

Mediterranean Electoral Observatory

This chapter describes, in circum-Mediterranean order, the results of the Presidential and Legislative elections that took place in 2006 in independent states. The list also includes calls for referenda and those elections held in autonomous entities or in any other relevant territories that are of particular political significance.

Portugal

Presidential Elections

22nd January 2006

Previous elections: 24th January 2001
Parliamentary Republic. The President receives a mandate of five years.

Candidates	%
Anibal Cavaco Silva (Social Democratic Party)	50.6
Manuel Alegre (Independent)	20.7
Mario Soares (Socialist Party)	14.3
Jerónimo de Sousa (Portuguese Communist Party)	8.6
Francisco Louça (Bloc of the Left – BE)	5.3

Participation: 62.6%.

Italy

Legislative Elections

9th – 10th April 2006

Previous elections: 13th May 2001
Parliamentary Republic with a bicameral legislature. The Chamber of Deputies (*Camera dei Deputati*) has 630 members elected for five-year terms, 475 of which are elected from single-member constituencies, and 155 elected through party lists with proportional representation from the regions. The Senate of the Republic (*Senato della Republi-*

Parties	Chamber of Deputies		Senate	
	%	Seats	%	Seats
The Union Left Democrats (DS, social democrat) Democracy and Liberty -The Daisy Communist Refoundation (RC, communist) Federation of Greens (socialist ecologist) Party of the Italian Communists (PDCI, communist) Italian Social Democrats (social democrat) Italian Radicals Italy of Values People's Party - UDEUR Socialist and Pensioners Party	49.8	348	49	158
House of Liberties (Silvio Berlusconi's coalition) Forward Italy (FI, conservative, personalist party) National Alliance (AN, national-conservative) Northern League (LN, regionalist) Union of Christian and Centre Democrats (conservative) New Socialist Party of Italy (NPSI, conservative) Italian Republican Party Italian Reformists Christian Democracy for the Autonomies	49.7	281	50.2	156
Others	0.5	1	0.8	1

Participation: 83.6%

ca) has 315 members elected for five-year terms: 232 are members elected from single-member constituencies and 83 are elected by proportional representation. There also are nine senators for life. Voting is compulsory.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

A Federal Parliamentary Democratic Republic comprised of two entities: the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (also known as the Croat-Muslim Federation) and the Serbian Republic (Republika Srpska). The Presidency and the 42 representatives of the House of Representatives are elected by universal suffrage. Both entities elect their own legislators simultaneously, while the Serbian Republic additionally appoints President and Vice-president. 14 organisations sent electoral observation missions to the elections. According to the OSCE and Council of Europe's elec-

toral observation missions the elections were conducted in line with international standards. These were the first elections held without foreign supervision since the 1995 Dayton Accords. According to Freedom House, the country's civil and political rights system rates the country as only partially free.

Legislative Elections

1st October 2006

Previous elections: 5th October 2002

Elections to the House of Representatives of Bosnia-Herzegovina

The federal legislature is comprised of two chambers with 4-year terms of office. The People's Chamber (*Don Narodu*) has 15 members elected indirectly – five for each of the Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian communities – by the Parliament of the Federation of Bosnia-

Herzegovina (10 members) and by the Parliament of the Serbian Republic (5 members). The 42 members of the House of Representatives (*Zastupnički Dom*) are elected by proportional representation: 28 seats are assigned to the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina and 14 seats to the Serbian Republic.

Seats for the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina

Parties	%	Seats
Party of Democratic Action (SDA, Bosnian nationalist)	25.5	8
Party for Bosnia and Herzegovina (SBIH, moderate Bosnian nationalist)	23	7
Social Democratic Party of Bosnia and Herzegovina (SDP)	15.4	5
Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina (HDZ, Croatian nationalist)	8	3
Croatians Together	6.1	2
Bosnian-Herzegovinian Patriotic Party (BPS)	4.4	1
People's Party Working for Prosperity (NSRzB)	3.2	1
Democratic People's Community (DNZ, personalist)	1.9	1

Seats for the Serbian Republic

Parties	%	Seats
Alliance of Independent Social Democrats (SNSD)	46.9	7
Serbian Democratic Party (SDS, Serbian nationalist)	19.4	3
Party of Democratic Progress in the Serbian Republic (PDP-RS)	5.1	1
Party for Bosnia and Herzegovina (SBIH, liberal)	4.1	1
Party of Democratic Action (SDA, conservative)	3.6	1
Democratic People's Alliance (DNS)	3.5	1

Participation: 54.5%

Elections to the House of Representatives of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina

The House of Representatives of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina has 98 members elected by direct vote for four-year terms of office.

