax system, equal access to health care and education for all citizens, separation of the Church and the state, equal rights for women and men, and legalisation of civil unions, strongly criticising the attempts by PiS to tighten the abortion law. SLD also supports the idea to strengthen the position of labour unions. However, it is worth stressing that SLD was criticised by other left-wing groupings and parties for not following a left-wing economic agenda sufficiently during its time in power in 1993–1997 and 2001–2005. Moreover, it implemented only limited measures towards a secular state. SLD supports the EU integration.</p> <p>Many politicians from other parties point out that the highest proportion of SLD activists originate from Socjaldemokracja Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej (SdRP) [Social Democracy of the Republic of Poland], a descendant of the former communist party Polska Zjednoczona Partia Robotnicza (PZPR) [Polish United Workers' Party], disbanded in 1989. SLD formed a government in 1993–1997 and 2001–2005 in a coalition with PSL (see below). In 2005, as a result of corruption scandals, SLD lost the vast majority of its electorate. Since that time, the party has not managed to regain any broad support.</p> <p>In 2015, SLD formed a coalition called Zjednoczona Lewica [United Left], which received 7.6% of the vote, below the mandatory 8% threshold for coalitions, thus winning no seats in the parliament (electoral alliances must gather at least 8% of the vote, while the threshold for individual parties is 5%).</p> <p>SLD has criticised both the ruling PiS and the PO government in 2007–2015. Shortly before the 2019 European elections, SLD joined a broad European Coalition [Koalicja Europejska], whose main aim is to remove PiS from power (the decision to establish the coalition was not made until February 2019, but the media had speculated about this possibility during the ESS 9 fieldwork; see below).</p> <p>10. Wolność – a new name of the KORWIN party (see above), adopted in 2016. Due to problems with name registration, the party restored its previous name in December 2018. This issue is important because in the ESS 9 questionnaire this party is listed as "Wolność" in question PRTCLPL.</p>
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2. Electoral system

Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:

Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>In the voting to the Sejm (the primary legislative assembly) only one vote per voter is recorded. Each voter (a Polish citizen who is 18 years or older on the election day) may select one candidate for the assembly. This vote is cast for a candidate and, at the same time, for the election committee (a party or a coalition) which has nominated this candidate. A total of 460 members of parliament are elected in the Sejm elections. The elections are organised in constituencies. In 2015 the number of constituencies was 41. The number of mandates</p>

	<p>allocated to each constituency is expressed by a single-digit number or a double-digit number below 20. Parties which receive at least five per cent of votes (the so-called 'electoral threshold') and coalitions which receive at least 8 per cent of votes at the country level participate in the allocation of seats (this requirement does not apply to national minorities). The number of seats for parties and coalitions in each constituency is calculated according to the d'Hondt method.</p> <p>The groupings which have successfully placed their representatives in the Sejm (as well as those which failed to do so but have achieved at least 3 per cent of votes across Poland) receive funding from the central budget. The sums received depend on the performance at the elections, i.e. the highest level of funding goes to the groupings which have the largest numbers of MPs. This financial solution is often mentioned as a barrier for new groupings to play a considerable political role, for instance by getting elected to the parliament.</p>
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Serbia

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	Serbian
Year of last election:	2016
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<p>1. Aleksandar Vučić-Srbija pobeđuje / Aleksandar Vučić – Serbia wins (52.4%)</p> <p>Srpska napredna stranka / Serbian Progressive Party, Socijaldemokratska partija Srbije / Sociodemocratic Party of Serbia, Partija ujedinjenih penzionera Srbije / Party of United Pensioners of Serbia, Nova Srbija / New Serbia, Pokret socijalista / Movement of socialists, Srpski pokret obnove / Serbian Renewal Movement, Srpska narodna partija / Serbian People's Party, Pokret snaga Srbije / Movement of the Serbian Strength, Samostalni DSS / Independent Democratic Party of Serbia, Ujedinjena seljačka stranka / United Peasants Party, Narodna seljačka stranka / People's Peasant Party</p> <p>2. Boris Tadić, Čedomir Jovanović - Savez za bolju Srbiju - LDP, LSV, SDS / Boris Tadić, Čedomir Jovanović – Alliance for a Better Serbia – LDP, LSV, SDS (5.2%)</p> <p>Liberalno-demokratska partija / Liberal-democratic Party, Liga socijaldemokrata Vojvodine / Social-democratic League of Vojvodina, Socijaldemokratska stranka (Narodni pokret Srbije) / Social-democratic Party (People's Movement of Serbia)</p> <p>3. Borko Stefanović - Srbija za sve nas / Borko Stefanović - Serbia for all of us (0%)</p> <p>Pokret Levica Srbije / Serbian Left Movement, Novo udruženje penzionera Srbije / New Association of Pensioners of Serbia, Socijaldemokratska unija / Social-democratic Union</p> <p>4. Dosta je bilo - Saša Radulović / It's Enough - Restart - Saša Radulović (6.4%)</p> <p>5. Dr Vojislav Šešelj - Srpska radikalna stranka / Dr Vojislav Šešelj - Serbian Radical Party (8.8%)</p> <p>6. Dveri - Demokratska stranka Srbije - Sanda Rašković Ivić - Boško Obradović / Dveri (Doors) - Democratic Party of Serbia - Sanda Rašković Ivić - Boško Obradović (5.2%)</p> <p>7. Ivica Dačić - Socijalistička partija Srbije (SPS), Jedinstvena Srbija (JS) - Dragan Marković Palma (11.6%)</p> <p>Socijalistička partija Srbije (SPS) / Socialist Party of Serbia, Jedinstvena Srbija (JS) / United Serbia, Zeleni Srbije / The Greens of Serbia, Komunistička partija / Communist Party</p> <p>8. Muamer Zukorlić - Bošnjačka demokratska zajednica Sandžak / Muamer Zukorlić – Bosniak Democratic Community of Sandžak (0.8%)</p> <p>9. Partija za demokratsko delovanje - Ardita Sinani / Partia për vertim demokratik - Ardita Sinani / Party for Democratic Action – Ardita Sinani (0.4%)</p> <p>10. Stranka demokratske akcije Sandžaka – Dr. Sulejman Ugljanin / Party of Democratic Action of Sandžak – Dr. Sulejman Ugljanin (0.8%)</p> <p>11. Vajdasági Magyar Szövetség - Pásztor István / Savez vojvođanskih Mađara - Ištvan Pastor / Alliance of Vojvodina's Hungarians - István Pásztor (1.6%)</p> <p>12. Za pravednu Srbiju - Demokratska stranka / For A Just Serbia - Democratic party (6.4%)</p> <p>Demokratska stranka / Democratic party, Nova stranka / New party, Demokratski savez Hrvata u Vojvodini / Democratic Alliance of Croats in Vojvodina, Zajedno za Šumadiju / Together for Sumadija, Pokret za Krajinu / Movement for Krajina</p> <p>13. Zelena stranka / Green Party (0.4%)</p> <p>14. Ne davimo Beograd / Don't Let Belgrade D(r)own</p>
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. Serbian Progressive Party (Srpska napredna stranka) is the ruling party in Serbia (in coalition with several other parties). The head of the party - Aleksandar Vučić is also Head of the State (the President). The Party has been formed in 2008, when Tomislav Nikolic, together with Aleksandar Vucic and several other people left radical right wing Serbian Radical Party and formed new one - Serbian Progressive Party. In 2012, Tomislav Nikolic became the President of Serbia, and Serbian Progressive Party, together with Socialist Party of Serbia, New Serbia, Movement the Strength of Serbia, and Movement of Socialists, made coalition Government. The Party won majority of the seats in Parliament in 2014 and 2016 elections and formed coalition Government with Socialist Party of Serbia and several other smaller parties. In 2017, Aleksandar Vučić became President of Serbia. In 2016 Serbian progressive party proposed Ana Brnabić as first gay Prime Minister. Ideological orientation of the party is national-conservative, populist; the party is pro-EU oriented, but also oriented as pro- Russian.</p> <p>2. Sociodemocratic Party of Serbia (Socijaldemokratska partija Srbije) has been formed in 2008. The head of the party is Rasim Ljajić, who is also Vice-president and Minister in the Government of Ana Brnabić. Earlier, Rasim Ljajić has been president of the Sandžak democratic party (a party of Bosniaks from Sandžak region in Serbia). At 2008 and 2012 elections the party has been part of the coalition of Democratic party (ruling party until 2012), while at 2014 and 2016 elections they formed coalition with Serbian progressive party. From 2008 until now the Sociodemocratic party of Serbia is the part of the ruling coalitions. Ideological orientation is nominally sociodemocratic.</p> <p>3. Party of United Pensioners of Serbia (Partija ujedinjenih penzionera Srbije) has been formed in 2005. Although the party primarily gathers pensioners as their members, they also have</p>

