

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

CHRONICLE OF PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTIONS

July 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972

VI

International Centre for Parliamentary Documentation

GENEVA

1972

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

AIMS

The Inter-Parliamentary Union, which has concluded a Headquarters Agreement with the Swiss federal authorities, is the only world-wide organization of Parliaments.

The aim of the Inter-Parliamentary Union is to promote personal contacts between members of all Parliaments and to unite them in common action to secure and maintain the full participation of their respective States in the firm establishment and development of democratic institutions and in the advancement of the work of international peace and co-operation.

In pursuance of this object, the Union makes known its views on all international problems suitable for settlement by parliamentary action and puts forward suggestions for the development of parliamentary assemblies so as to improve the working of those institutions and increase their prestige.

MEMBERSHIP

National Groups currently exist in the Parliaments of seventy-two countries.

STRUCTURE

The organs of the Union are:

1. *The Inter-Parliamentary Conference* which, unless otherwise decided, meets once a year.
2. *The Inter-Parliamentary Council*, composed of two members from each affiliated Group. President: Mr. A. Chandernagor (France).
3. *The Executive Committee* composed of eleven members, ten of whom are elected by the Conference, the Council President acting as *ex-officio* President.
4. *The Inter-Parliamentary Bureau*, which is the international Secretariat of the Organization, with headquarters in Geneva, Place du Petit-Saconnex.
Secretary General: Mr. Pio-Carlo Terenzio (Italy).

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

FOR PARLIAMENTARY DOCUMENTATION (CIDP)

The essential aim of the International Centre for Parliamentary Documentation (CIDP), created in 1965, is to enable the Inter-Parliamentary Union to carry out one of its statutory missions, to work for "the development of parliamentary institutions, with a view to improving the working of those institutions and increasing their prestige."

It contributes to the accomplishment of these objectives:

- By systematically assembling and distributing information on the structure and working of the legislative Assemblies in all independent States and on the status of their members;
- By encouraging the comparative study of representative institutions, with their special characteristics and problems, as well as of possible practical solutions to the latter;
- By attempting to help the Assemblies of developing countries to strengthen their infrastructure.

The CIDP, which was partly autonomous at the time of its creation, is now a department of the Inter-Parliamentary Bureau. Its activities and their financing are included by the Inter-Parliamentary Council in the Union's Work Programme and Budget, in the light of recommendations expressed by an international Committee of Experts.

To accomplish its tasks, the CIDP benefits from the collaboration of 87 national correspondents.

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INTRODUCTION

This issue of the *Chronicle of Parliamentary Elections*, the sixth in the series published by the International Centre for Parliamentary Documentation, covers the period from July 1, 1971, to June 30, 1972.

The book is divided into two sections, one providing a brief summary of the principal changes in the organization, operation and powers of Parliaments throughout the world which have resulted, during this period, from the adoption of new legal provisions and certain political events; the other containing a detailed analysis of the twenty-five legislative elections that have taken place over the twelve months under study.

The accounts of the elections are printed on easily detachable stiff-paper pages for use as standard-format index cards that can be added to those included in the previous *Chronicles*. The layout remains unchanged.

In most cases, it has been possible to increase still further the number and accuracy of the statistics and data compiled for the information of all those who are interested in the development of representative institutions and also as a working basis for research specialists carrying out comparative or more detailed studies. In spite of all the efforts made, there are still some gaps, essentially concerning the results of certain elections which the Centre was unable to obtain in sufficient time.

Needless to say, the Centre could not have compiled all this information without the active collaboration of its national Correspondents, who have supplied valuable information to complement its documentation, library books and extensive cuttings methodically collected from newspapers and reviews. The Centre would like to express its gratitude along these lines both to its Correspondents and to all those who assisted in the preparation of the sixth *Chronicle*.

I

PARLIAMENTARY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WORLD

Between July 1, 1971, and June 30, 1972, the adoption of new constitutional, legislative or statutory provisions by many countries, as well as certain political events, had affected national representative institutions.

The major changes in the organization, functioning and powers of legislative assemblies that have come to the Centre's knowledge are briefly set out below.

In Africa

Cameroon

On May 21, 1972, by referendum, the electorate approved a draft constitutional revision making of the Federation of Cameroon a unitary state. The United Republic of Cameroon thus succeeds the Federal Republic of Cameroon, which encompassed the states of East and West Cameroon.

According to the new Constitution, which reflects a move forward the French presidential system in the country, the unicameral Parliament called the National Assembly consists of 120 Deputies elected for 5 years via party-list system, in one round. The outgoing Federal National Assembly, comprised of 50 Deputies, was recessed until the next legislative elections.

On the initiative of the President of the Republic the National Assembly may henceforth, by law, lengthen or shorten its term of office.

As in the previous Constitution texts of laws, prior to their promulgation, may be the subject of a second reading on request of the President of the Republic. In such case laws may only be adopted in the National Assembly by absolute majority, as opposed to the simple majority espoused in the old Constitution.

The constitutional revision of 1972, in addition, enlarges the regulatory field. On the one hand it provides that all subjects other than those intrinsic to the legal field be under the regulatory jurisdiction; on the other hand it stipulates that the National Assembly may authorize the President of the Republic to make orders having the effect of law in fields apt for such legal action, within a specific time limit and on definite subjects.

The new constitutional text further provides for the system of referendum, to be invoked by the President of the Republic following consultation with the President of the National Assembly. The referendum may bear on any reform scheme which, though within the jurisdiction of law, might foreseeably

have severe repercussions on the future of the nation and national institutions. It may moreover bear on a plan for constitutional revision.

The initiative for revision belongs, concurrently, to the President of the Republic and to the National Assembly. If the President asks for a second reading of a plan for revision adopted by the National Assembly, this revision must be approved by two-thirds of the National Assembly, as opposed to the simple majority required by the old Constitution.

Ghana

The Second Republic was overthrown on January 13, 1972, by a military coup d'état. On the same day the Constitution was withdrawn and the Parliament dissolved, and all political parties were banned. A National Redemption Council (NRC) — consisting of military and civilian members — is to govern by decree until a new Constitution is drawn up.

Mauritania

On July 15, 1971, the National Assembly adopted a law raising the number of its Deputies from 40 to 50 *.

Morocco

A new Constitution was announced on February 17, 1972, by King Hassan II, and approved by approximately 99% majority in a referendum on March 1, 1972. The Parliament elected in August 1970 was dissolved on March 15, 1972. Elections which were foreseen for May 1972 have been postponed.

As regards Parliament, the main features of the new Constitution are the following:

— While the unicameral system introduced in 1970 is retained, the Chamber of Deputies will be elected for only 4 years (instead of 6), and two-thirds of the Deputies will be directly elected by universal suffrage, with the other one-third being elected indirectly, i.e., by local government assemblies, trade and professional organizations and trade union representatives; the ratio of directly to indirectly-elected Deputies laid down in 1970 would thus be reversed. The number of seats in the Chamber is to be fixed by an organic law, as in previous Constitutions;

— Among Parliament's increased responsibilities is the power to legislate on the Electoral Law;

— The King no longer has the power to submit to national referendum any bill which, after having been given a further reading at his request, had been

* See section *Chronicle of Elections*, p. 85.

passed or rejected by a two-thirds majority of the House. The Chamber is no longer automatically dissolved in the event of a bill being approved in a national referendum after having been rejected by the Chamber; and

— The Chamber retains the power to overthrow the Government by refusing a vote of confidence, or passing a vote of censure, by a two-thirds majority of its whole membership.

In America

Nicaragua

On August 31, 1971, the 2 Houses of Congress, in joint session, advocated a deep-seated plan of constitutional reform.

The draft of a new Fundamental Law was entrusted to a National Constitutional Assembly elected February 6, 1972 *. In the meantime, Congress outlined the main points of the new Constitution.

Legislative power was to reside in a bicameral Parliament composed of a 70-member Chamber of Deputies and a 30-member Senate, with all parliamentarians to be elected directly for 6 years.

Nationwide elections, with proportional distribution of seats among parties, would be provided for, it being understood however that the losing party or parties in the presidential elections could not be represented in either House by less than 40% of its total membership.

The runner-up in the presidential election, as well as former elected Presidents, are also to be members of the Senate.

United States of America

On December 14, 1971, Congress passed the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971. The legislation, which will apply to the 1972 presidential and congressional elections, places limits on the amounts candidates for Congress and the Presidency may spend for television and other communications media, and includes comprehensive requirements for public disclosure of contributions to and expenditures of candidates and political parties.

In Asia

Bangla Desh

Following the violent events of the winter of 1971-72, East Pakistan became, on March 26, 1971, an independent state called Bangla Desh.

* See section *Chronicle of Elections*, p. 87.

A Constituent Assembly, the *Ganoparisad*, composed of representatives of Bengal in the old National Assembly of Pakistan and of members of Provincial Assemblies, elected in December 1970, met for the first time on April 10, 1972, and unanimously approved the declaration of independence of March 26.

India

On November 5, 1971, the President assented to the Constitution (24th Amendment) Bill, 1971, which stipulates that Parliament may henceforth amend any provision of the Constitution, including those relating to Fundamental Rights. The law, which was passed by the *Lok Sabha* (Lower House) on August 4, 1971, and by the *Rajya Sabha* (Upper House) on August 11, further provides that the President should give his assent to any Constitution Amendment Bill passed by both Houses of Parliament.

There has been a net addition of 3 seats each in the *Lok Sabha* and the *Rajya Sabha* following the grant of statehood to Manipur and Tripura, and the new formation of the state of Meghalaya and the Union Territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh by reorganization of the existing state of Assam. The total strength of the *Lok Sabha* and the *Rajya Sabha*, including the nominated members, is now 524 and 243, respectively.

Pakistan

From April 14 to 17, 1972, the first directly-elected National Assembly in the 25 years of Pakistan's independence approved an Interim Constitution. Coming into force on April 21, 1972, it was to last until August 14, 1973, at the latest, when a permanent Constitution is to be adopted.

Philippines

On September 2, 1971, President Marcos signed a law aimed at "stamping out frauds, terrorism, and excessive spending" in the elections. Under the law, civilian or military officials were prohibited from coercing electors into campaigning or voting for particular candidates. Furthermore, a candidate is prohibited from spending more than the total amount of salary for the full term of office he aspires to. Salary increases 45 days before elections, the giving of employment promises and the use of public funds for election purposes are also banned.

Republic of Viet-Nam

Pursuant to a decree signed by the Prime Minister on August 16, 1971, the number of seats in the House of Representatives was raised from 152 to 159.

This new total, based on the increased number of registered electors, includes 16 seats for minority ethnic groups (6 for Khmer, 6 Montagnards, 2 Cham and 2 minority refugee groups from the North).

Singapore

On October 19, 1971, the Government accepted the recommendations of the Electoral Boundaries Delineation Committee, which proposed an increase in the number of constituencies from 58 to 65. The parliamentary membership will correspondingly rise as from the next general elections.

Furthermore, registers of electors, last reviewed in 1967, are to be newly prepared. This is especially necessary since a great increase in the number of electors and the rapid development of housing in certain areas has led to an uneven distribution of electors per electoral division.

Sri Lanka

On May 22, 1972, Ceylon ended its status as a British dominion and became the independent Republic of Sri Lanka. A new Constitution, to replace the Soulbury Constitution of 1947, was to come into force the same day. It was adopted by the House of Representatives which, following the general elections of 1970, had decided to function as a Constituent Assembly. It provides, *inter alia*:

- For a fully-elected unicameral legislature (versus the former bicameral system), known as the National Assembly, with a 6-year term (versus the former 5 years). This Assembly is to be established of the 151 members of the former House of Representatives. The old Senate was abolished on September 28, 1971.
- That this Assembly must meet at least once a year. If after its dissolution the President issues a proclamation declaring a state of emergency, such proclamation is to be considered as a summons to the Assembly to meet within 10 days.
- That all citizens at least 18 years of age have the right to vote; and
- That a constitutional commission appointed by the National Assembly is to be the final authority on the constitutionality of legislation.

Thailand

Following a military coup d'état on November 17, both Houses of Parliament and all political parties were dissolved, the Constitution was suspended, and martial law was proclaimed. The administration of the country was taken over by a new Revolutionary Party headed by Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, the Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces.

