

Nordsieck ○ Parties and Elections in Europe

Wolfram Nordsieck

Parties and Elections in Europe

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

2021 Edition

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Introduction

Reference Guide

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

- Basic data of more than 800 significant political parties: Founding years, political orientations, affiliations to political parties at European level, European Parliament groups, political internationals and other transnational organisations, official internet presences [dissolved parties and minor parties without parliamentary representation are usually not listed].
- Chronological history of political parties: Origins, predecessors, historical predecessors, name changes, important mergers and splits.
- Parliamentary elections since 1945 [national parliaments; elections to upper houses in bicameral legislatures are not listed].
- Elections to the European Parliament since 1979.
- Governments since 1945: Heads of states, heads of governments, governing parties (parties in cabinet) [acting office-holders, military rulers and office-holders in the former one-party states are usually not listed].
- Appendices: Regional elections and governments in autonomous regions since 1945 [national minority regions and autonomous regions with separatist or regionalist tendencies].

The country studies are usually divided into four main chapters:

○ Parties

Party	Name
Foundation	Founding year
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
Website	Official internet presence
Chronology	Origins, predecessors, name changes, mergers and splits

○ Parliamentary elections [national parliaments]

- Elections to the European Parliament
- Governments

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

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.

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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. In 2019, he published the guide *Parties and Elections in Germany and Austria*.

Abbreviations

Est.	Establishment
[]	Note
+	Merger, accession
–	Separation, withdrawal
»	Transition, affiliation
#	Renaming
From ... to	Temporary change [merger, separation, renaming]
Renamed as ...	New name
Originally ...	Former name
Evolved into ...	Successor [reorganisation]
Preceded by ...	Predecessor [reorganisation]
→	See
...	Not specified
~	Approximately
S.	Seats
SMC	Single Member Constituency
Prov.	Provisional government
Splinter group	A faction that has broken away from its parent organisation
N/A	Not available
MP	Member of Parliament
MEP	Member of the European Parliament