members of other age groups (including their own youth organizations). In the parliamentary elections in 2008, the party performed independently, then in 2012 and 2014, the party performed in coalition with the Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS) and United Serbia (JS). At the elections in 2016, the party won twelve deputy seats in the Serbian Parliament, as part of the coalition around the ruling Serbian Progressive Party. The party's ideological orientation is sociodemocratic (populists, "the interests of the pensioners").

4. Socialist Party of Serbia (Socijalistička partija Srbije) has been formed in 1990, as successor of Communist Party of Serbia. The first president of the party was Slobodan Milošević. The party was at power from 1990-2000. After year 2000 the party became opposition for the first time, but returned to power in 2008, as part of the coalition government of Democratic party, United Serbia and party of United Pensioners of Serbia. After 2012 elections SPS' chief Ivica Dačić became Prime Minister, forming the Government together with Serbian Progressive Party (although the party won only 14.53% votes). In 2014 elections, the party again entered the Government together with Serbian Progressive Party (Ivica Dačić became Vice-President of the Government and Minister of External Affairs). At 2016 elections SPS won 10.95% of votes, and again entered the government together with Serbian Progressive Party. Ideological orientation of the party is nominally sociodemocratic.

5. Serbian Radical Party (Srpska radikalna stranka) has been formed in 1991, by the unification of the Serbian Chetnik Movement (led by Vojislav Seselj) and a number of local committees of the National Radical Party (led by Tomislav Nikolic). Head of the party was and still is Vojislav Seselj, far right politician and paramilitary leader indicted at International War Crime Tribunal in Hague for his role in war crimes in the wars in Croatia, Bosna and Herzegovina, but also in Voivodina. During 1998-2000 period Vojislav Seselj was Vice-president of the Government. In 2003, Seselj went to Hague and remained in prison for next 11 years, when he was released due to his health condition. In 2018 Hague Tribunal convicted him for persecution of Croats in Voivodina. After Seselj went to Hague, his deputy president Tomislav Nikolić assumed de facto leadership of the party until its split in 2008. Nikolić resigned from the SRS over disagreements with Seselj on the direction of the party and took much of the high-ranking members with him to form the Serbian Progressive Party (SNS). In the Serbian parliamentary election, 2016 the SRS gained 22 seats in the national assembly. It is radical, far right, nationalist party.

6. Democratic party (Demokratska stranka) has been formed in 1919, banned in 1945, and again renewed in 1990. The first president was Dragoljub Mićunović. During the 1990-2000 period it acted as the strongest opposition party to Milošević's regime. In 1993 the head of the party became Zoran Đinđić. As part of Democratic Opposition of Serbia, Democratic Party won parliamentary elections in 2000, and Zoran Đinđić became the Prime Minister in the new government. Đinđić has been killed in 2003. The party returned to power in 2007 (in coalition with G17, League of sociodemocrats of Voivodina and Sociodemocratic party of Serbia, but also with Socialist party of Serbia). Boris Tadić from DP won 2008 presidential elections. Democratic party lost 2012 parliamentary and presidential elections. Since then, DP is acting as opposition party. The party underwent several rounds of splitting: in 1990's Vojislav Koštunica left the party to form Democratic party of Serbia; in 1996 Dragoljub Mićunović formed Democratic center, but rejoined in 2004; in 2004 Čedomir Jovanović left and formed Liberal-democratic party; in 2014 Boris Tadić left and formed his own Sociodemocratic party; in 2015 Borko Stefanović left and formed The Left of Serbia; in 2016 Dragan Đilas left and in 2019 formed The party of freedom and justice. Ideological orientation of the party is left center/sociodemocratic.

7. Serbian Movement Dveri (Doors) is political party, formally formed in 2015, although it exists from 2011 as political group. The group was initially formed as NGO of students gathered around journal "Serbian doors". The party's leader Boško Obradović has been publishing texts in neofascists journal "The New Spark". In the period 2012-2016 Dveri acted as non-parliamentary opposition and at 2016 elections they entered the Parliament and act as parliamentary opposition. Ideology: right wing, nationalism, social conservatism, euroscepticism, protectionism, antiglobalism, clericalism.