In Europe

Czechoslovakia

On July 6, 1971, the Federal Assembly adopted a constitutional law altering the length of the parliamentary mandate.

Members of both Houses of Parliament — the House of the People and the House of Nations — are henceforth elected for 5 years, rather than for 4 years as before.

Denmark

On June 4, 1971, a law lowering the voting age from 21 to 20 years was adopted by quasi-unanimity in the *Folketing* (Parliament).

As required by article 29(2) of the Constitution, this amendment was then put to a national referendum, on September 21, 1971 (the same day as the legislative elections *). It was approved by 1,595,098 votes to 1,222,712 and will come into force as from the next elections.

Finland

On April 5, 1972, both the Parliamentary Act and the Election Act were amended; the main changes are the following:

- The minimum age for voting has been lowered from 20 to 18 years;
- Being under guardianship is no longer a limitation to the franchise; and
- Finnish citizens living abroad for 3 years are no longer excluded from qualifying as voters or candidates to Parliament.

France

The French Parliament has modified the enumeration of activities incompatible with the parliamentary mandate, as they had been set down in the Organic Law of October 29, 1958, by means of another Organic Law passed on January, 1972.

The new law enlarges the number of incompatible activities, as well as the list of companies or enterprises within which such activities are carried on.

Any parliamentarian who, on being elected, is in such an incompatible predicament, must within 15 days of taking oath tell the Bureau of his House which activity he intends to retain. In the course of his mandate he must furthermore avow any new activity he intends to undertake. This Bureau will

* See section *Chronicle of Elections*, p. 37.

thereupon determine which activities are incompatible with the parliamentary mandate. Subsequent to this procedure it is, as before, the Constitutional Council which is the supreme arbiter.

Ireland

On April 4, 1972, a law was enacted to provide for a tightening-up in the secrecy of the ballot for *Dail* (Chamber of Deputies), *Seanad* (Senate) and presidential elections.

Luxembourg

On January 13, 1972, the Chamber of Deputies approved an amendment to Article 52 of the Constitution lowering the prescribed voting age from 21 to 18 years.

The same provision lowered the required age for candidates to Parliament from 25 to 23 years. While residency in the Grand Duchy is a further requirement to candidacy, it is not for electors. Parliament may thus grant the vote to those citizens living abroad.

On January 27, 1972, the constitutional amendment was approved by the Grand Duke.

Malta

Pursuant to Section 89 of the Independence Order 1964, Parliamentary Secretaries were appointed for the first time in 1971 when the Labour Government assumed office. The Secretaries are appointed by the Governor-General, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, from among the members of the House of Representatives, "to assist Ministers in the performance of their duties".

Portugal

The Constitution was amended by the National Assembly in July 1971 in order to raise the number of its Deputies from 130 to 150. This includes an increase in Deputies from overseas territories, from 23 to 43.

At the same time the matters falling within the exclusive competency of the National Assembly — the acquisition or loss of Portuguese nationality, for one — were greatly expanded.

United Kingdom

New Standing Orders of the House of Commons came into force on January 1, 1972. This new version is significant as an overall revision of the drafting, which

was undertaken with the objective of modification and simplification of language, and for the elimination of minor inconsistencies resulting from the adoption of a whole series of particular amendments.

New Standing Orders of the House of Lords also became effective the same day. Among these is the provision that no Lord under the age of 21 years shall be permitted to sit in the House.

Furthermore, on February 10, 1972, a law bearing on the remuneration of parliamentarians received the Royal Assent after an unopposed parliamentary passage. It provides for substantial pay raises (38%) for Ministers and backbench MPs, among others.

Increases were as follows:

	Previous salary	New salary	Increase
Prime Minister	£14,000	£20,000	£6,000
Lord Chancellor.	£14,500	£20,000	£5,500
Cabinet Ministers	£8,500	£13,000	£4,500
Backbenchers	£3,250	£4,500	£1,250

The parliamentary (secretarial, travel, etc.) allowance to all Ministers and office holders in the House of Commons was also raised from £1,250 to £3,000 a year.

In the Middle East

Arab Republic of Egypt

On September 11, 1971, a new Constitution was submitted by the Government for popular referendum, and approved by near-unanimity: 7,862,917 votes to 1,370, with 135,139 abstentions and 3,640 blank or void ballot papers.

As regards representative bodies, the following are the most important changes:

- Parliament is renamed the People's Assembly;
- One-half of the seats in the Assembly must be held by workers and peasants (a principle assured in the past by the electoral system and henceforth incorporated in the Constitution); and
- A strengthening of the President's powers, especially in emergencies where the Parliament's approval is a condition subsequent.

Iran

In accordance with the Constitution (Article 4) and the Electoral Law of the *Majlis* (Article 1), which provide that 1 Deputy shall be added for every

100,000 persons, according to official census, the number of Deputies was raised from 219 to 268.

Turkey

In September 1971, a number of amendments to the 1961 Constitution were approved by Parliament. These granted Government the power to legislate by decree, subject to prior parliamentary approval of the terms and duration of the decrees. Other provisions forbade civil servants from joining political parties, and introduced certain limitations on individual constitutional rights and freedoms. While continuing to guarantee the basic freedoms, including that of association and expression, the Constitution specifically added the fundamental condition that these freedoms must not be exercised in such a way as to "jeopardize the integrity of the State and nation, national security, public order or public morals".

The National Assembly passed these amendments on September 5, by 340 votes to 2, and the Senate approved them on September 20, by 134 votes to 12.

In Oceania

New Zealand

On September 10, 1971, the House of Representatives approved an annual adjustment of 12% for parliamentary salaries. This adjustment is to be retroactive to April 1, 1971.

Parliamentary salaries and allowances had formerly been reviewed by a Royal Commission every 3 years; legislation adopted in 1970, however, provided for annual increases also, based upon fluctuations in pay scales in the private sector.

II

CHRONICLE OF ELECTIONS

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Date of Elections: October 27 and November 3, 1971

Reason for Election

The elections, prompted by the early dissolution of Parliament by the President of the Republic on September 8, 1971, were held to elect members of the People's Assembly, which, pursuant to the new Constitution adopted in September 1971 *, replaced the previous National Assembly.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Parliament of the Arab Republic of Egypt (A.R.E.) consists of one chamber, the People's Assembly. It has 360 members: 350 are elected, at least half of whom must be workers and farmers; 10 are members appointed by the President of the Republic. The term of each Parliament is 5 years, counted from its first meeting.

Electoral System

All citizens of either sex at least 18 years old are entitled to vote provided they have not been deprived of their political rights. Naturalized foreigners are allowed to vote only upon the expiry of a period of 5 years from the date of their naturalization. All male citizens fulfilling the requisite conditions for voting are automatically registered on the electoral rolls; women, on request. The rolls are revised each year in December, and a person who fails to vote is liable to a fine of 1 Egyptian pound.

Any candidate for election as member of the People's Assembly must be a national of the A.R.E., inscribed in the register of electors, at least 30 years old on the date of the elections, and be proficient in reading and writing. If his Egyptian nationality was acquired through naturalization he must have possessed it for at least 10 years. Furthermore, and unless exempted by the President of the Republic, a candidate is subject to the following requirements:

- He must have been an active member of the Arab Socialist Union for at least 1 year;
- His estate and property must not have been subject to sequestration under the provisions of Law No. 533 of 1954 or Law No. 162 of 1958;

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 12.

- He must not be among those whose agricultural property has been limited according to the provisions of the Laws on Agrarian Reform;
- He must not be among those to whom the Socialist laws have been applied in respect of amounts exceeding £E10,000.

There is incompatibility of office as regards membership in Parliament and tenure of office in the civil service, except in certain cases determined by the Assembly.

Candidatures must be presented in writing to the competent administrative authority, the Governorate, within 10 days from the date fixed for declaring candidatures. Twenty Egyptian pounds must be deposited at the same time with the said authority.

Egypt is divided into 175 constituencies. In each, 2 members are elected; at least one of them must be a worker or a farmer.

A *worker* is any person who, in industry, agriculture or the services, is engaged in manual or intellectual work, is dependent upon this work for his livelihood, is not entitled to belong to a trade union of professionals and does not possess any diploma from a university, institute of higher education or military school. However, any person who started out in life as a worker and later obtained a university diploma, but has remained affiliated to his worker's trade union is regarded as a worker, notwithstanding his having obtained such diploma.

A *farmer* is any person who, together with his wife and children under age, does not own more than 10 feddans (4 hectares) of land, and for whom agriculture is the sole income and occupation. He must moreover reside in a rural area.

The elective seats are filled as follows:

— If, in a constituency, 2 candidates, including at least 1 worker or farmer, obtain an absolute majority of votes cast in the first round of voting, both are declared elected.

— If neither of the 2 candidates who have obtained an absolute majority is a worker or farmer, only the one who has received the most votes is elected. A second round of voting is then organized for the election of the constituency's second Deputy in which only the 2 workers or farmers who were best placed in the first round may participate.

— If only 1 candidate obtains an absolute majority in the first round, a second round of voting is organized. All candidates may participate in this second round if the person elected in the first round is a worker or farmer; if this is not the case, only worker and farmer candidates may participate.

— If none of the candidates secures an absolute majority of the votes cast, a second election is held among the first 4 candidates who have received a

relative majority, provided that at least 2 of them are workers or farmers. In this case, if no candidate secures an absolute majority in the second round, the seats are attributed to the 2 best-placed candidates on condition that at least one of them is a farmer or worker and that they have won at least 20 % of the votes of the total electorate.

As a provisional measure, according to the Electoral Law, the members representing the constituencies of the Suez Canal and of the Sinai are designated by the President of the Republic from among members of the Arab Socialist Union in these parts of the A.R.E. Six constituencies are involved.

Where any seat becomes vacant between general elections it is filled by electing or appointing a new member, according to whether the seat, before it became vacant, was filled by election or appointment.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The dissolution of the National Assembly formed part of President Anwar El Sadat's continuing political reform program. The legislative elections followed the reformation of the Arab Socialist Union, professional syndicates and trade union executives.

The 6-week electoral campaign followed the near-unanimous ratification by referendum of a new Constitution, on September 11, 1971. A.R.E. political forces are grouped under a single national organization, the Arab Socialist Union, which combines workers and farmers, members of the armed forces, intellectuals and the national capital in common action; nevertheless, a great number of candidates appeared for the 169 seats (minus Suez and Sinai) at stake; 1,660 for the first round and 464 for the second, when 141 seats were still contested.

The new Assembly held its first meeting on November 13, 1971.

Statistics

1. *Distribution of Deputies according to Professional Category*

Workers and farmers	188
Other categories	172
	360 *

2. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

Men	353
Women	7
	360 *

* Including the 10 members appointed by the President of the Republic.

AUSTRIA

Date of Elections: October 10, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the National Council, 2½ years before such elections were due. This body, elected on March 1, 1970, for 4 years, in fact dissolved itself only 16 months later — on July 14, 1971.

Characteristics of Parliament

The federal Parliament of Austria is bicameral. It is composed of the National Council (*Nationalrat*), whose members represent the whole nation, and the Federal Council (*Bundesrat*), whose members represent the provinces comprising the federation.

The National Council consists of 183 members (increased from 165 in the previous legislature) following the reform of November 27, 1970. These are elected for 4 years.

The Federal Council consists of 58 members elected by provincial legislatures (*Länder*). The number of representatives from each *Land* (at least 3) depends on its population (the most populated has 12 representatives); a quota is arrived at by dividing the population by 12. The term of office of these members is determined by each *Land*.

Electoral System

All Austrian citizens of either sex are entitled to vote, provided they are at least 19 years old on January 1 of the election year. They must also be registered on the electoral lists, which are revised constantly. Voting is compulsory in certain federated provinces, such as Tyrol and Vorarlberg.

All voters at least 25 years old on January 1 of the election year are eligible as candidates to the National Council. There is incompatibility of office, however, between parliamentarian and member of a provincial legislature or judge of the supreme courts.