Parties	%	Seats
Party of Democratic Action (SDA, Bosnian nationalist)	25.4	28
Party for Bosnia and Herzegovina (SBIH, moderate Bosnian nationalist)	22.1	24
Social Democratic Party of Bosnia and Herzegovina (SDPBH)	15.1	17
Croatian Democratic Community (HDZ)	7.5	8
Croatians Together (HZ)	6.3	7
Bosnian-Herzegovinian Patriotic Party (BPS)	4.1	4
People's Party Working for Prosperity (NSRzB)	3.1	3
Patriotic Bloc BOSS (PB BOSS)	3.1	3
Democratic People's Community (DNZ, personalist)	1.9	2
Alliance of Independent Social Democrats (SNSD)	1.4	1
Coalition for Equal Rights	2.4	1

Participation: 54.5%

Elections to the People's Assembly of the Serbian Republic

The People's Assembly of the Serbian Republic has 83 members elected by direct vote for four-year terms of office.

Parties	%	Seats
Alliance of Independent Social Democrats (SNSD, independent)	43.3	41
Serbian Democratic Party (SDS)	18.3	17
Party of Democratic Progress (PDP)	6.8	8
Democratic People's Alliance (DNS)	4	4
Party for Bosnia and Herzegovina (SBIH, moderate Bosnian nationalist)	4	4
Socialist Party (SP)	3.5	3
Party of Democratic Action (SDA, Bosnian nationalist)	3.4	3
Serbian Radical Party (SRS)	2.9	2
Social Democratic Party of Bosnia and Herzegovina (SDP)	2.5	1

Participation: 54.5%

Presidential Elections

1st October 2006
Previous elections: 5th October 2002

A three-member presidency (one for each of the ethnic communities) which rotates every eight months and has a four-year term of office.

Serbian Candidates	%
Nebojša Radmanović (SNSD)	53.2
Mladen Bosić (SDS)	24.2
Zoran Tešanović (PDP RS)	4.9
Jugoslav Jovičić (SDP BiH)	4.1
Redislav Kanjerić (SRS DR)	3.6
Ranko Bakić (NSRzB)	3.4
Nedo Durić (DEPOS-DPS)	3
Slavko Dragičević (PB BOSS)	1.9

Bosnian Candidates	%
Haris Silajdžić (SBIH)	62.8
Sulejman Tihić (SDA)	27.5
Mirnes Ajanović (BOSS-SDU BiH)	8.1

Croatian Candidates	%
Željko Komšić (SDP)	39.5
Ivo Miro Jović (HDZ BiH)	26.1
Božo Ljubić (HDZ 1990)	18.2
Mladen Ivanković-Lijanović (NSRzB)	8.4
Zvonko Jurišić (HSP BiH)	6.9

Participation: 54.5%

Serbia

Referendum

28th October 2006

Following the separation of Serbia and Montenegro into two independent republics in May, a referendum was called to approve a new constitution. Under the new charter, Kosovo (a province under UN administration since 1999) is defined as "an autonomous province of Serbia with significant autonomy." The new Constitution was approved with 53% of votes in favour and 54.9% voter turnout.

Montenegro

Referendum on Independence

21st May 2006

A referendum was called to vote on the independence of the Republic of Montenegro from Serbia. A minimum turnout of 50% is required and at least 55% of votes must be in favour of independence in order to validate the referendum. A number of EU, US and OSCE

representatives and observers regarded the electoral process to be free and fair.

Votes	%
In favour	55.5
Against	44.4

Participation: 86.3%

Legislative elections

10th September 2006

Previous elections: 21st October 2002
Parliamentary republic with a unicameral legislature. The 81 members of the Montenegrin Parliament (*Skupština Republike Crne Gore*) are elected by proportional representation for four-year terms of office. These were the first elections held in the Republic of Montenegro since independence. According to the OSCE, the electoral process was in line with international standards.

Parties	%	Seats
Coalition for European Montenegro (social democrat)	48.6	41
Democratic Party of Socialists (DPS)		
Social Democratic Party (SDP)		
Croatian Civic Initiative (HGI)		
Serb List (conservative)	14.7	12
Serbian People's Party (SNS)		
Serbian Radical Party (SRS)		
Coalition of SNP/NS/DSS	14	11
Socialist People's Party (SNP)		
People's Party (NS)		
Democratic Serbian Party (DSS)		
Movement for Changes (PzP, reformist and pro-European)	13.1	11
Liberal-Bosnian Coalition	3.7	3
Montenegrin Liberal Party (LPCG)		
Bosnian Party in Montenegro (BS)		
Democratic League of Montenegro and Party of Democratic Prosperity (DSCG-PDP Coalition, Albanian minority)	1.3	1
Democratic Union of Albanians (DUA)	1.1	1
Albanian Alternative (AA)	0.8	1

Participation: 71.4%

Macedonia

Legislative Elections

5th July 2006

Previous elections: 15th September 2002

Parliamentary republic with a unicameral legislature. The 120 deputies of the As-

sembly (*Sobranie*) are elected for four-year terms of office. The OSCE's electoral observation mission deemed the elections valid insofar as they were conducted in line with international democratic standards, although some irregularities were also reported on Election Day. According to Freedom House, the country rates as only partially free.