8. Democratic Party of Serbia (Demokratska stranka Srbije) is national-conservative, Christian-democratic political party, formed in 1992, when its leader, Vojislav Koštunica (together with several other prominent members) left Democratic party. Together with Serbian Renewal Movement and New Democracy, they formed alliance Democratic Movement of Serbia (DEPOS). Until 2000 the party acted as parliamentary opposition. In year 2000, its head, Vojislav Koštunica, defeated Slobodan Milošević at presidential elections. DSS, as part of Democratic opposition of Serbia also won Parliamentary elections in 2000 and formed coalition government with Democratic party and a number of other opposition parties. In late 2001, DSS split from the coalition. After 2003 parliamentary elections they formed minority government together with G17, New Serbia and Serbian Renewal Movement. Vojislav Koštunica acted as Prime Minister from 2003 till 2008. From 2008 they act as parliamentary opposition.

9. Serbian Renewal Movement (Srpski pokret obnove) is national liberal and monarchist party, formed in 1990 through the merger of Drašković's faction from the Serbian National Renewal (SNO) party and Vojislav Seselj's Serbian Freedom Movement. Seselj left the party in 1991 after internal quarrels and founded the Serbian Radical Party. The Democratic Movement of Serbia was formed in May 1992 as a political alliance made up primarily of SPO, New Democracy (ND), Democratic Party of Serbia (DSS). The political alliance however broke, and was dissolved in 1993. The SPO was part of the "Together" (Zajedno) coalition. In early 1999, the SPO joined the Slobodan Milošević-led government, and Drašković became a Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister. In the midst of the 1999 war, Drašković and the SPO pulled out of the government, calling on Milošević to surrender to NATO. SPO was part of the Vojislav Koštunica cabinet (2003-2008) and Vuk Drašković became Minister of Foreign Affairs. Today, they are marginal party, although they entered the parliament in 2016 elections as part of the Serbian Progressive Party electoral list.

10. New Serbia (Nova Srbija) is a minor populist and monarchist political party in Serbia. It was established in 1998 by a group of dissidents led by Velimir Ilić from the Serbian Renewal Movement (SPO). New Serbia was part of the Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS) bloc which defeated Slobodan Milošević in the 2000 presidential election. The party took part in the 2003 parliamentary election in coalition with the Serbian Renewal Movement. The coalition received 7.7% of the popular vote and 22 seats; 9 seats were allocated to New Serbia. New Serbia ran in the 2007 election in coalition with the Democratic Party of Serbia (DSS) and United Serbia (JS). The coalition received 16.55% of the popular vote and 47 seats in

parliament, 10 of which went to New Serbia. The party ran again in coalition with the DSS a year later in the 2008 election, receiving 11.62% of votes and 30 seats, with 9 allocated to NS. New Serbia ran in the 2014 election in coalition with the Serbian Progressive Party (SNS) and several other parties. The coalition received 48.2% of the popular vote and 158 seats in parliament, 6 of which went to New Serbia. New Serbia ran in the 2016 election in coalition with the Serbian Progressive Party (SNS) and several other parties. New Serbia holds 1 seat in the Parliament. Ideology: populism, conservatism, Cristian democracy, monarchism, pro-EU.

11. Movement of Socialists (Pokret Socijalista) is a socialist political party in Serbia. Founded in 2008, it is currently led by Aleksandar Vulin, a former member of Yugoslav Left. It is a part of the governing coalition with the Serbian Progressive Party (SNS). It is formed by former members of the Socialist Party of Serbia because they disagreed with the pro-EU policy of the party. However, it was a member of the pro-EU SNS-led coalitions in the 2012 parliamentary election (as part of Let's Get Serbia Moving alliance) and in the 2014 and 2016 parliamentary election. Ideology: left wing populism and left wing nationalism.

12. United Serbia (Jedinstvena Srbija) is a political party in Serbia, based in Jagodina. It was previously a close ally of New Serbia, and was a member of its coalition with the Democratic Party of Serbia. In the 2008 parliamentary election United Serbia won three seats as part of the coalition with the Socialist Party of Serbia and the Party of United Pensioners of Serbia. After the election coalition held unsuccessful talks with former partners Democratic Party of Serbia on forming the parliamentary majority. United Serbia was the first to announce the beginning of talks with the coalition For a European Serbia, led by the President Boris Tadić, on forming the new government. The party leader is Dragan Marković, Mayor of Jagodina. At 2016 elections they entered the parliament as part of the Serbian Progressive Party electoral list. Ideology: national-conservatism, populism, social conservatism, pro-EU.

13. It's Enough-Restart (Dosta je bilo) commonly known in English as Enough is Enough is a Serbian political organization, established on 27 January 2014 around former Minister of Economy Saša Radulović and his associates from the ministry. It took part in Serbian elections in 2014 and 2016. The It's Enough-Restart group in the National Assembly lost three of its members in February 2017, when three deputies left to start an organization called the Civic Platform. This led to new waves of leaving, when deputies formed their own organizations or joined others. By the mid-November 2018, DJB was reduced to only two deputies in the Assembly and no parliamentary club. Ideology: liberalism, reformism, progressivism, euroscepticism.

14. Liberal-democratic party (Liberalno demokratska partija) is a liberal political party in Serbia. The Liberal Democratic Party was founded on 5 November 2005 by former members of the Democratic Party, led by Čedomir Jovanović, who were expelled in 2004. Jovanović had become critical of the new direction of the Democratic Party and its newly elected president, Boris Tadić. The LDP is one of the few political parties in Serbia to actively support Serbia's membership into NATO and the independence of Kosovo. The LDP is also highly supportive of LGBT rights in Serbia. The LDP's first electoral performance was during the 2007 Serbian parliamentary election, the LDP ran in a coalition together with the Civic Alliance of Serbia, the Social Democratic Union and the League of Social Democrats of Vojvodina which collectively received 5.31% of the popular vote. The Civic Alliance would later merged into the LDP the same year. The next election followed a year later, with the LDP receiving only 5.24% of the popular vote, its worst performance to date. The Liberal Democratic Party competed in the 2012 Serbian parliamentary election as part of the U-Turn coalition. The coalition received 6.53% of the popular vote. In the period 2014-2016 LDP acted as non-parliamentary opposition. At 2016 elections, LDP entered the parliament together with League of sociodemocrats of Voivodina and Sociodemocratic Party. Ideology: liberal democracy, economic liberalism, decentralization, regionalism, secularism, anti-nationalism, pro-EU, pro-NATO.

