Wolfram Nordsieck

Parties and Elections in Europe

Parliamentary Elections and Governments
since 1945
European Parliament Elections
Political Orientation and History of Parties

2024 Edition

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Introduction

Reference Guide

Parties and Elections in Europe is a comprehensive reference guide to political parties, parliamentary elections and national governments in all European countries since 1945:

○ Basic data of more than 1250 significant political parties (currently active parties and dissolved or inactive parties): Founding years, political orientations, affiliations to political parties at European level (European political parties), European Parliament groups, political internationals and other transnational organisations, official internet presences [listed are political parties with a representation in a national parliament or the European Parliament; minor political parties without parliamentary representation are usually not listed].

○ A chronological history of all significant political parties: Origins, predecessors, historical predecessors, name changes, important mergers and splits.

○ Parliamentary elections since 1945: National parliaments of all European countries [elections to upper houses in bicameral legislatures are not listed].

○ Elections to the European Parliament since 1979: Results on national and European level, memberships of national parties in the parliamentary (political) groups.

○ Governments since 1945: Heads of states, heads of governments, governing parties (political parties in cabinet) [acting office-holders and military leaders are usually not listed].

The country studies are usually divided into four main chapters:

○ Political Parties [currently active and dissolved parties]

Party	Name
Orientation	Political classification
Affiliation	Memberships in political parties at European level, political internationals and other transnational organisations
EP Group	Memberships in parliamentary groups in the European Parliament [EU member states]
Website	Official internet presence [active parties]
Period	Political activity [dissolved parties]
Chronology	Foundation, predecessors, name changes, mergers and splits

○ Parliamentary elections [national parliaments]
○ Elections to the European Parliament
○ Governments

A note on transliteration: The reference guide usually follows the scholarly system for the transliteration of Cyrillic. The names of office-holders were romanised according to the more familiar system used in daily newspapers.

Latest results are always available on the corresponding website of *Parties and Elections in Europe* (www.parties-and-elections.eu).

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About the Author

The author Wolfram Nordsieck began his comparative study of political parties, party systems, elections and constitutional laws in the late 1980s. Thereafter he studied law and history at the Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (Germany). Today he practices law. Wolfram Nordsieck is founder of the well-known website *Parties and Elections in Europe* that was established in 1997 and author of the comprehensive reference guide *Parties and Elections in Europe* that has been published annually since 2017.

Abbreviations

Est.	Establishment
[ ]	Note
+	Merger
–	Separation
»	Transition
#	Renaming
...-...	From ... to
Renamed as ...	New name
Originally ...	Former name
Evolved into ...	Successor
Preceded by ...	Predecessor
– Party 1/2/3 ...	Constituent parties in election alliances
→	See
=	Additional common name
...	Not specified
≈	Approximately
S.	Seats
SMC	Single member constituency
Prov.	Provisional government
Ind.	Independents
Splinter group	A faction that has broken away from its parent organisation
N/A	Not available
EP	European Parliament
MP	Member of Parliament
MEP	Member of the European Parliament