Parties	%	Seats
Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation – Democratic Party for National Union (Christian democrat)	32.5	45
Liberal Party of Macedonia (LPM)		
Socialist Party of Macedonia (SPM, Albanian minority)		
Democratic Union (DS)		
Party of Turkish Movement of Macedonia		
United Party of the Roma in Macedonia (OPRM)		
Party of Democratic Action of Macedonia		
Together for Macedonia (social democrat)	23.3	32
Social Democratic Alliance of Macedonia (SDSM)		
Liberal Democrat Party (LDP)		
Turkish Democrat Party (DPT)		
United Party of Romas in Macedonia (OPRM)		
Democratic Party of Serbs (DPS)		
Vlachs Democratic Union (DSV)		
Peasant Workers Party		
Socialist Christian Party Macedonia (SCPM)		
Green Party of Macedonia (ZPM)		
Democratic Union for Integration (BDI)	12.1	17
Democratic Union for Integration (DUI, Albanian minority)		
Party for Democratic Progress (PDP, Albanian minority)		
Democratic League of Bosnians (DLB)		
Democratic Party of Albanians (PDS, Albanian minority)	7.2	11
New Social Democratic Party (NSDP)	5.8	7
Revolutionary Organisation–People's Party (VMRO-NP, conservative)	5.8	6
Democratic Renewal of Macedonia (DOM)	1.7	1
Party for a European Future (PEI)	1.3	1

Participation: 73.5%

Cyprus

Legislative Elections

21st May 2006

Previous elections: 27th May 2001
Presidential democratic republic with a unicameral legislature. 59 members of the House of Representatives (*Vouli*

Antiprosópon/Temsilciler Meclisi) are elected by proportional representation for five-year terms of office, with the exception of the three representatives of the Maronite, Roman-Catholic and Armenian minorities. The 24 seats assigned to the Turkish Cypriots of the self-proclaimed Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus remain vacant, as they refuse to acknowledge the sovereignty of the Cypriot Parliament. These are the first elections held since the Republic of Cyprus voted against the UN reunification plan in a referendum held in 2004. Voting is compulsory.

Parties	%	Seats
Progressive Party of the Working People (AKEL, socialist)	31.1	18
Democratic Coalition (DISY, conservatives of the liberal party)	30.3	18
Democratic Party (DIKO, liberal)	17.9	11
Movement of Social Democrats (EDEK)	8.9	5
European Party (EVRO.KO, centre)	5.7	3
Green Party (ecologist)	1.9	1

Participation: 89%

Israel

Legislative Elections

28th March 2006

Previous elections: 27th January 2003
Parliamentary democratic republic with a unicameral legislature. The Parliament (*Knesset*) has 120 members that are elected by proportional representation in anticipated elections for four-year terms of office.

Parties	%	Seats
Kadima (centre)	22	29
Labour Party (centre left)	15	19
Sephardi Religious Party (Shas, conservative)	9.5	12
Likud (conservative)	9	12
Yisrael Beytenu (Russian minority)	9	11
National Union–National Religious Party	7.1	9
Pensioners of Israel to the Knesset (GIL)	5.9	7
United Torah Judaism (conservative)	4.7	6
Meretz–Yachad (social democrat)	3.7	5

United Arab List–Arab Renewal Movement (Ra'am Ta'al, Arab nationalist)	3	4
Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (Hadash, communist)	2.7	3
National Democratic Assembly	2.3	3

Participation: 63.6%

Palestine

Legislative Elections

25th January 2006

Territory not internationally recognized as a State. The Palestinian National Authority administers the government nominally in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Parliamentary elections are held to appoint 132 seats in the unicameral Legislative Council (*Majlis al-Tashri'i*) for a four-year term of office, and through a mixed election system that combines the majority system (by district) and the system of proportional representation (by list). Over 900 international observers attended the elections. According to the EU observation mission,

the electoral process was conducted in an efficient manner under the fair and professional administration of the Central Electoral Commission. According to Freedom House, the country rated as only partially free.

Parties	%	Seats
Change and Reform – Hamas (conservative Islamist)	44.4	74
Fatah (secular nationalist)	41.4	45
Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP, socialist)	4.2	3
The Alternative (socialist)	2.9	2
Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine Palestinian People's Party Palestine Democratic Union Independents		
Independent Palestine Palestinian National Initiative Independents	2.7	2
The Third Way (centre)	2.4	2
Independents and others	1.8	4

Participation: 74.6%

Sources:

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