Candidatures must be presented at the main voting office of the particular constituency at least 30 days before the scheduled election. They must be signed either by a minimum of 3 outgoing members of the National Council, or, based on the population of the constituency, by anywhere from 200 to 500 electors. The number of candidates put forward by each party cannot be more than twice the number of seats to be filled.

Members of the National Council represent 9 different federal provinces; each province (*Land*) comprises an electoral constituency. By dividing 183 into the total population of the country, the number of seats allotted to each province is fixed. This number, carried to 3 decimals, is the quotient for the number of seats to be allotted to each constituency; each of them obtains as many seats as the quotient is divisible by its population. The rest of the seats are distributed by the system of greatest remainder. Election is by party-list system with proportional representation according to the Hagenbach-Bischoff method, the electoral quotient being established by dividing the number of valid votes in each constituency by the number of seats to be filled, plus one. A second distribution, at the national level, is then carried out on the basis of the remaining votes and according to the d'Hondt method.

Substitutes elected at the same time as titular members fill vacancies occurring in the *Nationalrat* or *Bundesrat* between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The election campaign opened on September 1, 1971. The People's Party (ÖVP) provided the strongest opposition for the Socialist Party (SPÖ), which, with the support but without the active participation of the Freedom Party (FPÖ), had formed a minority Government subsequent to the preceding elections. Since 1965, in fact, the Socialist Party and the People's Party have together been the foremost political organizations in Austria.

The Socialists, led by the outgoing Chancellor, Mr. Bruno Kreisky, strove for an absolute majority of seats in the National Council. They had barely missed doing so in the last elections, when they won 79 seats in the then 165-member chamber. As a consequence, they formed an alliance with 6 members of the Freedom Party, which, though it stopped supporting the Socialist Government in July 1971, nevertheless aided it in dissolving Parliament.

All the parties presented candidates separately. The electorate could thus choose from among a large progressive organization (SPÖ), a large conservative force (ÖVP), and various smaller groups — the right-center (FPÖ), the Communist Party (KPÖ), and the *Offensiv Links* (dissident Communists). The Democratic Freedom Party (DFP) and the National Democratic Party (NDP), both of whose candidates were blanked in 1970, did not participate this time.

The main campaign themes, for all parties, dealt with domestic issues — inflation, the rise in the cost of living, military service reforms, and the question of nationalization. The Socialist Party, stressing the Government's achievements marking its 18 months' duration, publicized itself as a great reformist and socialist movement and, in this regard, proposed the building of a modern Austria. The People's Party, lacking momentum since the elections of 1970, advocated a very similar program, promising above all to reduce the income

tax. The Freedom Party, assuming a "pan-European" stance and favoring free enterprise, was hopeful that the electoral reforms, which were effected despite the opposition of the People's Party and which, in fact, were more beneficial to the smaller splinter groups, would help them in getting enough seats to enable their participation in the future Government. The Communists also counted on these reforms, but their internal division — orthodox versus dissident (the Vienna-based *Offensiv Links*) groups—proved an insurmountable handicap.

The Socialists — as they hoped — indeed won an absolute majority in the National Council, taking 93 of 183 seats. Mr. Kreisky, once again Chancellor, formed a new Socialist Government on October 21, 1971.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Nationalrat

Number of registered voters	4,984,448
Voters	4,607,616 (92.4 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	50,626
Valid votes	4,556,990

Political Group	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in the <i>Nationalrat</i>
Socialist Party (SPÖ)	2,280,168	50	93 (+12)
People's Party (ÖVP)	1,964,713	43	80 (+2)
Freedom Party (FPÖ)	248,473	6	10 (+4)
Communist Party (KPÖ)	61,762	1	—
<i>Offensiv Links</i>	1,874	—	—
			183

2. Distribution of Members of the Nationalrat according to Professional Category

Salaried clerks	126
Farmers	22
Managers	18
Professionals	13
Journalists	3
Housewife	1
	183

3. *Distribution of Members of the Nationalrat according to Sex*

Men	172
Women	11
	183

4. *Average Age* : 49.6 years

BARBADOS

Date of Elections: September 9, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the House of Assembly on the normal expiration of their mandate. These had been elected in 1966, prior to the country's gaining independence.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Parliament of Barbados is bicameral. It is composed of the House of Assembly and the Senate.

The House of Assembly consists of 24 members elected for 5 years.

The Senate consists of 21 Senators elected for a like period. Of these, 12 are appointed by the Governor-General on the advice of the Prime Minister, 2 are appointed by the Governor-General on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, and 7 are appointed by the Governor-General himself with a view to representing primarily religious, economic, or social interests.

Electoral System

Any citizen of Barbados of either sex who is at least 18 years old, who has resided in a particular constituency for a minimum of 3 months, and who is registered as an elector in that constituency is entitled to vote. Also eligible are Commonwealth citizens, of the required age, who have resided in Barbados for at least 3 years immediately before the election date. Those persons declared insane, undergoing any sentence of imprisonment, or under sentence of death or imprisonment exceeding 12 months are disqualified from registration.

Persons serving abroad as members of a Mission staff, and members of their household, are qualified to be treated as foreign service electors, and registered as such.

Citizens of Barbados at least 21 years of age, or Commonwealth citizens residing in the country for at least 7 years preceding the election, are qualified to be elected as members of the House of Assembly. Ineligible, for both the House and the Senate, are undischarged bankrupts, the insane, persons owing allegiance to a foreign State, those in judicial or religious posts, those under a sentence of death or imprisonment exceeding 6 months, and those convicted of electoral fraud.

The Electoral Law sets strict limits on the amount of expenses a candidate may incur during his election campaign.

For election purposes, Barbados is divided into 24 constituencies; in each, 1 Deputy is elected by simple plurality of vote, on the course of 1 round.

Vacant seats in the Senate are filled by appointment made by the Governor-General in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister or the Leader of the Opposition, depending on the question according to whose advice the seat, before it became vacant, had been filled. By-elections are used to fill vacancies in the House of Assembly.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

Three parties contested the legislative elections of September 9, 1971.

The 2 opponents of the majority Democratic Labour Party (DLP) were the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) and the Barbados National Party (BNP). Alongside 2 independents, these 3 groups presented 48 candidates.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Erros Barrow, leader of the victorious DLP party, was re-elected for a third 5-year term and formed a new Cabinet.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the House of Assembly*

Number of registered voters	116,000 (approx.)
Voters	85 %

Political Group	Number of Seats in the House of Assembly
Democratic Labour Party (DLP)	18 (+4)
Barbados Labour Party (BLP)	6 (—2)
Barbados National Party (BNP)	— (—2)
	24

BELGIUM

Date of Elections: November 7, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the member of Parliament on the early dissolution thereof by the King on September 24, 1971. Normal expiration would have occurred in June 1972.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Parliament of Belgium is bicameral, consisting of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Members thereof simultaneously represent the Belgian people and the Flemish and Walloon Communities *.

The House of Representatives consists of 212 members elected for 4 years.

The Senate has 178 members, who all have 4-year terms; of these 106 are elected directly by the electorate, 48 by the provincial councils and 24 are co-opted. Moreover, one seat is reserved for Prince Albert, brother of the King, who is Senator *ex-officio*.

Electoral System

All citizens of either sex at least 18 years of age, who have resided for at least 6 months in the same municipality and who possess full civil rights have the right to vote. They must be registered on the electoral rolls, which are updated every 2 years.

Voting is compulsory. Any unjustified abstention is punishable, ranging from a fine to taking the elector off the electoral rolls.

A candidate to the House of Representatives must be Belgian by birth or have obtained a "full naturalisation", be in full possession of his civil and political rights, at least 25 years of age and reside in Belgium.

A candidate to the Senate must fulfill the same aforementioned requirements; moreover, he must be at least 40 years of age and belong to one of the following categories: a former Minister, a holder of a university diploma, an executive director of an industrial enterprise employing more than 100 persons, a high-ranking civil servant, a Burgomaster or a former Burgomaster.

There is incompatibility of office as regards Representatives and Senators. Candidatures which are presented by 200 to 500 electors (depending on the

* See *Chronicle of Parliamentary Elections V* (1970-1971), p. 11.

size of the constituency) must be submitted to the president of the central voting office no later than 21 days before the election. Parties wishing to group together must make a declaration to that effect no later than 10 days before the election.

Belgium is divided into 30 constituencies for election to the House of Representatives and into 20 for election to the Senate. Voting takes place on the party-list system, in a single round, with proportional representation in accordance with the Hondt method; remainders are distributed within each of the 9 provinces. Vote-splitting is not provided for but preferential voting is possible, as the elector may cast a specific vote for the main candidate and for the substitute candidate of the list for which he is voting. Each individual candidate is regarded as constituting a separate list. Moreover, with the consent of the electors who sponsored them, candidates of a particular list may join with candidates specifically chosen from lists submitted in other constituencies of the same province. (Article 132 of the Electoral Law.)

The "next-in-line" of the list from which the holder had been elected fills any seat which has become vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

Opened in late September, the electoral campaign was quiet throughout most of Belgium save the Brussels region. In accordance with the electoral reforms of June 1969, members of the military and youths between 18 and 21 years of age were allowed to vote for the first time.

The outgoing coalition, made up of the Christian Social and the Belgian Socialist parties, was challenged by 4 parties. During the course of the campaign this coalition emphasized the Government's achievements, the former emphasizing party cohesion and unity and the latter proposing a new military policy which would progressively reduce service, from one year to first 10 months, and then 6 months.

Among the opposition, the Party for Liberty and Progress (PLP), which had split into 3 factions in Brussels, demanded a reduction in unproductive State expenditure whereas the Communists rallied around the issues of employment, living standards, the introduction of a democratic system, worker-control, and federalism.

The linguistic opposition parties, namely the French-speaking Democratic Front (FDF) and the Walloon Front Cartel (RW) for the Walloons, and the *Volksunie* for the Flemish, based their campaign on offering solutions to the linguistic problems. The French-speaking parties proposed a tripartite federalism (Flanders, Walloon, Brussels). As it feared that in a tripartite federalist

systems Brussels would align with the other French-speaking regions, the *Volksunie* was in favour of a 2-community federalism which would exclude Brussels.

On election day the 2 parties of the outgoing coalition maintained their position, but the Liberals suffered a setback, losing 13 seats in the House of Representatives as well as their lead over the Walloon Federalist Parties (FDF and Cartel), which doubled their number of Representatives.

On February 20, 1972, the new Cabinet was formed on the same coalition basis as heretofore.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the House of Representatives*

Number of registered voters	6,271,240
Voters	5,741,268 (91.5 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	459,637
Valid votes	5,281,631

Political Group	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats to the House of Representatives
Christian Social Party	1,594,996	30,3	67 (— 2)
Belgian Socialist Party	1,439,770	27,2	61 (+ 2)
Party for Liberty and Progress (PLP)	868,395	16,4	34 (—13)
French-Speaking Democratic Front (FDF) - Walloon Front Cartel	593,245	11,2	24 (+12)
<i>Vlaamse Volksunie</i>	586,917	11,1	21 (+ 1)
Belgian Communist Party	163,051	3,1	5 (=)
Others	35,257	0,7	—
			212

2. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Senate*

Number of registered voters	6,271,240
Voters	5,741,266 (91.5 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	529,863
Valid votes	5,211,403

Political Group	Votes obtained	%	Number of Senators elected by Universal Suffrage	Number of Senators elected by Provincial Councils or co-opted	Numbers of Seats in the Senate
Christian Social Party	1,547,851	29.74	34	27	61 (—3)
Belgian Socialist Party (PLP)	1,382,028	26.53	30	19	49 (—4)
Party for Liberty and Progress	857,647	16.45	17	12	29 (—8)
<i>Vlaamse Volksunie</i>	634,094	12.15	12	7	19 (+15)
French-Speaking Democratic Front (FDF)					
Walloon Front	598,763	11.48	12	7	19 (+15)
Belgian Communist Party	164,454	3.15	1	0	1 (— 1)
Others	26,571	0.50	—	—	—
			106	72	178

3. Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Professional Category

	House of Representatives	Senate
Lawyers	52	38
Salaried clerks	31	19
Teachers	27	27
Industrialists	15	29
Trade unionists	15	7
Journalists	12	4
Doctors	8	7
Social workers	7	7
Tradesmen	7	2
Workers	5	4
Farmers	5	8
Party officials	4	2
Civil servants	3	6
Engineers, architects	3	4
International civil servants	2	—
Economists	2	—
Others	14	14
	212	178

4. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex*

	House of Representatives	Senate
Men	206	172
Women	6	6
	<u>212</u>	<u>178</u>

5. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Age Group*

	House of Representatives	Senate
20-30	3	—
30-40	33	—
40-50	87	56
50-60	68	78
60-70	19	38
Over 70	2	6
	<u>212</u>	<u>178</u>

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Date of Elections: November 26 and 27, 1971

Reason for Elections

The Constitutional Act of October 1968 made of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic a federation of Czech and Slovak states *, and provided for a bicameral Parliament, consisting of the House of the People and of the House of Nations.