15. League of Socio-democrats of Voivodina (Liga socijaldemokrata Vojvodine) is autonomist, regionalist, social-democratic political party in the Vojvodina region of Serbia. The founder and current leader of the party is Nenad Čanak. The party was founded on 14 July 1990 in Novi Sad. In the first years of its existence, the party's activities were mainly directed towards organization of anti-war actions. Together with other parties, it organized anti-war demonstrations in Vojvodina and publicly opposed mobilization of Vojvodina citizens for the front lines in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. By the 1997 the party acted as non-parliamentary opposition. At 2000 elections, LSV entered the Government as the part of Democratic Opposition of Serbia. In the 2003-2007 period they were non parliamentary opposition, and from 2007 till now LSV acts as parliamentary opposition. Ideology: autonomis, regionalism, decentralization, social-democracy, pro-EU.

16. Serbian Left Movement (Levica Srbije) is nominally socialist political party, founded in 2015 after Borko Stefanović left Democratic Party. They act as non-parliamentary opposition. Ideology: social democracy, social liberalism, secularism, pro-EU.

17. Social Democratic Union (Sociodemokratska unija) was registered on 13 May 1996. It was founded by former members of the Civic Alliance of Serbia, led by Žarko Korać, who opposed forming coalition with the right-wing Serbian Renewal Movement for the 1996 federal election. On 21 April 2002 the SDU merged with Social Democracy (SD) and founded the Social Democratic Party (SDP). A year later, disenchanted members of the SDP, led by Žarko Korać, left and re-founded the SDU on 29 March 2003. In the 2014 election the SDU was again part of the coalition around Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) but the coalition failed to enter the parliament. From 2014 the party acts as non-parliamentary opposition. In the 2018 Belgrade local election the SDU went as part of the Ne davimo Beograd electoral list which won 3.44% and failed to pass the electoral threshold. Ideology: social democracy, pro-EU.

18. Sociodemocratic party (Sociodemokratska stranka) is a parliamentary political party in Serbia. The party was founded and is headed by Boris Tadić, who was previously president of the Democratic Party and the former President of Serbia. Between June and October 2014, the name of the party was the New Democratic Party. Party participated in the 2014 parliamentary election under that name in coalition with Together for Serbia, League of Social Democrats of Vojvodina and some other minor parties. This coalition won 5.7% of the electoral vote and 18 seats in the National Assembly of Serbia. Of these, 11 seats were allocated to the "New Democratic Party – Greens", but only one to the original Greens (Ivan Karić) and 10 to the group around Boris Tadić. As of January 2017, the Social Democratic Party holds four seats in

	<p>the National Assembly of Serbia. It exists in a parliamentary alliance with the People's Movement of Serbia, which holds one seat. Ideology: Social democracy, Social liberalism, Anti-nationalism, Pro-Europeanism, Atlanticism</p> <p>19. Alliance of Voivodina's Hungarians (Savez vojvođanskih Mađara) is an ethnic Hungarian political party representing the Hungarian minority in Serbia, primarily active in the province of Vojvodina. It is an associate member of the European People's Party. They are supporting Government of Serbian Progressive Party from 2014. Ideology: Hungarian minority interests, Conservatism, Autonomism, Regionalism, Pro-Europeanism</p> <p>20. Democratic Alliance of Croats of Voivodina (Demokratski savez Hrvata u Vojvodini) is a minority political party of ethnic Croats in the Serbian province of Vojvodina, founded on July 15, 1990. They act as parliamentary opposition. Ideology: Croat minority interests, Autonomism, Pro-Europeanism, Atlanticism</p> <p>21. Bosniaks Democratic Union of Sandžak (Bošnjačka demokratska zajednica Sandžaka) is also known as The Justice and Reconciliation Party is a political party of the Bosniak ethnic minority concentrated in the Sandžak region in southwestern Serbia. It contested the 2014 parliamentary elections as part of a joint list with the Liberal Democratic Party and Social Democratic Union, but the alliance received only 3.4% of the vote, failing to win a seat. In the 2016 parliamentary elections it ran alone, winning two seats. The party officially changed its name from the Bosniak Democratic Union of Sandžak to the Justice and Reconciliation Party on December 23, 2017. Jahja Fehratović had led the party from its formation until this time; following the name change, Muamer Zukorlić was recognized as leader. Ideology: Islamism, Bosniak nationalism, Hard Euroscepticism</p> <p>22. Party for Democratic Action (Partija za demokratsko delovanje) is an ethnic Albanian minority political party, in Serbia. Its current leader is Shaip Kamberi. At the latest legislative election in 2016, the party received one seat in parliament, a drop from its peak of two seats in 2014. Ideology: Albanian minority interests, Albanian nationalism, Separatism, Regionalism, Conservatism, Pro-Europeanism</p> <p>23. Party of Democratic Action of Sandžak (Stranka demokratske akcije Sandžaka) is a political party that represents the Bosniak ethnic minority concentrated in Serbia, in Sandžak region. The Party of Democratic Action of Sandžak (SDA) was founded on 29 July 1990 in Novi Pazar, as a branch of the Party of Democratic Action based in Sarajevo, [which was then a pan-Yugoslav political party. The branch was founded in order to protect the interests of Muslims of Sandžak, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo. From 2008 to 2014 the party entered the government. They act as parliamentary opposition. Ideology: Bosniak minority interests, Bosniak nationalism, Autonomism, Separatism, Pro-Europeanism, Atlanticism</p> <p>24. The New Party (NOVA stranka) is a Serbian liberal political party led by Zoran Živković, former Prime Minister of Serbia, himself a former member of the Democratic Party. Established in early 2013, the party advocates close ties to the western powers and European integration. The party contested the 2014 parliamentary election as part of a wider coalition of moderate parties led by the Democratic Party. At 2016 party won one seat in Parliament. The party acts as parliamentary opposition. Ideology: Pro-Europeanism, Reformism, Fiscal conservatism, Economic liberalism, Social liberalism, Anti-nationalism, Laissez-faire, Atlantism</p> <p>25. The Green Party (Zelena stranka) is a Slovak minority political party in Serbia, based in Novi Sad.</p> <p>26. Don't Let Belgrade D(r)own Initiative (Inicijativa Ne da(vi)mo Beograd) gather organizations and individuals interested in urban and cultural policies, sustainable urban development, fair use of common resources and involvement of citizens in the development of their environment. It acts as non-parliamentary opposition.</p> <p>27. Strenght of Serbia movement (Pokret snaga Srbije) is a political party in Serbia, founded and led by Serbian businessman Bogoljub Karić. From 2012 it is a part of the ruling coalition. Ideology: Populism, Liberal conservatism, Economic liberalism, Social liberalism, Regionalism, Decentralization, Pro-Europeanism</p> <p>28. Serbian People's party (Srpska narodna stranka) is a right-wing, populist political party in Serbia, formed in 2014 by former members of the Democratic Party of Serbia. It has three members in the National Assembly of Serbia, all of whom serve in the parliamentary group of the governing Serbian Progressive Party. Nenad Popović, the Serbian People's Party's leader, is a minister without portfolio in the government of Ana Brnabić. Ideology: Populism, National conservatism, Economic liberalism, Christian democracy, Soft Euroscepticism, Russophilia</p> <p>29. Pokret slobodnih građana is a social-democratic and social-liberal political movement in Serbia. It is a centre-left political organization in Serbia, founded after 2017 presidential elections, by Saša Janković, who ended up second with nearly 17% of the vote. It has no representatives in the National Assembly, since it was founded after the last parliamentary elections in Serbia. Ideology: Social democracy, Social liberalism, Pro-Europeanism, Transparency, Participatory democracy, Environmentalism</p>
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2. Electoral system

Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:

Only one single vote registered: Yes

Two or more votes registered: No

Description of the electoral system for this assembly:

Elections for National Assembly are being held each 4 years, which is the period of mandate of one convocation of the National Assembly. In addition to these regular, extraordinary elections are also possible, which are carried out when the National Assembly is dissolved by the decree of the President of the Republic in the cases specified by the Constitution. Elections for deputies are announced by the President of the Republic. The last National Assembly elections were held in 2016.

Elections are held in the Republic of Serbia as one constituency, by voting for the electoral lists on the basis of a proportional election system. Parliamentary mandates are being distributed in proportion to the number of votes that the electoral lists have won at elections. The right to elect members of the deputies and to be elected as deputies are business-capable citizens of the Republic of Serbia who have reached 18 years of age and who have registered residence in the territory of the Republic of Serbia. Candidates for deputies may propose registered political parties, coalitions of political parties or a group of citizens.

In the distribution of parliamentary mandates, only the electoral lists that have passed the so-called electoral censorship, ie received at least 5% of the votes from the total number of voters who voted. There are two exceptions to this rule. The first exception is the electoral lists of political parties of national minorities, which the Republic Electoral Commission, upon their request, recognized this status in the elections, on the basis of which they do not have to pass the election census, but in the distribution of parliamentary mandates, regardless of the number of votes (the so-called natural threshold principle), which, however, is not a guarantee that the parliamentary mandate will actually be allocated to them during the distribution. The second exception exists in a situation in which no electoral list has received at least 5% of voters' votes; in this case, the mandates are distributed among all electoral lists. Each electoral list belongs to the number of seats that is proportional to the number of votes received. The mandates are distributed by applying the largest coefficient system (the so-called D'Ontov system), by dividing the total number of votes each individual electoral list is given by numbers from one to 250. The obtained quotients are sorted by size and taking into account the 250 largest quotient. Each election list receives as many mandates as the largest quotients it belongs to among the top 250.

MP mandates are allocated to candidates from electoral lists. When the assembly confirms the mandates of deputies, deputies (and not the political parties) become the bearers of the mandates. This means that one deputy could enter the Assembly on one list (or as a member of one party), but during his mandate to change his/hers party affiliation. In this way the party composition of the Assembly may or may not reflect electoral results. Also, deputies could enter the Parliament as members of electoral lists, but need not to be members of specific parties. For example, in the table above (Z1.3) is given the the percentage of mandates for each electoral list on the basis of the % of votes won at the 2016 elections. Current composition of the Serbian National Assembly is the following:

Serbian Progressive Party (36.4%)
 Serbian Radical Party (8.8%)
 Socialist Party of Serbia (8%)
 Democratic Party (5.2%)
 Sociodemocratic Party of Serbia (4%)
 Party of United Pensioners of Serbia (3.6%)
 United Serbia (2.4%)
 Serbian Movement Dveri (2.4%)
 Liberal-democratic Party (1.6%)
 Alliance of Voivodina's Hungarians (1.6%)
 Socio-democratic Party (1.6%)
 League of Sociodemocrats of Voivodina (1.2%)
 People's Party (1.2%)
 Movement of Socialists (1.2%)
 Serbian People's Party (1.2%)
 Democratic Party of Serbia (0.8%)
 Together for Serbia (0.8%)
 Movement the Strenght of Serbia (0.8%)
 Serbian Renewal Movement (0.8%)
 Party of Democratic Action of Sandžak (0.8%)
 Justice and Recinciliation Party (0.8%)
 Better Serbia (0.4%)
 Democratic Alliance of Croats in Voivodina (0.4%)
 Green Party (0.4%)
 Greens of Serbia (0.4%)
 Communist Party (0.4%)
 People's Peasant Party (0.4%)
 New Serbia (0.4%)
 New Party (NOVA) (0.4%)
 Party for Democratic Action (0.4%)
 Movement for the Kingdom of Serbia Renewal (0.4%)
 United Peasants Party (0.4%)
 Independant deputies (10.4%)

The executive power in the Republic of Serbia is vested in the Government. The Government is composed of the President of the Government (Prime Minister), one or more Vice Presidents and Ministers with portfolios. The Government may have Ministers without portfolio. The number of Vice Presidents of the Government and Ministers without portfolio is determined by the National Assembly upon each election of the Government, at the proposal of the candidate for the President of the Government.

The Government is elected by the National Assembly after each constitution, at proposal of candidate for Prime Minister. The National Assembly decides on the choice of the Government as a whole. The government is elected by a majority of the votes of the total number of MPs. The Government's term of office is terminated by termination of the National Assembly term of office, vote of no confidence, resignation of Government, vote of no-confidence in President of the Government and resignation of President of the Government. The law on the government is provided here: <http://www.legislationline.org/documents/id/15793>.

