

Mediterranean Electoral Observatory

This chapter provides details of the results of presidential and legislative elections that took place in 2021 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

Presidential elections

24 January 2021

Previous elections: 24 January 2016
Parliamentary Republic. The President is elected for a five-year term.

Candidates	% 1st round
Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa (Social Democratic Party, People's Party)	60.66
Ana Gomes (People–Animals–Nature, LIVRE)	12.96
André Ventura (CHEGA)	11.93
João Ferreira (Portuguese Communist Party, Ecologist Party "The Greens")	4.31
Marisa Matias (Left Bloc, Socialist Alternative Movement)	3.96
Tiago Mayan Gonçalves (Liberal Initiative)	3.23
Vitorino Silva (React, Include, Recycle)	2.95

Turnout: 39.26%

Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244

Legislative elections

14 February 2021

Previous elections: 6 October 2019
Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244 is a parliamentary republic. It has a unicameral legislative system (Kuvendi i Kosovës) with 120 seats elected through an open-list proportional representation system to serve four-year term. 10 of those deputies are elected by the Serbian community and other 10 by other minorities. There is a 5% threshold for political parties repre-

senting the Albanian majority, and no threshold for the minorities.

Parties	%	Seats
Self-Determination Movement (LV) (Nationalism)	50.28	58
Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK) (Conservatism)	17.01	19
Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK) (Conservatism)	12.73	15
Alliance for the Future of Kosovo (AAK) (Conservatism)	7.12	8
Serbian List (SL) (Minority interests, Serbian nationalism)	5.09	10
Turkish Democratic Party of Kosovo (Turkish minority)	0.75	2
Vakat Coalition (Bosnian minority)	0.62	1
New Democratic Initiative of Kosovo (Ashkali minority)	0.38	1
Other Minority Parties	1.62	5

Turnout: 48.84%

Republic of Albania

Legislative elections

25 April 2021

Previous elections: 25 June 2017

The Albanian republic is a parliamentary democracy. Elections are held every four years to a unicameral 140-seat chamber (Kuvendi i Shqipërisë) through a closed-list proportional representation system. There are 12 multi-member constituencies corresponding to the country's 12 administrative regions. Within any constituency, parties must meet a threshold of 3%, and pre-election coalitions must meet a threshold of 5%.

Parties	%	Seats
Socialist Party of Albania (social-democrat, pro-Europeanism. Centre-left)	48.67	74
Democratic Party of Albania (conservative. Centre-right)	39.43	59
Socialist Movement for Integration (social-democrat, pro-Europeanism. Centre-left)	6.81	4

Social Democratic Party of Albania (social-democracy, centre-left)	2.25	3
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Turnout: 46.29%

Cyprus

Legislative elections

30 May 2021

Previous elections: 22 May 2016

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. 24 seats are allocated to the Turkish minority in the Northern part of the island, although they have remained vacant since 1963.

Parties	%	Seats
Democratic Rally (DISY, conservatives of the liberal party)	27.77	17
Progressive Party of Working People (AKEL, socialist)	22.34	15
Democratic Party (DIKO, liberal)	11.29	9
National Popular Front (ELAM, ultranationalism)	6.78	4
Movement of Social Democracy (EDEK); Citizens' Alliance (SYPOL, centre-left)	6.72	4
Democratic Front	6.10	4
Movement of Ecologists - Citizens' Cooperation (KOSP, green)	4.41	3

Turnout: 65.72%

Syria

Legislative elections

26 May 2021

Previous elections: 3 June 2014

Syria is a presidential republic. The President is elected by a majoritarian electoral system to serve a seven-year term. The elections occurred under the authoritarian regime of al-Assad and were not considered to be free and fair.

Candidates	% 1st round
Bashar Hafez al-Assad, Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party	95.19
Mahmoud Ahmad Marei	3.31
Abdullah Sallum Abdullah, Socialist Unionist Party	1.50

Turnout: 78.64%

Israel

Legislative elections

23 March 2021

Previous elections: 2 March 2020

Israel is a parliamentary republic with a unicameral legislature (Knesset). Elections are called to elect the 120 members through a closed-list proportional representation system to serve four-year terms. There is a 2% threshold.