The House of the People was formed out of the National Assembly, which had been elected June 14, 1964, and the House of Nations was elected for a transitory period by the enlarged Czech and Slovak National Councils.

Elections were therefore held to renew all the members of both these Houses (together known as the Federal Assembly) on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Federal Assembly of Czechoslovakia is bicameral.

The House of the People is comprised of 200 Deputies. The House of Nations is comprised of 150, of whom 75 are elected in the Czech Socialist Republic and 75 in the Slovak Socialist Republic.

The term of office, for all members of the Federal Assembly, has risen from 4 to 5 years by virtue of a Constitutional Act promulgated on July 6, 1971 **.

Electoral System

All citizens of Czechoslovakia who are 18 years old on election day are entitled to vote.

Electoral lists, drawn up by local authorities, must be made public at least 30 days before the elections. Voting is not compulsory.

All voters having attained the age of 21 on election day may be candidates to the Federal Assembly. None, however, may simultaneously be a member of both Houses, or at the same time hold the office of President of the Republic.

All candidates must appear on a single list compiled by the National Front.

The country is divided into 200 constituencies (Bohemia-Moravia: 137, Slovakia: 63) for purposes of election to the House of the People, and into

* See section *Parliamentary Developments* (1968-1969), p. 16.

** See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 10.

150 for election to the House of Nations. Vote is by simple plurality, in one round.

By-elections are held to fill a seat of any Deputy which becomes vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The election date was announced on September 17, 1971. As no legislative elections had taken place in the country since 1964, 1,818,000 people voted for the first time.

Besides those for the Federal Assembly, elections were also held for the 2 national councils, 12 regional councils, 120 district councils, and 10,500 municipal councils — in other words for a total of 200,000 public officials. All candidates appeared on a single list compiled by the National Front, a coalition of the following political parties: Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (245 candidates for both Houses), Czechoslovak Socialist Party (20 candidates), Czechoslovak People's Party (16 candidates), Slovak Reconstruction Party (4 candidates), Slovak Freedom Party (4 candidates) and Non-Party (61 candidates with no official political party affiliation).

Following a campaign without notable incident, all National Front candidates were elected. A list naming these — $\frac{3}{4}$ of whom were elected for the first time — was thereupon published.

Mr. Lubomir Strongal, outgoing Prime Minister, formed a new Cabinet on December 8, 1971.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Federal Assembly

Number of registered voters	10,253,976
Voters	10,197,234 (99.45 %)

Political Group	Votes obtained	Number of Seats in the Federal Assembly
National Front	10,153,572 (for candidates to the House of the People)	200 (House of the People)
National Front	10,144,464 (for candidates to the House of Nations)	150 (House of Nations)
		350

2. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Professional Category*

State, party and public officers	114
Workers	96
Farmers and members of agricultural co-operatives.	51
Economists and technicians	36
Intellectuals	32
Members of the armed forces	11
Others	10
	350

3. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex*

Men	260
Women	90
	350

4. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Age Group*

Under 35	48
35-50	210
50-60	73
Over 60	19
	350

DENMARK

Date of Elections: September 21, 1971 (October 5, 1971 in Faeroe Islands)

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the *Folketing*, which was dissolved 4 months before the expiration of its term.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Danish Parliament, the *Folketing*, is comprised of 179 members, 2 of whom are elected in the Faeroe Islands and 2 in Greenland. It normally has a 4-year term.

Electoral System

The right to vote at a *Folketing* election is held by every Danish subject of at least 21 years of age who is permanently domiciled in the Kingdom of Denmark, provided that he has not been declared incapable of conducting his own affairs. (A referendum which was combined with the elections lowered the age limit to 20 years *.)

Electoral lists are revised continuously. Voting is not compulsory.

Any person who is entitled to vote at legislative elections shall be eligible for membership of the *Folketing*, unless he has been convicted of an act which "in the eyes of the public makes him unworthy of being a member of the *Folketing*."

Parties already represented in Parliament qualify to contest an election by notifying the Ministry of the Interior; non-represented parties, by at least 10,000 electors giving the same notice. Any elector can do so provided his nomination is supported by at least 25 and at most 50 electors. The candidate must indicate the party he supports, or whether he is independent of parties. The parties can refuse to recognize candidates, who are then regarded as independents.

No candidate may seek nomination in more than one electoral area or for more than one party, or declare himself independent and at the same time support a party.

In metropolitan Denmark, the electoral procedure applies an ingenious method of ensuring the proportional representation of political forces as faithfully as possible. Its main characteristics are as follows:

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, page 10.

1. Metropolitan Denmark is divided into 3 zones (Great Copenhagen, Jutland, Islands), split into 23 electoral areas which are further subdivided into 124 constituencies.

2. The parties can choose 3 ways of designating their candidates: a single candidate per constituency; several candidates per constituency with indication of an order of priority; or a single candidate per constituency with indication of an order of priority by constituency. In this way, candidates receive both personal and party votes. The elector can vote either for a candidate or for a party, but he can impose his own order of preference on the latter. He can vote for any one of the candidates or parties in his area and is therefore not bound by the lists drawn up for his particular constituency.

3. To ensure that Parliament reflects as closely as possible the composition of the electorate, the seats are filled in 2 stages.

First, 135 Deputies are elected in the light of the results obtained by each party in the electoral area, the seats being distributed according to the Saint-Laguë method.

Forty supplementary seats are then distributed in each of the 3 zones among the parties which

- (a) have won at least one area seat, or
- (b) have obtained, in 2 out of 3 zones, at least as many votes as the average number of valid votes cast in the zone per area seat, or
- (c) have obtained at least 2 % of all valid votes in the country as a whole.

A fictitious distribution of the 175 seats then takes place among the parties fulfilling the above conditions, in proportion to the total number of votes cast for these parties in all parts of the country.

From the number of seats thus allotted to each party, the number of area seats already obtained in each case is deducted. The figure thus arrived at is the number of supplementary seats due to the party.

The "next-in-line" of the list from which the holder had been elected fills any seat which becomes vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The early dissolution of Parliament announced by Prime Minister Hilmar Baunsgaard, in early September, was prompted by several factors—the unpopularity of winter elections, the need for a clear public pronouncement on joining the Common Market, and the undesirability of the election interrupting the normal *Folketing* session all weighing heavily.

Before the general election, the Government was formed by the coalition of 3 parties (Conservatives, Radical Liberals (*Radikale Venstre*) and Liberal Democrats (*Venstre*)), which held 73 seats against the 62 seats of the Social Democrats. In addition to these 4 parties, 6 more presented candidates in the 1971 general elections but only one of them obtained seats. The number of candidates was some 900.

The campaign lasted less than one month. The primary issues — the economic situation and Denmark's application to join the Common Market — played to no clear advantage of either side. While the governmental coalition was hurt by the balance-of-payments deficit and public hostility toward measures of austerity introduced therefore since 1969, the Social Democrats were internally divided on the Market question, the Socialist People's Party being alone in opposing entry outright. The Christian People's Party, founded in 1970, arguably also played a part in weakening the outgoing coalition; with its platform opposing relaxation of pornography and abortion legislation, it attracted voters from the right and the center.

Mr. Jens Otto Krag, leader of the Social Democrats, took office as Prime Minister on October 11, 1971.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Folketing*

Number of registered voters	3,332,034
Voters	2,904,096 (87.2 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	20,196
Valid votes	2,883,900

Political Group	Votes Obtained	%	Area	Number of Seats in the Folketing Supplementary	Total
Social Democrats	1,074,777	37.3	58	12	70 (+8)
Conservatives	481,335	16.7	24	7	31 (-6)
Liberal Democrats	450,904	15.6	24	6	30 (-4)
Radical Democrats	413,620	14.3	20	7	27 (=)
Socialist People's Party	262,756	9.1	9	8	17 (+6)
Christian People's Party	57,072	1.9	—	—	—
Single Tax Party	50,231	1.7	—	—	—
Left Socialists	45,979	1.6	—	—	— (-4)
Communists	39,564	1.4	—	—	—
Schleswig Party (German Minority Party)	6,743	0.3	—	—	—
			135	40	175 *

* Number of seats for Metropolitan Denmark only.

2. *Distribution of Deputies according to Professional Category*

Private administrative and executive positions . . .	67
Civil servants	29
Teachers	16
Commercial Farmers	17
Liberal professions	13
Industrialists	11
Housewives	5
Others	8
	179

3. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

Men	149
Women	30
	179

4. *Distribution of Deputies according to Age Group*

20-30	6
30-40	28
40-50	52
50-60	63
60-70	28
Over 70	2
	179

EL SALVADOR

Date of Elections: March 12, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the Legislative Assembly on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of El Salvador, the Legislative Assembly, consists of 52 members elected for 2 years.

Electoral System

All Salvadorian citizens over 18 years of age have the right to vote provided they enjoy their civil and political rights, are of sound mind and are registered on the electoral list of their municipality.

Electoral lists are revised before the election and are used to compile the Central Register of electors. Voting is a right and a moral duty, but is compulsory in only a few departments.

To stand for election to the Legislative Assembly, a candidate must be Salvadorian by birth, aged at least 25, have been in possession of his political rights during the 5 years preceding the elections, and have been resident or born in the department in which he submits his candidature. In addition, he must be educated and of sound morals.

Elections to the Legislative Assembly are held in each of El Salvador's 14 departments by closed-list system with proportional distribution of seats.

The electoral quotient is obtained in each department by dividing the total valid votes by the number of seats to be filled. Seats that remain unfilled after the first allotment are allocated to the lists with the highest number of left-over votes.

Statistics

1. *Distribution of Seats in the Legislative Assembly*

Political Group	Distribution of Seats in the Legislative Assembly
Party of National Conciliation (PCN)	38 (+2)
National Opposition Union (UNO).	7 (—9)
Salvadorian Popular Party (PPS)	6 (+6)
United Democratic Independent Front (FUDI)	1 (+1)
	52

FIJI

Date of Elections: April 15 to 29, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held for all the members of the House of Representatives, organized anew pursuant to the Constitution of 1970. This was the first general election since independence in 1970.

Characteristics of Parliament

The bicameral Fijian Parliament is composed of:

— The Senate, consisting of 22 members appointed by the Governor-General, of whom:

- 8 nominated by the Council of Chiefs;
- 7 nominated by the Prime Minister;
- 6 nominated by the Leader of the Opposition;
- 1 nominated by the Council of the Island of Rotuma.

Appointments are for 6 years, 11 members retiring every 3 years.

— The House of Representatives, consisting of 52 members elected for 5 years on the following basis:

- *Fijian*: 12 members elected by voters on the Fijian Communal Roll; 10 members elected by voters on the National Roll.
- *Indian*: 12 members elected by voters on the Indian Communal Roll; 10 members elected by voters on the National Roll.
- *General* (persons neither Fijian, other Pacific Islanders, nor Indians; e.g., Europeans): 3 members elected by voters on the General Communal Roll; 5 members elected on the National Roll.

The "National Roll" consists of all registered electors on the 3 Communal Rolls.

Electoral System

Any person may be registered as voter on a Roll if he is a citizen of Fiji and has attained the age of 21 years. The insane, those owing allegiance to a State outside the British Commonwealth, those under sentence of death or imprisonment for a term exceeding 12 months, and those guilty of offenses connected with elections may not be registered.

Rolls are revised annually. Voting is not compulsory.