Slovenia

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	Slovenian
Year of last election:	2018
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demokratična stranka upokojencev Slovenije (DeSUS) - Democratic Party of Pensioners of Slovenia (4,93 %) 2. Levica (L) - United Left (9,33 %) 3. Lista Marjana Šarca (LMS) - The List of Marjan Šarec (12,60 %) 4. Nova Slovenija – Krščanski demokrati (NSI) - New Slovenia – People's Christian Party (7,16 %) 5. Pozitivna Slovenija (PS) - Positive Slovenia 6. Socialni demokrati (SD) - Social Democrats (9,93 %) 7. Stranka Alenke Bratušek (SAB) - Alenka Bratušek Party (5,11 %) 8. Slovenska demokratska stranka (SDS) - Slovenian Democratic Party (24,92 %) 9. Slovenska ljudska stranka (SLS) - Slovene People's Party (2,62 %) 10. Stranka modernega centra (SMC) - Modern Centre Party (9,75 %) 11. Slovenska nacionalna stranka (SNS) - Slovene National Party (4,17 %)
Description of political parties listed above	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demokratična stranka upokojencev Slovenije (DeSUS): Left, Party of Pensioners, part of the coalition 2. Levica (L): Left, part of the coalition 3. Lista Marjana Šarca (LMS): New party, leading party of the coalition; president of the party is Prime minister 4. Nova Slovenija – Krščanski demokrati (NSI): Right, Christian, opposition 5. Pozitivna Slovenija (PS): Left, disintegrated, failed to get into parliament 6. Socialni demokrati (SD): Left, part of the coalition 7. Stranka Alenke Bratušek (SAB): Left, small coalition party, derived from disintegrated Pozitivna Slovenija (PS) 8. Slovenska demokratska stranka (SDS): Right, largest party in opposition; won the most votes in the 2018 elections 9. Slovenska ljudska stranka (SLS): Right, peoples's party, failed to get into parliament 10. Stranka modernega centra (SMC): Centre, coalition party 11. Slovenska nacionalna stranka (SNS) : Far right, opposition

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>Mode of designation: Directly elected 90</p> <p>Constituencies: 8 electoral units each divided into 11 single-seat constituencies (88 seats in all) - special constituencies for two members, respectively representing the Hungarian and Italian minorities</p> <p>Voting system: Proportional representation using the simple quotient and the preferential system with a threshold of a 4 per cent for 88 members (simple majority preferential vote for the two Deputies representing the Italian and Hungarian communities). Regarding party lists, each sex must be represented by at least 35 per cent of the total number of candidates on the list (a temporary provision set a 25-per-cent quota applicable to both male and female candidates for the first elections held in 2008). Lists containing only three candidates must have at least one male and one female candidate. Each voter votes for a party-list or an individual candidate with indication of his/her choice among the candidates. Seats are distributed on a proportional basis. Remaining seats are distributed at the national level using the d'Hondt method, with Deputies being selected from those lists which have the highest remainders. Vacancies arising between general elections are filled by the candidate who would have been elected by the same party had not the original candidate won. If no candidate can be identified in this manner or if a vacancy occurs within six months after the beginning of the term, a by-election is held. No by-election is held if the vacancy arises less than six months before the expiry of the term. Voting is not compulsory.</p> <p>Voter requirements: Age: 18 years Slovene citizenship Disqualifications: mental disorder</p>

Switzerland

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	French // German // Italian
Year of last election:	2015
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<p>1. Union démocratique du centre (UDC) // Schweizerische Volkspartei (SVP) // Unione democratica di centro (UDC) - Swiss People's Party - 29.4 %</p> <p>2. Parti socialiste (PS) // Sozialdemokratische Partei (SP) // Partito socialista svizzero (PS) - Social Democratic Party - 18.8 %</p> <p>3. PLR. Les Libéraux-Radicaux // FDP. Die Liberalen // PLR. I Liberali Radicali - FDP. The Liberals - 16.4 %</p> <p>4. Parti démocrate-chrétien (PDC) // Christlich-demokratische Volkspartei (CVP) // Partito Popolare Democratico (PPD) - Christian Democratic Party - 11.6 %</p> <p>5. Les Verts (PES) // Grüne Partei (GPS) // I Verdi - Partito ecologista svizzero (I Verdi) - Green Party - 7.1 %</p> <p>6. Parti vert liberal (PEL / PVL) // Grünliberale (GLP) // Partito Verde-Liberale - Green Liberal Party - 4.6 %</p> <p>7. Parti bourgeois démocrate (PBD) // Bürgerlich-demokratische Partei (BDP) // Partito borghese democratico (PBD) - Conservative Democratic Party - 4.1 %</p> <p>8. Parti évangélique (PEV) // Evangelische Volkspartei (EVP) // Partito evangelico (PEV) - Evangelical People's Party - 1.9 %</p> <p>9. Union démocratique fédérale (UDF) // Eidgenössische Demokratische Union (EDU) // Unione Democratica Federale (UDF) - Federal Democratic Union - 1.2 %</p> <p>10. Lega dei Ticinesi // Lega dei Ticinesi // Lega dei Ticinesi - Ticino League - 1.0 %</p> <p>11. Parti du travail (PdT) / Parti ouvrier populaire (POP) // Partei der Arbeit (PdA) // Partito del lavoro (PdL) - Swiss Labour Party - 0.4 %</p> <p>12. Mouvement Citoyens Romands // Mouvement Citoyens Romands // Mouvement Citoyens Romands - Movement of the Citizens of French-speaking Switzerland - 0.3 %</p> <p>13. Gauche alternative // Alternative Linke // La sinistra - Alternative Left - *</p> <p>14. Parti Pirate // Piratenpartei // Partito Pirata - Pirate Party Switzerland - *</p>
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. Swiss People's Party ==> Right, conservative Founded in 1936 from an association of farmers and artisans, this party became more and more populist, especially its rightwing. Since the 1990's, they adopted certain anti-foreigner positions from the far-right. The Swiss People's Party considered itself during longtime as an opposition party. Since 2015 however, they have not only two members in the Federal Council (7 members in total) but they are also the biggest political party in terms of share of votes and hence can take quite a lot of influence. In this sense, the Swiss People's Party is now a full ruling party. Nevertheless, the party is still presenting itself as a political force which stands in opposition to the power of the media, the intellectuals, or the great money, and maintains critical distance to the government. While in terms of vote share they form the biggest political party in Switzerland, they are outreached by the Christian Democrats and the "FDP.The Liberals" in terms of membership. In the national elections of 2015, they regained a share of electorate of almost 30%, after a slight decrease in the previous elections. In the general assembly they form their own parliamentary group (fraction) in alliance with the Lega (2 seats), the Geneva Citizen's Movement (1 seat) and one independant councillor, resulting in a total of 74 seats. In the National Council they hold 68 out of 200 seats and in the Council of States 6 out of 46 seats.</p> <p>2. Social Democratic Party ==> Centre-left (Former English translation: Socialist Party) As a merge of several cantonal workers' parties, the Social Democratic Party has been founded in 1888. It is currently the most pro-european party in Switzerland. It ranks fourth in terms of membership, but is the second biggest party in terms of votes and seats (55) in the General Assembly. The Social Democrats also form their own parliamentary group in the General Assembly. They currently hold 43 seats in the National Council and 12 seats in the Council of States.They are represented in the Federal Council by two members.</p> <p>3. FDP.The Liberals (Radical Liberals, NEW since 2009) ==> Right, conservative After some years of political alliance between the Radicals and the much smaller Liberal Party, in January 2009, they merged to form the new party "FDP. The Liberals". The former FDP was founded in 1894, growing out of the liberal, radical and democratic movements that dominated the first decades of the federal state. The Liberal Party equally has roots going back as far as to the 19th century and as developed mainly in French-speaking Switzerland. As well as its predecessors, "FDP. The Liberals" relies on classical liberalism. The party has two members in the Federal Council, holds 33 seats in the National Council and 13 seats in the Council of States. FDP.The Liberals also form their own parliamentary group in the General Assembly. With 120'000 members, it has by far the highest number of membership of all Swiss parties.</p> <p>4. Christian Democratic Party ==> Centre-right, conservative (Former translation: Christian Democrats) This party was founded by conservative Catholics, who lost the short civil war of 1847. Nevertheless, they are currently also present in protestant cantons, with more eccentric positions. They claim for a social market economy. It is the second largest party in terms of membership, but the smallest of the four government parties in terms of votes and seats. The Christian Democrats have one Federal Councillor. Together with the Evangelical People's Party (2 seats) and the Christian Social Party Obwalden (1 seat) they form a parliamentary group in the General Assembly. They hold 31 seats in the National Council and 13 seats in the Council of States.</p> <p>5. Green Party ==> Left, centre left Born from the environmental movement, this party was founded in 1983 and gained strength throughout the 1980s. It is the strongest party not represented in the national executive government. They currently hold 12 seats in the National Council and form their own faction. In the Council</p>

