

This chapter provides details of the results of presidential and legislative elections that took place in 2009 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.

## Portugal

### Legislative Elections

27 September 2009

Previous elections: 20 February 2005  
Portugal has a unicameral Assembly of the Republic (Assembleia da Republica) with 230 seats. The deputies are elected through a party-list proportional representation system. Assembly members represent the entire country, rather than the constituencies in which they were elected. Governments require majority support in the Assembly in order to remain in office.

Party	%	Seats
Socialist Party (SP)	36.6	97
Social Democratic Party (SDP)	29.1	81
Democratic and Social Centre/People's Party (CDS/PP, Christian democrat)	10.5	21
Left Bloc (BE, socialist/Trotskyite/communist)	9.8	16
Democratic Unity Coalition (CDU, coalition of the Communist Party and the Ecologist Party)	7.9	15

Turnout: 60.6%

## Italy

### Referendum

21-22 June 2009

Under current rules, the apparentement (pre-election coalition) winning a plurality of votes automatically wins a majority of seats. This referendum concerned three questions:

*Question 1:* Should the majority of seats in the Chamber go to the plurality party instead of the plurality apparentement?

*Question 2:* Should the majority of Senate seats in each region go to the plurality party instead of the plurality apparentement?

*Question 3:* Should multiple candidates be outlawed?

	Yes	No
Question 1	78.11%	21.89%
Question 2	78.16%	21.84%
Question 3	87.85%	12.15%

The turnout, however, was only 23.31% - 23.84%; way below the 50% necessary for the ballot to be valid.

## Croatia

### Presidential Elections

27 December 2009 and 10 January 2010

Previous elections: 25 November 2007  
Since 2000 Croatia has been a parliamentary republic. The President is elected to a five-year term by an absolute majority.

Candidates	% 1st round	% 2nd round
Ivo Josipovic (SDP, Social Democratic Party of Croatia)	32.42	60.26
Milan Bandic (Independent)	14.83	39.74
Andrija Hebrang (HDZ, Croatian Democratic Union)	12.04	-
Nadan Vidosevic (Independent)	11.33	-
Vesna Pusic (HNS, Croatian People's Party - Liberal Democrats)	7.25	-
Dragan Primorac (Independent)	5.93	-
Miroslav Tudman (Independent)	4.09	-
Damir Kajin (IDS, Istrian Democratic Assembly)	3.87	-
Josip Jurcevic (Independent)	2.74	-
Boris Miksic (Independent)	2.10	-
Vesna Skare-Ozbolt (Independent)	1.89	-
Slavko Vuksic (Democratic Party of Slavonia Plain)	0.42	-

Turnout: 43.96% (1st round), 50.13% (2nd round)

## Montenegro

### Legislative Elections

29 March 2009.

Previous elections: 10 September 2006  
Montenegro has a unicameral Assembly (Skupstina) with 81 seats. The deputies are elected through a party-list proportional representation system to serve four-year terms.

These elections were held following the early dissolution of Parliament on 26

January 2009. Milo Dukanovic, leader of the Coalition for a European Montenegro, secured his sixth term as Prime Minister.

Party	%	Seats
Coalition for a European Montenegro (pro-European & social democrat) : Democratic Party of Socialists (DPS) Social Democratic Party of Montenegro (SDP) Croatian Civic Initiative (HGI) Bosniak Party (BS)	51.94	48
Socialist People's Party of Montenegro (SNP, socialist & pro-European)	16.84	16
New Serbian Democracy (NSD, national-conservative & pro-Serbian)	9.22	8
Movement for Change (PzP, centre-right & pro-European)	6.03	5
People's Coalition (conservative) People's Party (NS) Democratic Serbian Party (DSS)	2.92	0
Coalition for a Different Montenegro (centre-left) Liberal Party of Montenegro (LPCG) Democratic Centre (DC)	2.70	0
Democratic Union of Albanians (UDSh)	1.47	1
New Democratic Power FORCA (Albanian minority)	0.91	1
Albanian List/List Shqiptare/Democratic League of Montenegro (Albanian minority)	0.89	1
Albanian Coalition - "The Perspective"	0.81	1

Turnout: 66.19%.

## Macedonia

### Presidential Elections

22 March 2009 and 5 April 2009  
Previous elections: 28 April 2004  
The President is elected by popular vote to serve a five-year term. According to the electoral law, the president is elected if he wins by a majority in the first round, or a simple majority in the second round, in which the turnout must stand at over 40%.

Candidates	% 1st round	% 2nd round
Gjorgje Ivanov (Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation – Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity, VMRO-DPMNE; Christian-democrat)	35.06	63.14
Ljubomir Frckoski (Social-Democratic Union of Macedonia, SDSM; social-democrat)	20.45	36.86
Imer Selmani (New Democracy, ND; represents ethnic Albanians)	14.99	-
Ljube Boskoski (Independent)	14.87	-
Agron Buxhaku (Democratic Union for Integration, BDI; protects the rights of Albanians)	7.51	-
Nano Ruzin (Liberal-Democratic Party, LDP; liberal)	4.05	-
Mirushe Hoxha (Democratic Party of Albanians, DPA; protects the rights of Albanians)	3.15	-

Turnout: 56.43% (1st round), 42.61% (2nd round).

## Albania

### Legislative Elections

28 June 2009

Previous elections: 3 July 2005

Albania has a unicameral People's Assembly (Kuvendi Popullor) with 140 seats. The deputies are elected through a party-list proportional representation system within constituencies corresponding to the 12 administrative regions. They serve a four-year term. The threshold to win parliamentary representation is 3% for political parties and 5% for pre-election coalitions within any constituency. These elections were the first to be held under the new electoral system adopted in April 2009. Previously a mixed electoral system was used, under which 100 of the 140 seats in Parliament were filled by the first-past-the-post system. Now all members are elected through proportional representation. The revised electoral system encourages small parties to run in coalitions with large parties, rather than on their own.