Any voter shall be qualified to be elected as member of the House of Representatives. Disqualified, however, is one who is an undischarged bankrupt;

who holds a public office; who has in the preceding 3 years held certain government posts; who is interested in certain government contracts; or who holds any office connected with an election to the House. Candidatures must be submitted on a nomination paper signed by 6 to 8 voters of the subject constituency, and accompanied by a deposit of \$100.

To be qualified to be appointed to the Senate one must be registered as a voter on one of the 3 Communal Rolls. The same disqualifications apply as for candidates to the House, except that of interest in government contracts. A prospective Senator further cannot also be a Representative.

Fiji is divided into 12 constituencies, each returning one communally-elected Fijian member; into 12 constituencies each returning one communally-elected Indian member; and into 3 constituencies each returning 1 communally-elected General member. For the National Roll elections there are 10 constituencies, each returning a Fijian and an Indian member, and these are combined into 5 pairs for the purpose of each returning 1 General member. Constituency boundaries are delimited by a Constituency Boundaries Commission.

Each voter is entitled to cast 4 votes: 1 in respect of the Communal Roll constituency in which he is registered, and 3 in respect of the National Roll constituencies in which he is registered.

A by-election is held to fill a seat which becomes vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The Alliance Party, led by the Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, was returned to power in Fiji's first general election since independence. It gained a majority of 14 in the 52-seat House of Representatives, as opposed to its majority of 18 in the old 36-seat House.

In Indian Communal constituencies, the National Federation Party polled about three-quarters of the valid votes cast, but the Alliance share of just over 24 % was slightly higher than in the general election of 1966 and by-elections of 1968. In Fijian Communal constituencies, National Federation Party candidates polled a total of 1,545 votes, about 2 % of the valid votes cast.

Candidates independent of the 2 main parties took a beating. Thirty-two of them contested the election, not one was elected and 13 lost their deposits.

The Prime Minister expressed gratitude to the Opposition for its part in making the election a peaceful one, and hailed the results as a triumph for the Alliance policy of multi-racial harmony.

The next session of Parliament was to begin on May 12, with one of the first tasks of the House of Representatives to elect a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker. Under the Constitution both must be members of the House.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the House of Representatives*

Number of registered voters	205,002
Votes cast	689,673 (99.3 %) *
Blank or void ballot papers	14,201
Valid votes	675,472

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in the House of Representatives
Alliance Party	52	388,550	57.5	33
National Federation Party	40	241,866	35.9	19
Independents	26	43,521	6.4	—
Fijian Independent Party	6	1,535	0.2	—
				52

2. *Distribution of Representatives according to Professional Category*

Lawyers	10
Politicians	10
Farmers	8
Ministers	4
Teachers	3
Retired civil servants	3
Company directors	2
Trade Union secretaries	2
Engineer	1
Others	9
	52

3. *Distribution of Representatives according to Sex*

Men	50
Women	2
	52

* Voters were issued 4 ballot papers each, except in 2 constituencies where candidates were unopposed, in which case 3 ballot papers each.

FINLAND

Date of Elections: January 2 and 3, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of Parliament upon its premature dissolution by the President of the Republic, on October 29, 1971. The previous elections had been held in March 1970.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Finnish Parliament, the *Eduskunta*, is comprised of 200 Deputies elected for 4 years.

Electoral System

Finnish citizens of either sex who have attained the age of 20 before the year in which the elections take place are entitled to vote, with the exception of those under guardianship, those who have been deprived by judicial decree of their right to vote or of their civil rights, those who have been convicted of vagrancy or certain irregularities connected with elections, and naturalized citizens whose naturalization is of less than 3 years' standing. *

Voting is not compulsory and the electoral lists are revised annually.

Every member of the electorate may be elected, except those who are on active military service. Each candidature must be presented by at least 30 citizens with the right to vote.

Finland is divided into 15 constituencies.

In 14 of them, Deputies are elected by party-list system with preferential vote; the Province of Åland, which is very small, elects a single Deputy by simple plurality of vote.

Each elector votes by writing the number allotted to the candidate of his choice in the printed circle in the centre of the ballot paper.

The number of votes won by each list is determined by adding up the votes obtained by its candidates. The seats to be filled are then distributed proportionally among the lists according to the d'Hondt system.

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 10.

For the distribution of seats within each list, candidates are classed according to the number of votes they have won. The leading candidate is deemed to have received a number of votes equivalent to the total number of votes polled by the list, the second candidate is given a comparison number equivalent to half the number of votes cast for the list, the third candidate a comparison number equivalent to one-third of this number of votes, etc. A candidate standing for more than one constituency is declared elected from the constituency where this comparison number is greatest. In the others, he is replaced by the "next-in-line" on the same list, who is also to replace him in the event of a vacancy in Parliament between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

As a result of a dispute between the Social Democrats and the Centre Party on the question of agricultural subsidies, the 4-party coalition Cabinet, from which the Communists had been excluded on March 26, 1971, resigned, and the Parliament was dissolved, on October 29, 1971; a caretaker Government was appointed the same day, and President Kekkonen announced that general elections would be held on January 2 and 3, 1972.

The election campaign — generally calm — dealt principally with the country's economic policy as a whole, as well as the agricultural question. Nine parties and a total of 1295 candidates were in the running.

The elections culminated in a slight swing to the left. The governmental coalition (Social Democrats, Centre, Liberal and Swedish People's Party) obtained 108 seats, as against the 112 it held before. In the ranks of the new Parliament were 39 members elected for the first time and 144 from cities and urban areas. The only gainer among the non-socialist parties was the Christian League, which increased the number of its seats by 3.

A Social Democratic minority Government was sworn in on February 23, 1972.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Parliament*

Number of registered voters	3,178,011
Voters	2,587,060 (81 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	9,111
Valid votes	2,577,949

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in Parliament
Social Democratic Party . . .	199	664,724	25.8	55 (+3)
National Coalition Party (Con- servative)	199	453,434	17.6	34 (—3)
Democratic League of the People of Finland (Communist) . . .	186	438,757	17.0	37 (+1)
Centre Party (ex-Agrarians) . .	171	423,039	16.5	35 (—1)
Finnish Rural Party	170	236,206	9.2	18 (=)
Liberal Party	153	132,955	5.1	7 (—1)
Social Democratic Union of Workers and Small Farmers .	92	25,527	1.0	—
Christian League	73	65,228	2.6	4 (+3)
Swedish People's Party	50	135,596	5.1	10 (—2)
Others	2	2,483	0.1	—
				200

2. Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Professional Category

Farmers	41
Managers	31
Party officials	29
Teachers	19
Workers	13
Municipal officials	11
Journalists	9
Lawyers	8
Doctors, surgeons	8
University professors	7
Engineers	5
Clergymen	5
Nurses	4
Students	2
Others	8
	200

3. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex*

Men	157
Women	43
	200

4. *Average Age:* 46.3 years

GAMBIA

Date of Elections: March 28 and 29, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the House of Representatives on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of Gambia, the House of Representatives, consists of:

- 32 "elected members";
- 4 "Chiefs' representative members";
- 3 "nominated members" appointed by the President of the Republic;
- the Speaker, elected by the House, who may either have been a member of it or not, but may not be a Minister;
- the Attorney-General, who sits *ex-officio*.

Only the elected members, Chiefs' representative members, and the Attorney-General have the right to vote.

All members of the House have 5-year terms of office.

Electoral System

Requirements applicable to electors:

— Of elected members: To qualify, any citizen of Gambia of either sex must be registered on the electoral rolls, must be at least 21 years of age, and must be a resident for at least 6 months of the constituency in which he is registered. Any person under allegiance to a foreign State, insane, or serving a sentence of imprisonment is not qualified, as are Head Chiefs.

— Of Chiefs' representative members: These are elected exclusively by the Head Chiefs.

The electoral registers of each constituency are revised in each "general registration year", i.e., every fifth year after 1968; a supplemental registration is carried out in each of the intervening years. Voting is not compulsory.

Requirements applicable to candidates:

— As elected members: Any citizen of Gambia who is at least 21 years of age, who can speak English well enough to take an active part in the proceed-

ings of the House and who is qualified as an elector may be a candidate for election as an elected member. Undischarged bankrupts, the insane, those owing allegiance to a foreign State, those under a sentence of death, those serving, or having in the preceding 5 years served a sentence of imprisonment of at least 6 months and those interested in certain government contracts are ineligible. Chiefs' representative members and candidates for election as such members do not qualify for election as elected members.

— As Chiefs' representative members: The same qualifications and disqualifications apply as for elected members, except that candidates for election as Chiefs' representative members need not qualify as electors. Elected members and candidates to be elected members do not qualify for election as Chiefs' representative members.

Gambia is divided into 32 electoral constituencies, the boundaries of which are fixed by a presidential commission. In each of these, a single Deputy is elected by simple plurality of vote.

Chiefs' representative members must be approved unanimously by the Head Chiefs from a list proposed by them; if they are not so approved, they are selected on the basis of simple plurality.

A by-election is held to fill any seat of an elected member or a Chiefs' representative member which becomes vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

During the electoral campaign, the ruling People's Progressive Party (PPP), contesting all 32 seats, emphasized its role as the party of National Unity, which led the people out of colonial bondage and gave them 10 years of stable government and economic progress. The United Party (UP), contesting 14 seats, and the 19 independent candidates questioned some of the policies of the ruling party; other policies it approved, but accused the Government of failing to implement. The relatively youthful independent candidates focused, among other things, on the question of closer ties with Senegal and the unemployment problem in Bathurst, the capital.

Following the PPP's handsome victory in the elections, President Sir Dawda Jawara reconstituted his Cabinet on April 6, increasing its membership by one.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections * and Distribution of Seats
in the House of Representatives*

Number of registered voters	136,521
Valid votes	103,851

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats of Elected Members in the House of Representatives
People's Progressive Party (PPP)	32	65,388	63.1	28 (+4)
United Party (UP)	14	17,161	16.4	3 (=)
Independents.	19	21,302	20.5	1 (—4)
				<u>32</u>

* Results in the 25 constituencies where elections actually took place, since in 7 the PPP's candidates were unopposed.

2. *Distribution of Elected Members of the House of Representatives
according to Sex*

Men	32
Women	<u>—</u>
	32

3. *Average Age of Parliamentarians : 35 years (approx.)*

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Date of Elections: November 14, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the People's Chamber who, elected in 1967, had reached the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), the People's Chamber (*Volkskammer*), consists of 500 seats; 434 filled by election by popular vote, and 66, for Representatives of Berlin, elected by the Municipal Council of East Berlin. The latter Deputies have no right to vote.

Electoral System

Every citizen of the GDR who is 18 years of age on election day has the right to vote. Persons under tutelage, guardianship or wardship, the insane and persons who have been deprived of their civil rights by court decision are deprived of their right to vote. Furthermore, the right of persons who, on the ground of a court sentence are imprisoned, as well as persons who are detained, is suspended.

Electoral lists are drawn up within the constituencies; any elector may request a revision if he thinks a list wrong or incomplete. Voting is not compulsory.

Every citizen can be elected to the People's Chamber if he has reached the age of 21 on election day, provided he is not disqualified as an elector.

The Council of State (*Staatsrat*) fixes, with due regard to the population of each constituency, the number of Deputies elected in the 67 constituencies. In each, those Deputies gaining the most votes, in the course of one ballot, are elected.

In case of a vacancy occurring between general elections, the seat is filled, by decision of the Chamber, by one of the substitutes on the "reserve list", which is made up of the unsuccessful candidates to the elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

On June 24, 1971, the People's Chamber fixed November 14, 1971, as the election day.

All candidates appeared on a single list submitted by the National Front of Democratic Germany. The latter, led by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, embraces the various political parties and mass organizations in the country.

As in the 1967 elections, voters had a choice among a number of candidates — 584, including 199 women — appearing on the official lists to contest the 334 seats. All candidates who received more than 5 % of the valid votes were considered to have been elected, those in excess of the number of seats available being placed on a reserve list in order of votes received.

Sixty-six Representatives were also elected by the Municipal Council of East Berlin.