of States they are represented with 1 seat.

6. Green Liberal Party ==> Centre, liberal

Founded in 2007, they immediately won a seat in the Council of States and three in the National Council. Since then, they successfully expanded in the cantonal elections. Sharing the idea of environmentalism with the Green Party, its party program differs strongly with respect to regulation of the economy. It aims to combine moderate economic liberalism, liberalism on civil liberties and environmental sustainability.

They hold 7 seats in the National Council and form their own parliamentary group (faction).

7. Conservative Democratic Party ==> Centre right (NEW since 2008)

(Former English translation: Bourgeois (Conservative)-Democratic Party of Switzerland)

The Conservative Democratic Party was created in November 2008 as a split of the Swiss People's Party.

The Swiss People's Party (UDC, SVP) becoming more and more populist, some members split off and create the more moderate "Conservative Democratic Party of Switzerland". They stand for conservative values and economic liberalism.

From 2008 to 2015 the party was represented in the National Executive by a Federal Councillor (Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf). Currently it has 7 seats in the National Council and one in the Council of States.

This party is represented by its own faction in the national parliament.

8. Evangelical's People Party ==> Centre

Founded in 1919, this small protestant party takes a centre-left position on some issues (redistribution, education, immigration, environment), but is conservative on others (abortion, family, euthanasia). The economic position is centrist.

They are aligned with the Christian Democrats, being in the same parliamentary group on the national level.

They currently hold two seats in the National Council.

9. Federal Democratic Union ==> Far right, conservative

The Christian, national-conservative Federal Democratic Union lost their only seat in parliament in the 2011 elections, while they won two seats in the 2003 elections and one in 2007. They stand for value-oriented, biblical positions and strongly refuse European integration of Switzerland.

10. Ticino League ==> Far right, isolationist

Founded in 1991, this very populist party was created on the model of the Italian Lega Lombarda. It defends national conservative and isolationist positions. It is one of the major parties in the Canton of Ticino.

With their two seats in the National Council they belong to the Swiss People's Party faction.

11. Swiss Labour Party ==> Far left

This party was founded in 1944 by the illegal Communist Party of Switzerland.

In 2011, they lost their only seat in the parliament and are no longer represented.

12. Movement of the Citizens of French-speaking Switzerland (Mouvement des Citoyens Romand, MCR) ==> Far right

In 2005, a member of the Swiss People's Party and a former member of the Liberal Party founded the (local) patriotic protest party "Mouvement des Citoyens Genevois". After their first appearance in national elections in 2007 in the canton of Geneva, in 2011 they participated also in the canton of Vaud.

They bring forward anti-foreigner positions, especially against frontier workers from France. Contrarily, they take traditionally leftist stances in social welfare discourses.

They are represented by one seat in the National Parliament belonging to the parliamentary group of the Swiss People's Party.

13. Alternative left ==> Far left

After the disintegration of the feminist groups in the cantons of Basel and Zurich and the joining together of the Green Party and the Alternative Party of the canton of Zug, in 2007, only the Alternatives of Zurich participated in the national elections. In 2011, together with other small groups that so far mainly had campaigned in cantonal elections, they registered as the loose formation of the "Alternative Left". Hence, their political programme generally can be described as traditional leftist, with particularly accentuated stances in the field of sexual discrimination. Election lists were presented in the cantons of Zurich (1.0% of votes), Basel(-), Berne (.5%), Schaffhausen (-) and Valais (.6%).

They are not represented in the National Council nor in the Council of States.

14. Pirate Party Switzerland ==> Center, liberal, thematic

The Swiss Pirate Party has been founded in 2009. Its positions are mainly thematic such as legislation of the internet and transparency of the state. In their first national elections, they won a total of .5% of votes, being listed in seven cantons: Zurich (share of votes in the canton: .9%), Berne (.7), Freiburg (.6%), Basel-City (1.9%), Aargau (0.8%). They hold no seats in the two national parliaments.

GENERAL ABOUT ALLIANCES:

Concerning the political alliances between parties and except the factions (parliamentary groups) described above, there are important variations between the Cantons and they are built and broken according to the treated subjects. In general, the small parties join their forces with bigger ones in order to defend a subject. The Greens and the Socialists often form a camp, the so-called Bourgeois parties another group. In several Cantons the Swiss People's Party align with Radicals, whereas in other cantons Radicals are more close to Christian-Democrats.

GENERAL ABOUT SWISS PARTIES

It was relatively late that political trends of the 19th century developed into actual party organizations in Switzerland. Its history, political and cultural boundaries between cantons and its electoral system have had as consequence the emergence of many political parties.

