

This chapter provides details of the results of presidential and legislative elections that took place in 2008 in independent states, presented in circum-Mediterranean order. The list also includes referenda and those elections held in autonomous entities or in any other relevant territory that are of particular political significance.

Spain

Legislative Elections

9 March 2008

Previous elections: 14 March 2004

Parliamentary Monarchy with bicameral legislature. Elections were held based on proportional representation to elect the 350 members of the Congress of Deputies. Additionally, 208 members of the Senate were elected in four-seat constituencies. Another 56 members of this chamber were appointed by autonomous legislatures. The term of office lasts for four years.

Congress of Deputies

Parties	%	seats
Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE, social democrats)	43.6	169
People's Party (PP, conservative)	40.1	153
Convergence and Union (CiU, conservative nationalist regional)	3.0	11
Basque Nationalist Party (PNV, conservative nationalist regional)	1.2	6
Republican Left of Catalonia (ERC, social democrats independent regional)	1.1	3
United Left (IU, left wing)	3.8	2

Galician Nationalist Bloc (BNG, left wing independent regional)	0.8	2
Canarian Coalition (CC, conservative regional)	0.6	2
Union, Progress and Democracy (UPD, liberal)	1.2	1
Navarra Yes (NaBai, left wing Basque minority in Navarra regional)	0.2	1
Others	3.0	-

Senate

Party	Senators
People's Party (PP, conservative)	101
Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE, social democrats)	88
Catalan Agreement of Progress Socialists' Party of Catalonia (PSC, social democrats regional)	12
Republican Left of Catalonia (ERC, social democrats independent regional)	
Initiative for Catalonia Greens-United and Alternative Left (IC-V-EUiA, left wing regional)	
Convergence and Union (CiU, conservative nationalist regional)	4
Basque National Party (PNV, conservative nationalist regional)	2
Canarian Coalition (CC, conservative regional)	1

Turnout: 75.3%

Italy

Legislative Elections

13-14 April 2008

Previous elections: 9-10 April 2006

Parliamentary Republic with bicameral legislature. The Chamber of Deputies (Camera dei Deputati), has 630 directly elected members. The Senate of the Republic (Senato della Repubblica) has 322 members: 315 members elected through a simple majori-

ty system, 4 members appointed by the President and 3 members are ex officio. In both cases, the term of office is for five years.

Chamber of Deputies

Party	%	Seats
Silvio Berlusconi Coalition	46.8	344
The People of Freedom (PdL)	37.4	276
North League (LN)	8.3	60
Movement for Autonomies (Mpa)	1.1	8
Walter Veltroni Coalition	37.5	246
Democratic Party (PD)	33.1	217
Italy of Values (IDV)	4.3	29
Union of the Centre (UDC)	5.6	36
Others	10	4

Senate

Party	%	Seats
Silvio Berlusconi Coalition	47.3	174
The People of Freedom (PdL)	8.1	147
North League (LN)	8.0	25
Movement for Autonomy (Mpa)	1.0	2
Walter Veltroni Coalition	38.0	132
Democratic Party (PD)	33.7	118
Italy of Values (IDV)	4.3	14
Union of the Centre (UDC)	5.6	3
Others	8.9	6

Turnout: 80.4%

Malta

Legislative Elections

8 March 2008

Previous elections: 12 April 2003

Parliamentary Republic with unicameral legislature. Elections were called based on a system of proportional representation to elect the 65 members of the House of Representatives (Il Karmataad Deputati). Term of office is for five years.

Party	%	Seats
Nationalist Party (PN, conservative)	49.3	35
Malta Labour Party (PLM, social democrats)	48.8	34
Alternative Democrats (AD, green)	1.3	-

Turnout: 93.3%

Slovenia

Legislative Elections

21 September 2008

Previous elections: 3 October 2004

Parliamentary Republic with bicameral legislature, the Assembly of Slovenia (Skupščina Slovenije). The National Council (Državni Svet) has 40 members, which represent local and business interests, among other duties. Their terms of office last for five years. Elections were called to elect the 90 members of the National Assembly (Državni Zbor). 88 were elected based on a system of proportional representation. The two remaining seats were reserved for members from ethnic minority groups. Term of office lasts for four years.