The newly-elected *Volkskammer* met on November 26 to nominate the members of the Council of State and on November 29, 1971, to approve the new Council of Ministers.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the People's Chamber*

Number of registered voters	11,401,090
Voters	11,227,535 (98.5 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	3,196
Valid votes	11,224,339
<i>Votes in favor of the National Front of Democratic Germany</i>	<i>11,207,388 (99.5 %)</i>

Political Group	Number of Deputies	Number of Representatives from Berlin	Total
Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED)	110	17	127
Liberal Democratic Party of Germany (LDPD)	45	7	52
Christian Democratic Union (CDU) . . .	45	7	52
National Democratic Party of Germany (NDPD)	45	7	52
Democratic Peasants' Party of Germany (DBD)	45	7	52
Free German Trade Unions (FDGB) . .	60	8	68
Free German Youth (FDJ)	35	5	40
Democratic League of the Women of Germany (DFD)	30	5	35
Democratic Cultural League (DKB) . .	19	3	22
	<u>434</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>500</u>

2. *Distribution of Deputies according to Professional Category*

Industrial workers	219
Clerks	102
Intellectuals	101
Agricultural workers	77
Other	1
	<u>500</u>

3. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

Men	341
Women	159
	<u>500</u>

4. *Distribution of Deputies according to Age Group*

21-25	31
26-30	30
31-40	102
41-50	214
51-60	80
Over 60	43
	<u>500</u>

INDONESIA

Date of Elections: July 3, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to elect 360 of the 460 members of the House of Representatives. These were the first general legislative elections since 1955, and the second in the history of the Republic.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Indonesian Parliament, the House of Representatives (*Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat*), consists of 460 members. Of these 360 are popularly elected and 100 — members of the armed forces and the government — are appointed by the President of the Republic.

All Representatives have 5-year terms of office.

Electoral System

All Indonesian citizens, male or female, over 17 years of age have the right to vote, except members of the military, certain classes of criminals, former members of the Communist Party (PKI) and its mass organizations, and those allegedly involved in the 1965 coup attempt.

Electoral lists are revised at least 105 days prior to election day. Voting is not compulsory.

Any citizen of Indonesia who is at least 21 years of age, whose native tongue is Indonesian and who knows how to read and write, who enjoys full civil rights, who respects the *Pantjasila* and who is registered on the electoral list may stand for election to the House of Representatives. In addition, all candidates must belong to a political organization. Members of the military, the insane, those convicted by juridical decree and those allegedly involved in the 1965 coup attempt are ineligible.

Voting in the 26 constituencies is by the party-list system with proportional distribution of seats; voters make their choice by piercing party symbols on a ballot paper identical throughout Indonesia. Thereafter the party winning the seats itself selects the Representatives to fill the same.

A successor is chosen by the former Representative's party to fill a seat which becomes vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The first general elections in 16 years were contested by 9 political parties (compared with 28 in 1955) and the Government-sponsored "Joint Secretariat of Functional Groups" (*Sekber Golkar*).

The *Sekber Golkar* is not officially regarded as a political party, as civil servants, who play a major part in it, are forbidden by law to join any party. It is a federation of 260 trade, professional, and regional organizations, ranging from civil servants, teachers, journalists and students to village chiefs, farmers and fishermen. These organizations were formed under President Sukarno's regime to counterbalance the growing influence of the Communist Party, especially among Government employees, and were brought under Governmental control in 1968 to provide President Suharto's military regime with a civilian basis.

All candidates had to be approved beforehand by an election committee nominated by the Government. Of 3,840 names submitted, 735 were eliminated from the provisional list approved on March 10, 1971, and 83 more from the final list adopted on April 20. The number of *Golkar* candidates was reduced by only 11, from 549 to 538, leaving it with more candidates than any other party.

The election campaign officially opened on April 29 and continued until June 28, giving a week's respite before the elections themselves. The political parties were forbidden to criticize the Government in their propaganda, to discuss religious questions, to spread the ideas of the late President Sukarno or to praise his memory, and the texts of all party broadcasts had to be submitted 10 days beforehand for official approval. The primary issue discussed by *Golkar* was that of economic development for the country.

Voting took place on July 3 without serious incident; the only disturbance occurred near Djakarta, where four polling booths were set on fire. About 94 % of the electorate cast their ballots. The results showed an overwhelming victory for the *Golkar*, which won 236 of the 360 elective seats.

On October 3, 1971, the outgoing Parliament dissolved itself to make way for the newly-elected body, sworn in on October 28.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the House of Representatives

Number of registered voters	58,179,245
Voters	54,699,509 (94 %)

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in the House of Representatives
Joint Secretariat of Functional Groups (<i>Sekretariat Bersama Golongan Karya</i> — " <i>Sekber Golkar</i> ")	538	34,348,673	62.8	236
Moslem Scholars' Party (<i>Nahdatul Ulama</i>)	397	10,213,650	18.7	58
Indonesian Moslem Party (<i>Parmusi</i>)	327	2,930,746	5.4	24
Indonesian Nationalist Party (PNI)	506	3,793,266	6.9	20
Moslem Political Federation (PSII)	309	1,308,237	2.4	10
Protestant Christian Party (<i>Parkindo</i>)	*	733,359	1.3	7
Catholic Party (<i>Partai Katolik</i>)	*	603,740	1.1	3
Moslem Party (<i>Perti</i>)	*	381,309	0.7	2
Movement for the Defense of Indonesian Independence (IPKI)	295	338,403	0.6	—
Party of the Masses (<i>Partai Murba</i>)	*	48,126	0.1	—
				360 **

* Exact number of candidates unavailable; estimated at between 100 and 200.

** 100 additional Representatives are appointed by the President of the Republic.

2. Distribution of Representatives according to Sex

Men	427
Women	33
	460

IRAN

Date of Elections: July 9, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the Chamber of Deputies and one-half of the Senate on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The bicameral Iranian Parliament consists of:

- The Chamber of Deputies (*Majlis*), composed henceforth of 268 Deputies *;
- The Senate, composed of
 - 30 elected members (15 from Teheran and 15 from the provinces);
 - 30 members appointed by the Shahanshah (15 from Teheran and 15 from the provinces).

Both Senators and Deputies serve for a 4-year term.

Electoral System

Electoral requisites:

Majlis: Iranian subjects of either sex at least 20 years of age who are residents of, or have lived at least 6 months in their constituency, are entitled to vote. Insane persons and those placed under guardianship, those officially converted from Islam, fraudulent bankrupts, beggars and those who earn their living through indecent occupations, criminals and persons convicted of offenses punishable under Islamic Law, persons who have been convicted of political crimes against the Government and the independence of the State, and regular members of the armed forces are ineligible to vote.

Senate: Iranian subjects of either sex at least 25 years of age who have been residents of their constituency at least 6 months are entitled to vote. Those legally placed under the care of an executor or administrator and those sentenced for crimes and/or misdemeanors or deprivation of civil rights who have not been legally rehabilitated are barred from voting, as are regulars of the armed forces and the gendarmery.

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 12.

Electoral lists are revised before each election. Voting is not compulsory.

Majlis: All Iranian subjects of either sex between the ages of 30 and 70 who are of Muslim religion (except those representing minority religions, i.e., Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Judaism), who are able to read and write Persian, who have a reputation for honesty and trustworthiness and who are well known in their constituency, may be candidates. The following persons cannot be elected: members of the Shah's immediate family; Governors-General, Governors and their deputies, court presidents, public prosecutors, Attorneys-General and tax officials, all within their own jurisdiction; fraudulent bankrupts; criminals and other convicts liable to punishment according to Islamic Law; public sinners, heretics and those converted from Islam by religious court; persons convicted of political crimes against the Government and the independence of the State. Also ineligible are chiefs of government departments in their jurisdiction as well as Ministers and their deputies, although other government officials are eligible, provided they resign from their government posts after their election and for the period they serve as Deputies.

Senate: Candidates of either sex must be Iranian subjects not under 40 years of age; furthermore, they must be Muslims (except those representing minority religions, i.e., Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Judaism), must be either from their own constituency or well known to the residents of the constituency, and must have a reputation for honesty, trustworthiness and a high degree of familiarity in the affairs of the State.

Persons having these qualifications should, in addition, belong to one of the following categories: religious leaders who have been elected to the *Majlis* at least 3 times; those who have acquired the rank of Minister, Ambassador, Governor-General, Chief Justice, Attorney-General or Section-Chief at the State court and/or those who have at least 20 years of judicial service; retired high-ranking military officers (Brigadier-General, Major-General, Lieutenant-General); those who have acquired the rank of professor with at least 10 years of service; those who have had at least 20 years of civil service and have acquired the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary or an acting and/or under-secretary in the Ministry; landlords and merchants who pay direct taxes of at least 500,000 Rials annually; and eminent lawyers who have served for 15 years as attorneys-at-law and who have a doctorate at-law or have 20 years of judicial or legal service.

Government officials within their jurisdiction, persons sentenced for crimes or misdemeanors or deprivation of civil rights even though they have been rehabilitated, and persons placed under guardianship are ineligible.

The same requirements, except the disqualification for government officials within the area of their official jurisdiction, are applicable to Senators appointed by the Shah.

Deputies are elected by simple plurality in constituencies where only one Deputy is elected; in others — i.e., where more than one Deputy is elected — the several candidates receiving the most votes are elected. As for Senators, electors may vote for as many as are allotted to that particular province.

A by-election is held to fill a seat which falls vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The ruling *Iran Novin* (New Iran) party, headed by Prime Minister Hoveyda, and the moderate opposition *Mardom* (People's) party participated in the electoral campaign, which ended on July 5, 1971. An imperial decree had fixed July 9 as the date of the general elections.

While both groups supported the Shah's reform program called the "white revolution," the Prime Minister traveled extensively, focusing on local needs and problems and seeking public approval of his program by urging a larger participation by electors.

Elections took place for 268 seats in the *Majlis*, which had been increased from its previous membership of 219 Deputies in view of the growth of the electorate since the last elections, as well as for the Senate. The extreme nationalist pan-Iranian party, which had elected 5 Deputies in 1967, boycotted the elections, claiming that its newspaper had been censored and that the Government had exercised a monopoly over campaign broadcasting on State television and radio.

Once more, the Government gained an overwhelming victory; its 230 seats won in the *Majlis* represented a slight proportional increase on its outgoing strength.

On September 13, 1971, Prime Minister Hoveyda formed a new Cabinet at the Shah's request.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in Parliament*

Number of registered voters	8,000,000 approx.
Voters	2,800,000 (35%) approx.

Political Group	Number of Seats in the <i>Majlis</i>	Number of Seats in the Senate
<i>Iran Novin</i>	230	28
<i>Mardom</i>	37	2
Independents	1	—
	<u>268</u>	<u>30 *</u>

* 30 other Senators are appointed by the Shah.

2. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex*

	Chamber of Deputies	Senate
Men	257	56
Women	11	4
	<u>268</u>	<u>60</u>

ITALY

Date of Elections: May 7, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of Parliament, prematurely dissolved by the President of the Republic on February 28, 1972. This dissolution was 16 months early.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Parliament of Italy is bicameral, composed of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

The Chamber of Deputies consists of 630 Deputies elected for 5 years.

The Senate consists of 315 elected members, former Presidents of the Republic (presently 3) who are members for life and 5 citizens, appointed by the President of the Republic, who have brought honor to the Nation and who are also members for life. The term of office for Senators is 5 years.

Electoral System

All Italian citizens of either sex at least 21 years of age, registered on the annually updated electoral rolls, and in full possession of their civil rights may vote. Said right may not be limited save on account of civil incapacity in consequence of a penal sentence, or in case of moral unworthiness as established by law.

Voting is compulsory; failure to do so is punishable by law.

A candidate to the Chamber of Deputies must be a voter at least 25 years of age. No Deputy may at the same time be a member of the Senate. He may moreover not hold any private or public function subsidised by the Government or a public agency, nor may he be a judge on the Constitutional Court or a member of the Superior Court of the Judiciary (*Consiglio Superiore della Magistratura*).

The list of candidates drafted by political parties must be submitted by the latter to the Ministry of the Interior between the 62nd and 68th day preceding the elections.