The four main parties are: the FDP, The Liberals, the Christian-Democrats, the Social-Democrats and the Swiss People's Party. Contrary to what happened in Germany, Austria and Italy, the Radical Liberal Party has remained powerful: the permanency of radicalism is even one of the peculiarities of Swiss politics. Apart from these four parties that are represented by many members of the Federal Council and which represent the main tendencies at a national

	<p>level, there are numerous small parties which sometimes have only regional significance. The so-called bourgeois groups are clearly dominated by the Radical Party (FDP) which developed from the Liberal- and Radical Democrats who created the Modern Federal State in the 19th century. The only liberal conservative party which is slightly different of them is the Swiss Liberal Party, which disappeared from the national level in 2009 and continues to exist on the cantonal level. The Swiss People's Party (SVP) developed as a farmer's branch of the mainstream liberal movement. The National Association of Independent (LdU), which is closely allied to the largest retail concern in Switzerland, calls itself social-liberal. The Christian Democratic People's Party (CVP) dominates the field of confessional and social parties; it has a trades-allied wing and a Christian-social wing. The other party with a definite confessional character, the Evangelic People's Party (EVP), is far smaller. The mainstream within the socialist movement is represented by the Swiss Social Democratic Party (SPS). There are also groups further to the left, movements on the extreme right with a low number of supporters, and various "Green" groups, generally positioned at centre left, except the Green liberal party which constitutes a new trend.</p>
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2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	No
Two or more votes registered:	Yes
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	<p>ELECTORAL SYSTEM for the legislative assembly at the national level: Switzerland has a two-chamber parliament: The National Council and the Council of States, together referred to as the Federal Assembly, constitute the legislative power in the federal state. The National Council represents the population as a whole, the Council of States the individual cantons. The National Council gives a rather true picture of the electorate, in spite of the reapportionment in cantons. On the contrary, the Council of the States, because of the system of the majority vote, comprises few Social-Democrats (Socialist Party) and Swiss People's Party and many Radicals and Christian-Democrats. also see www.ch.ch and www.parlament.ch The National Council comprises 200 members who represent the Swiss people. The individual cantons are represented in proportion to the number of their inhabitants. Each canton is a constituency, and each returns at least one member. The National Council is elected using a system of proportional representation, whereby each party is allocated a number of seats in proportion to its numerical strength. The candidates who receive the highest number of votes obtain the seats won by their party. Unlike majority voting, proportional representation allows smaller parties to obtain a seat in parliament. The election of the National Council takes place every 4 years, on the second last Sunday in October. The members are elected for a term of 4 years, while re-elections are possible. The Council of States is made up of 46 representatives of the Swiss cantons. Each canton returns two members, with the exception of the smaller cantons of Obwalden, Nidwalden, Basel-Stadt, Basel-Landschaft, Appenzell Ausserrhoden and Appenzell Innerrhoden, which have one representative each. The elections are carried out according to cantonal legal rules. In most Cantons it is a majoritarian election system, only in two cantons it is proportional.</p>

United Kingdom

1. Political parties	
Language used in data file:	English
Year of last election:	2017
Official party names, English names/translation, and size in last election:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conservative - 42.3 % 2. Labour - 40.0 % 3. Liberal Democrat - 7.4 % 4. Scottish National Party - 3.0 % 5. Plaid Cymru - 0.5 % 6. Green Party - 1.6 % 7. UK Independence Party - 1.8 % 8. Ulster Unionist Party (nir) - 0.3 % 9. Democratic Unionist Party (nir) - 0.9 % 10. Sinn Fein (nir) - 0.7 % 11. Social Democratic and Labour Party (nir) - 0.3 % 12. Alliance Party (nir) - 0.2 % 13. Traditional Unionist (nir) - 0.01 % 14. Green Party (nir) - (size included in Green Party above) 15. Independent(s) (nir) - 0.5 % 16. People Before Profit Alliance (nir) - 0.02 % 17. Progressive Unionist Party - (size unavailable)
Description of political parties listed above	<p>1. Conservative - traditionally right-leaning party. Was in coalition with the Liberal Democrats until 2015, now governing as single party</p> <p>2. Labour - traditionally left-leaning party. Currently in opposition.</p> <p>3. Liberal Democrat - traditionally central though now more left wing. Was previously (until 2015) in office in coalition with the Conservative party.</p> <p>4. Scottish National Party - Regional Scottish party which campaigns for the independence of Scotland from the United Kingdom. Social democratic leaning. Significant upsurge in popularity at 2015 election, largest party in Scotland. This followed a referendum for independence in 2014.</p> <p>5. Plaid Cymru - Regional Welsh party, supports independence for Wales, a view to attain Full National Status, left-leaning/social democracy.</p> <p>6. Green Party - in England and Wales only, follows traditions of Green politics</p> <p>7. UK Independence Party (UKIP) - a right-wing party primarily campaigning for the UK's withdrawal from the European Union</p> <p>The following parties were asked in Northern Ireland only</p> <p>8. Ulster Unionist Party - regional party supporting the Union - has fielded joint candidates with the Conservative party in the past</p> <p>9. Democratic Unionist party - regional party, largest unionist party in Northern Ireland</p> <p>10. Sinn Fein - Regional party in Northern Ireland, aim of a creating a united Ireland</p> <p>11. Social & Democratic Labour Party - social democratic Irish nationalist political party in Northern Ireland, supports Irish reunification and devolution of powers to Northern Ireland while part of the UK</p> <p>12. Alliance Party - regional party in Northern Ireland, liberal, aim to promote unity within Northern Ireland</p> <p>13. Traditional Unionist Voice Party - regional party, unionist party in Northern Ireland formed from a split from the DUP</p> <p>14. Green Party (nir) - a regional party campaigning on environmental issues in Northern Ireland</p> <p>15. Independents (nir) - used to include independent (non-affiliated) candidates standing in elections in Northern Ireland constituencies</p> <p>16. People Before Profit Alliance - a socialist party in Ireland</p> <p>17. Progressive Unionist Party - a smaller unionist party in Northern Ireland</p>

2. Electoral system	
Number of votes registered in the election for primary legislative assembly at the national level:	
Only one single vote registered:	Yes
Two or more votes registered:	No
Description of the electoral system for this assembly:	The UK Parliament is elected according to a 'first-past-the-post system'. The country is divided into a number of constituencies with each constituency electing one Member of Parliament (MP). The party with the largest number of MPs forms the government.