Party	%	Seats
Social Democrats (SD)	30.4	29
Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS, conservative)	29.2	28
Zares-New Politics	9.3	9
Democratic Party of Pensioners of Slovenia (DeSUS)	7.4	7
Slovenian National Party (SNS, nationalist)	5.4	5
Slovenian People's Party/Youth Party of Slovenia (SLS/SMS conservative)	5.2	5
Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS)	5.2	5
Hungarian and Italian National Community	-	2

Turnout: 63.1%

Serbia

Presidential Elections

20 January and 3 February 2008

Previous elections: 13 and 27 June 2004

The President is elected based on a majority system for a five-year term, renewable once only.

Candidates	% 1st round	% 2nd round
Boris Tadic (Democratic Party, DS; centrist)	35.4	50.3
Tomislav Nikolic (Serbian Radical Party, SRS; ultranationalist)	40.0	47.9
Velimir Ilic (New Serbia, NS)	7.4	-
Milutin Mrkonjic (Socialist Party of Serbia, SPS)	6.0	-
Cedomir Jovanovic (Liberal Democratic Party, LDP)	5.3	-
Istvan Pastor (Hungarian Coalition, MK)	2.3	-
Milanka Carric (Serbian Strength Movement, PSS)	1.0	-

Turnout: 61.4% (1st round), 68.1% (2nd round)

Legislative Elections

11 May 2008

Previous elections: 21 January 2007

Presidential Republic with unicameral legislature: the National Assembly of Serbia (Narodna Skupština Srbije). Early elections were called to elect the 250 members of the Assembly based on a system of proportional representation for a four-year term. The OSCE electoral observation mission, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe concluded that the electoral process was clean and fair.

Party	%	Seats
For a European Serbia	38.4	102
Serbian Advanced Party (SRS, xenophobic)	29.4	78
Democratic Party of Serbia-New Serbia (DSS-NS, conservative)	11.6	30
Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS, authoritarian)	7.5	20
Liberal Democratic Party (LDP, coalition)	5.2	13
Hungarian Coalition (MK)	1.8	4
List for Sandzak	0.9	2
Albanian Coalition from Preševo Valley	0.4	1

Turnout: 61.3%

Montenegro

Presidential Elections

6 April 2008

There were no previous presidential elections.

Parliamentary Republic. Elections were called to elect the President of the Republic for the first time since the country declared independence in June 2006. The term will last for five years. The OSCE electoral observation mission stated that the elections complied with international standards. The country's system of civil and political rights is partly free, according to Freedom House.

Candidates	%
Filip Vujanovic (Democratic Party of Socialists of Montenegro, DPSCG)	51.9
Andrija Mandil (Serb List, SL)	19.5
Nebojsa Medojevic (Movement for Changes, PzP; reformist pro-European)	16.6
Srdan Milic (People's Socialist Party of Montenegro, SNPSCG)	11.9

Turnout: 68.2%

Macedonia

Parliamentary Elections

1 June 2008

Previous elections: 5 July 2006

Parliamentary Republic with unicameral legislature. Early elections were called to choose the 120 representatives of the Assembly (Sobranie), elected based on a system of party-list proportional representation for a four-year term. The OSCE electoral observation mission stated that although the electoral process was carried out in accordance with international democratic standards, certain key aspects have to be improved. The country's system of civil and political rights is partly free, according to Freedom House.

Party	%	Seats
Coalition for a Better Macedonia (ZpM)	48.8	63
Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization – Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity		
Socialist Party of Macedonia (SPM, Albanian minority)		
Democratic Union (DS)		
Democratic Renewal of Macedonia		
Democratic Party of Turks		
Democratic Party of Serbs		
United Party of Roma in Macedonia		

Sun-Coalition for Europe Social Democratic Union of Macedonia (SDSM) New Social Democratic Party Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Liberal Party of Macedonia New Alternative Green Party of Macedonia (ZPM) Party of Pensioners of the Republic of Macedonia Democratic Union of Vlachs (DSV)	23.6	27
Democratic Union for Integration (BDI)	12.7	18
Democratic Party of Albanians (PDS, Albanian Minority)	8.4	11
Party for European Future (PEI)	1.7	1

Turnout: 57%

Cyprus

Presidential Elections

17 and 24 February 2008

Previous elections: 16 February 2003
Presidential Republic. Elections were
called to elect the President for a five-
year term. Voting was compulsory.

Candidates	% 1st round	% 2nd round
Dimitris Christofias (Progressive Party for Working People, AKEL; communist)	33.3	53.3
Ioannis Kasoulides (Democratic Rally, DISY; conservative)	33.5	46.6
Tassos Papadopoulos (Democratic Party/ Movement of Social Democrats, DIKO/EDEK; liberal)	31.8	-

Turnout: 89.6% (1st round) and 90.8% (2nd round)

Sources

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