For election to the Chamber of Deputies, the country is divided into 32 constituencies. The number of seats allotted to each constituency is proportional to its resident population. In each, Deputies are elected by party-list system with representation determined according to an electoral quotient obtained by

dividing the total number of votes by the number of seats to be filled, plus 2. For the calculation and distribution of the remainder, all the constituencies form a single electoral college.

Electors may express preferential votes by making a mark opposite 3 candidates' names, if there are less than 16 to be elected; or 4, if more than 16. Vote-splitting is prohibited.

Participants in the election of the Senate must be at least 25 years of age; the minimum age for candidates is 40. The office of Senator is incompatible with that of Deputy, and with certain other functions as mentioned in the case of Deputies.

Senators are elected from 20 Regions, as set down in the Constitution. Each Region is accorded a number in proportion to its population, although none has less than 7 except the Val d'Aosta, which has 1.

The number of electoral colleges, in each Region, corresponds to the number of seats to be filled. If, within a college, a candidate obtains at least 65 % of the votes cast, he is elected. In other colleges where this percentage is not attained, the results are distributed on Region-wide scale, according to the same system of proportional representation of seats, with qualified electoral quotient, as used for Deputies.

The "next-in-line" of the list from which the holder had been elected fills any seat which becomes vacant, in either the Chamber of Deputies or the Senate, between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

Although the official length of the election campaign is 70 days from the deadline for presenting candidatures — in this case March 23, 1972 — the campaign in fact started upon the resignation of the outgoing Government, and was marked by lively competition between the major parties.

For the Chamber of Deputies there were 6,846 candidates appearing on 344 lists presented by 21 parties or political groups. There were, in turn, 1,678 candidates to the Senate.

The 4 parties of the outgoing centre-left coalition — Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, Socialists, and Republicans — no longer presented joint lists or a common programme, but ran separately. The Christian Democrats, desirous of presenting a moderate and coherent image, proposed university and secondary-school reforms, employment opportunities to offset unemployment, especially among the youth, and measures which would give new impetus to economic development. The Social Democrats advocated checking price increases and safeguarding the national currency by means of a vigorous social policy. The Socialists were in favour of decentralized teaching, economic plan-

ning and social reforms, while the Republicans stressed production control and across-the-board redistribution of income.

Three right-wing groups also campaigned. These were the Liberals, faithful to the free-enterprise system and to strict management of public affairs, and the neo-Fascist Italian Socialist Movement (MSI) — Monarchists, who submitted joint lists. These two extreme right-wing groups concentrated their efforts in the least developed regions of the South and in Sicily and advocated the return of the corporate state, with extensive socialization of enterprises and worker participation in profits.

As for the extreme left, the Communist Party pushed for the freedom to strike and full employment, reiterating its intention to come to power via legal means. Two smaller groups, the Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity (PSIUP), founded in 1964, and the more recent *Manifesto*, broke off from the Communists and pictured themselves as revolutionary splinter groups.

Paradoxically, little mention was made throughout the campaign of the divorce legislation which in part had precipitated the election.

On the whole, the elections confirmed the stability of the Italian electorate. Although the Communist Party slightly improved its position, the parties of the extreme left were badly defeated, gathering a mere 2.6 % of the votes and electing no Deputy. The extreme right, on the other hand, made real progress, capturing 5.7 % of the votes in 1968 versus 8.7 % in 1972 and doubling its representation in the Chamber of Deputies.

A more centrist coalition Government than the preceding (the Socialists were replaced by the Liberals) was formed on June 26, 1972, under the leadership of the Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Chamber of Deputies*

Number of registered voters	37,039,769
Voters	34,491,197 (93.1 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	1,106,705
Valid votes	33,384,492

Political Group	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in the Chamber of Deputies
Christian Democrats (DC)	12,943,675	38.8	267 (+1)
Communist Party (PCI)	9,085,927	27.2	179 (+2)
Socialist Party (PSI)	3,209,503	9.6	61 (—30)
Italian Social Movement (MSI) and Dem- ocratic Party of Monarchical Unity (PDIUM)	2,894,789	8.7	56 (+26)
Social Democrat Party (PSDI)	1,716,197	5.1	29 (+29)
Liberal Party (PLI)	1,300,074	3.9	21 (—10)
Republican Party (PRI)	953,681	2.9	14 (+5)
Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity (PSIUP)	648,368	1.9	— (—23)
<i>Manifesto</i>	223,789	0.7	— (=)
People's Party of South Tyrol	153,759	0.5	3 (=)
Others	228,935	0.7	—
			630

2. Distribution of Seats in the Senate

Political Group	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in the Senate
Christian Democrats	11,457,766	38.1	135 (=)
Communist Party	8,565,820	28.4	94 (—7)
Italian Socialist Party	3,224,778	10.7	33 (—3)
Italian Social Movement and Democratic Party of Monarchical Unity	2,763,719	9.2	26 (+13)
Social Democrat Party	1,646,780	5.5	11 (+1)
Liberal Party	1,317,909	4.4	8 (—8)
Republican Party	917,392	3.0	5 (+3)
People's Party of South Tyrol	113,392	0.4	2 (=)
Others	33,326	0.1	1 (+1)
			315

3. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Professional Category*

	Chamber of Deputies	Senate
Lawyers	161	90
Teachers	100	64
Journalists, writers, public relations officers . .	72	30
Salaried clerks	57	23
Trade unionists	27	14
Civil servants	27	9
Doctors	27	13
Industrialists	26	12
Economists	24	11
Workers	23	4
Engineers, architects	19	8
Farmers	11	4
Party officials	6	15
Surveyors	4	3
Members of the armed forces	3	—
Others	27	22
No indication of profession	15	—
	629	322

4. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex*

	Chamber of Deputies	Senate
Men	607	317
Women	22	5
	629	322

JAMAICA

Date of Elections: February 29, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the House of Representatives on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Jamaican Parliament is bicameral.

The Senate consists of 21 Senators appointed by the Governor-General: 13 in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister and 8 in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition.

The House of Representatives consists of 53 members.

Each Parliament lasts for 5 years from the first sitting of the first session.

Electoral System

To be able to vote in the election of members of Parliament, a person must be a citizen of Jamaica resident in Jamaica at the date of registration or must be another Commonwealth citizen at the said date and for 12 months immediately preceding it, must have attained the prescribed age (of 21 years) and must be registered as an elector. Persons under a death sentence or who serve or are under a sentence of imprisonment of or exceeding 6 months, persons convicted of electoral fraud and persons holding certain offices connected with the election itself may not be registered as electors.

Electoral lists are revised before all legislative elections. Voting is not compulsory.

To qualify as Senator or as Representative, a person must be a Commonwealth citizen, must have been ordinarily resident in Jamaica for the 12 months immediately preceding his appointment or his nomination, and must be at least 21 years old. Public officers, judges of the highest courts, members of the defense force (unless excepted) and persons owing allegiance to a foreign State or connected with certain government contracts are ineligible, as are also the insane, the bankrupt, and persons under a death sentence or who serve or are under a sentence of imprisonment of or exceeding 6 months. As far as any candidate for election as Representative is concerned, he is disqualified also if he is a Senator, holds an office connected with the election itself or has been convicted for electoral fraud. The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the

House of Representatives may not be a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary. The same applies to the President and Deputy President of the Senate.

For the purpose of electing Representatives, their number and the boundaries of each constituency are fixed by the House of Representatives. The present number of constituencies is 53.

Representatives are elected in single-member constituencies by simple plurality of vote.

Vacant seats in the House of Representatives are filled by by-election. Vacant seats in the Senate are filled by appointment made by the Governor-General in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister or the Leader of the Opposition, depending on whose advice the seat, before it became vacant, had been filled.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The 1972 elections were essentially a contest between the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP), winner of the 1962 and 1967 elections, and the People's National Party (PNP). The two parties nominated candidates in each of the 53 constituencies. Five of the 111 candidates did not belong to either of the 2 parties, but none of these candidates was elected. One of the elected members defected from the JLP after the elections and became independent.

The JLP, principally supported in rural areas, conducted its campaign on the basis of its record of 10 years in office, during which Jamaica's gross national product, spurred by booms in the country's two principal industries — bauxite and tourism — nearly doubled. The PNP, with a platform slightly further to the left, attacked the high unemployment (20 %-25 %) and rising crime rate; it moreover called for a "restructuring" of the economy, notably, greater local participation in the foreign aluminum companies exploiting Jamaica's chief resource, bauxite.

The campaign was calmer than in 1967, but still marked by disturbances during the counts on election night. The PNP, by taking 37 of the 53 seats in the House of Representatives, won 18 seats previously held by the JLP. Mr. Michael Manley from Kingston, leader of the PNP, was sworn in as Jamaica's new Prime Minister on March 2, 1972.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats
in the House of Representatives*

Valid votes 475,118

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in the House of Representatives
People's National Party . .	53	267,655	56.57	37
Jamaica Labour Party . .	53	204,483	43.22	15
Christian Democratic Party	1	47	.01	—
Independents	4	933	.20	1
				<u>53</u>

2. *Distribution of Representatives according to Sex*

Men 51
Women 2
53

LAOS

Date of Elections: January 3, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the National Assembly on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Laotian Parliament is bicameral. It consists of the National Assembly and the King's Council.

The National Assembly consists of 60 Deputies elected every 5 years by universal suffrage.

The King's Council consists of 12 members: 6 of them are appointed directly by the King, the other 6 are nominated by the National Assembly and appointed by the King.

Electoral System

Any national of Laos, man or woman, who is 18 years of age or more, who resides in the country, and who is not deprived of his (her) civil and political rights qualifies as elector. Voting is not compulsory.

Any candidate for election as Deputy must be a national — of either sex — of Laos, at least 30 years of age, and must be able to read and write. Members of the civil service or of the armed forces must obtain leave without pay from actual service at least one month before the elections if they wish to stand as candidates.

The country is divided into 16 constituencies, each returning one or more Deputies. These are elected by simple plurality, in one round.

A by-election is held to fill a seat which becomes vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The election campaign, which lasted one month, was vigorous but not violent. Devoid of controversial issues, all platforms defended the homeland, the monarchy, the Constitution, and religious ideas. Each candidate concentrated to a large extent on vital local needs.

Since candidates run on an individual basis and rely primarily on local support rather than outwardly supporting the platforms of political organizations, it is difficult to estimate the number of candidates per party. Among the 200 total candidates contesting the 60 seats at stake were some 94 belonging to parties, and 73 to diverse groupings.

Approximately 60 % of the electorate cast their votes. However, the *Neo Lao Hakset* and its *Pathet Lao* military arm rejected Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma's invitation to participate in the elections and called the poll illegal, as they had done in the 1967 elections.

More than two-thirds of the incumbents of the previous National Assembly were defeated. Also losing were many candidates supported by the large and powerful Laotian families which have traditionally played a significant role on the political scene.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections*

Number of registered voters	913,862
Voters	619,271 (60 %)

2. *Distribution of the King's Council according to Professional Category*

Princes (nobles, aristocrats)	2
Former ministers, Mandarins, high dignitaries	10
	12

3. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

Men	58
Women	2
	60

4. *Distribution of Deputies according to Age Group*

30-40	12
40-50	34
50-70	14
	60

LEBANON

Date of Elections: April 16, 23 and 30, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the Chamber of Deputies on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Lebanese Parliament, the Chamber of Deputies, consists of 99 Deputies elected for 4 years. The number of seats for each religious community is fixed by law, and the division among them, according to the 1960 Electoral Law, is as follows:

Sunni Muslims	20
Shi'i Muslims	19
Druses	6
Maronite Christians	30
Greek Catholics	6
Greek Orthodox	11
Protestant	1
Armenian Catholic	1
Armenian Orthodox	4
Other	1
	99

Electoral System

All Lebanese of either sex, aged 21 years and over, and regularly registered on electoral lists are eligible to vote. Persons deprived of their civil rights or their right to hold public offices, persons convicted for ignominious offenses, persons under judicial interdiction, bankrupts, persons under certain graver sentences, members or employees of the armed forces or the police, and persons arrested or placed in mental institutions are not entitled to vote.

The electoral list of each constituency is revised annually. It contains the names of all electors who have, for at least 6 months, had their legal or actual residence in that constituency. Voting is compulsory; those abstaining without justification are, in theory, liable to a light fine but, in practice, rarely required to pay.