Parties	%	Seats
Likud (Right wing)	24.19	30
Yesh Atid (Liberalism)	13.93	17
Shas (Religious, right wing)	7.17	9
Blue & White (Centrist, liberal)	6.63	8
Yamina (Union of right-wing parties)	6.21	7
Israeli Labor Party (Social democracy)	6.09	7
United Torah Judaism (Religious, right wing)	5.63	7
Yisrael Beiteinu (Right wing)	5.63	7
Religious Zionist Party (Religious right wing)	5.12	6
Joint List, (Balad, Hadash, Taal) (Arab interests)	4.82	6
New Hope (Conservative liberalism)	4.74	6
Meretz (Social democracy)	4.59	6
United Arab List (Arab interests)	3.79	4

Turnout: 67.44%

Algeria

Legislative elections

12 June 2021

Previous elections: 4 May 2017

Semi-presidential republic. Bicameral legislature. 407 seats to be filled in the People's National Assembly (al-Majlis al-Sha'abi al-Watani/Assemblée Populaire Nationale) for five-year terms by means of proportional representation. Eight seats are reserved for Algerians living abroad. These are the first elections since the modification of the electoral law,

which introduced open lists and the electoral threshold. There is a 5% threshold.

Parties	%	Seats
National Liberation Front (FLN)	6.24	98
Movement of Society for Peace (MSP, Islamist)	4.52	65
National Rally for Democracy (RND)	4.31	58
El Moustakbel Front (FM, "Future", centrist)	3.34	48
National Construction Movement (Islamic democracy)	2.30	39
Voice of the People	0.28	3
Freedom and Justice Party	0.23	2
New Algeria Front	0.17	1
Justice and Development Front (FJD, Islamist)	0.17	2
El Fadjr El Djadid	0.16	2
El Karama Party ("Dignity", conservatism)	0.13	1
Good Governance Front	0.08	2
Jil Jadid	0.08	1
Algerian National Front (right wing)	0.03	1
Minor independent lists that won seats	5.57	84

Turnout 22.99%

Morocco

Legislative elections – Assembly of representatives

8 September 2021

Previous elections: 7 October 2016

Parliamentary Monarchy with bicameral legislature: the Assembly of representatives (Majlis al-Nuwab/Assemblée des Représentants) and the Assembly of Councillors (Majlis al-Mustasharin). In the 2021 elections the 395 members of the Assembly of representatives are elected with direct universal suffrage: 305 from party lists in 92 local constituencies and the remaining 90 seats from a 12 constituencies based on the regions. Of these 90 seats, a minimum of one third must be women.

Parties	% Regional lists	% Local lists	Seats
National Rally of Independents (RNI, Centre-right, liberal)	27.58	27.69	102
Authenticity and Modernity Party (PAM, liberal)	18.30	18.47	87
Istiqlal Party (PI, Centre-right, nationalism)	16.74	16.87	81

Socialist Union of People's Forces (USFP)	7.80	7.89	34
Popular Movement (MP, conservative)	6.98	7.05	28
Constitutional Union (UC, centrist)	5.59	5.53	18
Party of Progress and Socialism (PPS, communist)	5.15	5.00	22
Justice and Development Party (PJD, Islamist)	4.30	4.26	13
Democratic and Social Movement (MDS, centrist)	1.18	1.67	5
Federation of the Democratic Left	1.10	1.10	1
Unified Socialist Party (Democratic socialism)	0.92	0.80	1
Front of Democratic Forces (socialism)	0.85	0.93	3

Turnout: 50.35%

Sources

Electoral Calendar

www.mherrera.org/elections.html

Electoral Geography 2.0

www.electoralgeography.com/new/en/

Fondation Robert Schuman

www.robert-schuman.eu

Freedom House

<https://freedomhouse.org>

Inter-Parliamentary Union – PARLINE database on national parliaments

www.ipu.org/parline-e/parlinesearch.asp

International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) – Election Guide

www.electionguide.org

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

www.idea.int

National Democratic Institute

www.ndi.org

Observatory on Politics and Elections in the Arab and Muslim World (OPEMAM)

www.opemam.org

Parties and Elections in Europe

www.parties-and-elections.eu

Psephos Adam Carr's Election Archive

<http://psephos.adam-carr.net>

Project on Middle East Democracy

<http://pomed.org>