Party	%	Seats
Socialist Party of Albania (PSS, social-democrat)	40.9	65
Democratic Party of Albania (PDS, conservative)	40.1	68
Socialist Movement for Integration (LSI, social-democrat)	4.9	4
Republican Party (PR, national-conservative)	2	1
Unity for Human Rights Party (PBDNJ, centrist/liberal)	1.2	1
Party for Justice and Integration (PDI, centre-right/pro-Cham Albanians)	1	1

Turnout: 50.77%.

## Lebanon

### Legislative Elections

7 June 2009

Previous elections: 19 June 2005

Lebanon has a unicameral National Assembly (Majlis al-Nuwab) with 128 seats. The deputies are elected by a plurality vote in multi-member constituencies, based both on geography and religion, to serve a four-year term. Seats are equally divided between Christian and Muslim members. The voting system is based on a majority system over one round, using the block vote (each voter may cast as many votes as the number of MPs elected from each constituency). The candidate(s) who win(s) the highest number of votes for each religious community is/are declared elected.

Alliances	Seats
March 14 Alliance (coalition of anti-Syrian parties)	71
Movement of the Future (liberal)	28
Progressive Socialist Party (social democrat)	11
March 14 Independents	11
Lebanese Forces (Christian democrat)	8
Kataeb Party (Christian democrat)	5
Social Democrat Hunchakian Party (Armenian)	2
Islamic Group (Sunni Islamist)	1
Ramgavar Party (Armenian democratic liberal party)	1
Democratic Left Movement (social democrat)	1
National Liberal Party (liberal conservative)	1
Independents	2

March 8 Alliance (coalition of pro-Syrian parties)	57
Free Patriotic Movement (centrist)	18
Hezbollah (Islamist)	13
Amal Movement	13
Marada Movement	3
Lebanese Democratic Party	3
Armenian Revolutionary Federation (socialist)	2
Syrian Social Nationalist Party	2
Ba'ath Party (Arab nationalist/socialist)	2
Solidarity Party	1

## Israel

### Legislative Elections

10 February 2009

Previous elections: 28 March 2006

Israel has a unicameral Parliament (Knesset) with 120 seats. The members are elected through a party-list proportional representation system to serve a four-year term.

Early elections for the Knesset were called upon the expiry of the deadline for the formation of a new coalition government, after a series of corruption scandals forced Prime Minister Ehud Olmert to resign in July 2008. The Knesset was dissolved on 10 November in view of the elections.

Party	%	Seats
Kadima (centre)	22.47	28
Likud (conservative)	21.61	27
Israel Our Home (Yisrael Beiteinu, nationalist)	11.7	15
Labour Party (centre left)	9.93	13
Shas (conservative)	8.49	11
United Torah Judaism (conservative)	4.39	5
United Arab List- Arab Renewal (UAL, Arab nationalist)	3.38	4
National Union	3.34	4
Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (Hadash, communist)	3.32	4
Meretz - New Movement (social democrat)	2.95	3
Jewish Home (right wing, Zionist)	2.87	3
National Democratic Assembly (Balad, Arab nationalist)	2.48	3

Turnout: 65.2%.

## Tunisia

### Presidential and Parliamentary Elections

25 October 2009

Previous elections: 24 October 2004

Presidential Republic with bicameral Parliament, in which the President is elected to a five-year term. The Parliament comprises the Chamber of Deputies (Majlis Al-Nuwab), with 214 seats, and the Chamber of Councillors (Majlis al-Mustasharin), with 126 seats. Despite 53 seats being occupied by the opposition in the Chamber of Deputies, the Tunisian system of civil and political rights is not considered free.

### Presidential Elections

Candidates	% of votes
Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali (Constitutional Democratic Rally)	89.62
Mohamed Bouchiha (Party of People's Unity)	5.01
Ahmed Inoubli (Unionist Democratic Union)	3.80
Ahmed Brahim (Ettajdid Movement)	1.57

Turnout: 89.45%.

### Legislative Elections

Party	%	Seats
Constitutional Democratic Rally	84.59	161
Movement of Socialist Democrats	4.63	16
Party of People's Unity	3.39	12
Unionist Democratic Union	2.56	9
Social Liberal Party	2.24	8
Green Party for Progress	1.67	6
Ettajdid Movement	0.50	2
Democratic Forum for Labour and Liberties	0.12	-
Progressive Democratic Party	0.03	-
Independent lists	0.26	-

Turnout: 89.40%.

## Algeria

### Presidential Elections

9 April 2009

Previous elections: 8 April 2004

Algeria, officially the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, is a republic whose President is elected based on an absolute majority system for a 5-year term. The incumbent President Abdelaziz Bouteflika was running for his third term, after a constitutional revision removed the Presidency's two-term limit in November 2008.

Candidates	% of votes
Abdelaziz Bouteflika (National Liberation Front, socialist, in coalition with the National Rally for Democracy)	90.24
Louisa Hanoune (Worker's Party, Trotskyite)	4.22
Moussa Touati (Algerian National Front, nationalist, conservative)	2.31
Djahid Younsi (Movement for National Reform, Islamist)	1.37
Ali Fawzi Rebaine (Ahd 54, defence of human rights)	0.93
Mohammed Said (Party of Justice and Liberty)	0.92

Turnout: 74.54%.

### Sources

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