All Lebanese at least 25 years of age who enjoy full civil rights and who can read and write are eligible for election to Parliament. Naturalized citizens

must have been naturalized for at least 10 years to be so qualified. Members or employees of the armed forces or the police, certain public officials, or certain other officials assimilated to public officials cannot present their candidature.

A candidate may stand for election in only one constituency. Declarations of candidatures must be presented at least 15 days before the election date and must be accompanied by the sum of 3000 Lebanese pounds. The deposit is refunded if the candidate obtains at least 25 % of the valid votes.

There are 26 constituencies altogether. In each of them citizens vote for lists which take into account the pre-established distribution of seats among the religious communities. A candidate is elected who obtains the simple plurality of valid votes by not only the same confessional group as himself but by all the voters in that constituency. Vote-splitting is allowed, but this is only possible within the same community: e.g., the name of a Maronite candidate can only be replaced by that of a Maronite candidate belonging to another list. Electors may further strike out as many names as they wish from the ballot, ultimately voting for only one candidate. Multi-confessional representation depends on the size of the constituency; the larger it is, the more chance of its encompassing varied confessions.

A by-election, within 60 days, is held to fill a seat which becomes vacant between general elections, unless the vacancy occurs within 6 months before the expiration of the term of Parliament.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The electoral campaign was marked by the heavy participation, for the first time, of the Communist Party — legalized in August 1970 — and other parties of the left. This was especially the case in Tripoli, the second largest city and reputed as the "ideological laboratory of the Arab world". The opposing right-wing groups, as heterogeneous as the left, included coalitions of old families and interest groups. Local issues, to which most Lebanese are more responsive, were once again emphasized, as well as Arab unity versus Israël and the "defense of democratic freedoms".

In contrast to both sides' threats of violence during the campaign, and 4 deaths resulting from embattled partisan groups, the authorities' strict neutrality vis-à-vis the candidates encouraged freedom of political expression. Relative calm pervaded the first election day, which was highlighted by the victory of the 8 candidates of the Phalange-National Liberal-Tachnag parties' coalition list in Beyrouth.

Among the 99 members were 39 elected for the first time, 46 incumbents and 14 former Deputies. The large turnover — an unprecedented 39 % — was

remarkable in that it evidenced the willingness of the religious communities, hitherto a conservative force, to change also.

Of the parties, the Centre group proved the most successful, winning 29 seats versus its former 16, while the left registered more votes than ever before. While the Communists received more than 20,000 votes, although no seats, the *Baath* party (pan-Arab socialist movement) is initially represented in Parliament.

A new Government, headed by Prime Minister Saeb Salam, was formed on May 27, 1972.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Chamber of Deputies

Number of registered voters 1,321,346

Political Group	Number of Seats in the Chamber of Deputies	Number of Seats won in Previous Election	Number of Seats on Eve of Election
National Liberal Party	11	15	11
<i>Tachnag</i>	5	4	4
<i>Kabaeb</i> (Phalangists)	7	9	9
Centre group	29	16	14
— <i>Skaff</i> Bloc	8	4	4
— <i>Salam</i> Bloc	3	2	4
— <i>Frangié</i> Bloc	9	6	—
— <i>El Assaad</i> Bloc	9	4	6
National Struggle Front	8	6	7
Parliamentary Democratic Front			
— <i>Karamé</i>	7	13	27
<i>Arslane</i> Bloc	4	3	3
<i>Hamadé</i> Bloc	6	—	—
National Bloc	4	6	6
Nasserian	1	—	—
<i>Baath</i>	1	—	—
<i>Destour</i>	—	3	3
<i>Najjadé</i>	—	1	1
No affiliation	16	19	14
	<u>99</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>99</u>

2. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

Men	99
Women	—
	99

MAURITANIA

Date of Elections: August 8, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the National Assembly, who had been elected in 1965 for a term of 5 years. This mandate had been extended until September 30, 1971, at the latest, by the Constitutional Law of April 24, 1970.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Mauritanian Parliament, the National Assembly, is unicameral and henceforth consists of 50 Deputies * elected for 5 years.

Electoral System

Any citizen of Mauritania, whether male or female, at least 21 years of age and in possession of civil and political rights may vote in an election provided his or her name is registered on an electoral list. Electors belonging to a nomadic community may vote in the constituency which is nearest to their provisional place of residence at the time of elections, even if they are registered on the electoral list of another constituency. Those convicted for certain offenses, bankrupts before their discharge, those under an interdict, as well as persons who have been deprived by court order of the right to vote or the right to be elected may not be registered on any electoral list for 5 years after their conviction. The voting rights of prisoners, or persons wanted by the police for offenses against the internal or external security of the State, of insane persons, and of persons indicted but refusing to appear in court are suspended.

All electoral lists are revised annually. Voting is not compulsory.

Any citizen of Mauritania, at least 25 years of age, in possession of his civil and political rights and nominated by the Mauritanian People's Party (*Parti du peuple mauritanien*) may be elected as Deputy. However, the following are not eligible: persons declared bankrupt until their discharge, persons convicted for electoral fraud, persons who have been naturalized for less than 5 years, persons wanted by the police for offenses against the internal or external security of the State, and persons whose right to be elected has been taken away by judicial decree.

Only the Mauritanian People's Party may present candidates. The national list of candidates must contain the same number of names as the number of

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 6.

seats to be filled. It is to be deposited with the Ministry of the Interior by the Secretary-General of the Mauritanian People's Party at least 20 days before the date of the elections.

Deputies are elected in 50 single-member constituencies by party-list system, in 1 round, without preferential vote or vote-splitting.

If, because of deaths, resignations, or any other reason, the number of Deputies is reduced by one-fourth, a by-election is held within 6 months to fill the vacant seats. No such by-election may take place during the 12 months preceding any general election.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The campaign for the legislative elections was due to open 15 days before election day; this date had been fixed by decree.

In accordance with the Electoral Law, 50 candidates were put forward by the Mauritanian People's Party and received the overwhelming support of the people on election day.

President Ould Daddah, having been re-elected the same day for a third term, formed a new Cabinet on August 18, 1971.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the National Assembly

Number of registered voters	534,994
Voters	511,414 (95.6 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	7,008
Valid votes	504,406

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in the National Assembly
Mauritanian People's Party . .	50	504,406	98,23	50

2. Distribution of Deputies according to Sex

Men	50
Women	—
	50

NICARAGUA

Date of Elections: February 6, 1972

Reason for Elections

The citizens of Nicaragua were called upon to elect a Constituent Assembly, whose first task would be to draft a new Constitution. The national Congress had decided, on August 21, 1971, to dissolve itself and to rescind the existing Constitution *.

Characteristics of Parliament

The National Constituent Assembly, charged with the task of approving a new Constitution as well as exercising the legislative function, consists of 100 Deputies.

When it has completed its constituent function, this body is to become the national Congress and as such, to hold the legislative power until November 14, 1974. This national Congress is to consist of a 70-member Chamber of Deputies and a 30-member Senate, as well as of formerly-elected Presidents of the Republic.

Electoral System

All Nicaraguan citizens at least 21 years old may vote, regardless of sex. In addition, citizens over 18 are eligible provided they know how to read and write or are married; high school or university graduates are eligible regardless of age or marital status.

Once they reach the age of majority for election purposes, however, all persons are under a moral obligation to register on the electoral lists of their constituency, which are revised every 6 years. Although voting is technically compulsory, enforcement has never been attempted.

Persons convicted of electoral fraud, those deprived of their civil rights, and members of the armed forces on active duty may not vote.

Any native-born Nicaraguan citizen at least 25 years old and in possession of his civil rights is eligible for election to the National Constituent Assembly. There is incompatibility of office as regards membership in the Assembly and the holding of public office or employment paid from governmental or municipal funds. This stipulation, however, does not apply to representatives of Nicaragua abroad in diplomatic, consular, or other capacity, members of social welfare

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 7.

boards, members of scientific or technical commissions, physicians, hospital directors or lawyers in service of the State.

Candidatures presented by political parties must appear on petitions signed by at least 5 % of those electors who voted at the previous election; these must be deposited with the Supreme Tribunal of Elections at least 60 days before the election.

For the election of the Constitutional Assembly, Nicaragua itself was considered a single constituency. In accordance with Article 6 of the decree foreseeing the election of the Constitutional Assembly, Deputies are elected by party-list system, with proportional representation calculated on the basis of a quotient. Minority representation in the Assembly must be at least 40 %.

Substitutes elected at the same time as titular Deputies fill vacancies occurring between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

In March 1971, the 2 principal political parties of Nicaragua — President Somoza Debayle's Liberal Party and the Conservative Party of Dr. Agüero Rocha — made an electoral pact. According to this agreement the 2 — combined in a "National Front" — decided that the stronger of the parties at the elections would obtain 60, and the other 40, of the 100 seats in the Constituent Assembly.

The election campaign was waged amidst apathy as all opposition groups, including dissident Liberals and Conservatives and the Social Christian Party — whose request for official recognition was rejected by the Supreme Tribunal of Elections — supported by part of the Roman Catholic hierarchy, boycotted the elections.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the National Constituent Assembly*

Political Group	Votes obtained	Number of Seats in the Constituent Assembly
Liberal Party	534,171	60
Conservative Party	174,897	40
		100

2. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex*

Men	91
Women	9
	100

POLAND

Date of Elections: March 19, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of Parliament who, on December 22, 1971, had voted for its dissolution 2½ years before its normal expiration, and had also set the date for new elections. The normal expiry date was June 1, 1973.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Polish Parliament, the *Sejm*, is composed of 460 members elected for 4 years.

Electoral System

All citizens of either sex are entitled to vote provided they are at least 18 years old, have not been deprived of their civil rights by court decree and are not mentally deficient. Also entitled are persons permanently resident in Poland with no other nationality, even if their Polish citizenship is not yet established.

For any elector, registration on the electoral lists, which the local People's Council compile at least 38 days before each election, is compulsory. Voting is not compulsory.

Any voter who has reached the age of 21 may stand for election to Parliament. The office of Deputy is not incompatible with any other public or private function.

Candidatures must be submitted by political, professional, co-operative, and social organizations and State authorities at all levels. In each constituency, they are acceptable no later than 35 days preceding elections by the relevant electoral committee. A candidate may only present himself in a single constituency and on a single list.

The country is divided into 80 electoral constituencies. The number of seats to be allocated to each is proportional to its population. Deputies are elected by party-list majority system with preferential vote. A single list — or several, in accordance with the electoral law — is submitted to the electorate. The names of candidates borne on it may exceed the number of seats to be filled

in the constituency by 50 %. The voter may cross out certain names on the list he supports, thereby showing his preference for the other candidates. However, if there are more names left than seats to be filled in the constituency, the vote is considered as going to the candidates who are placed highest on the list.

The candidates with most votes are considered elected if they receive an absolute majority of the valid votes.

Upon recommendation of the former holder's political party, Parliament may decide to have the " next-in-line " of the same list fill a seat which becomes vacant between general elections, on condition that this former titular had won an absolute majority of the valid votes. If Parliament decides against this, but at least one-third of the seats attributed to the relevant constituency are vacant and the legislature has at least another 6 months to run, then a by-election is held.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

In accordance with the electoral law, the campaign began 60 days before elections. The National Unity Front, which represents several diverse groups — the United Workers' Party, the United Peasant Party, the Democratic Party, non-Party candidates and 2 Catholic groups, " Znak " and " Pax " — presented 625 candidates for the 460 seats; only 180 of them were members of the outgoing Parliament.

The main themes in the electoral campaign bore on a higher standard of living and economic reforms through more social planning.

All the candidates heading lists were elected. The new Parliament thereupon chose a new Government on March 29; several changes were noticeable within the Executive. The make-up of the Council of State (a collegiate body fulfilling the functions of Head of State) was substantially altered: only 7 of its 17 members were re-elected. The former Minister of Education, M. H. Tablonski, replaced M. J. Cyrankiewicz as President of the Council.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the Sjem*

Number of registered voters	22,313,851	
Voters	21,854,481	(97.94 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	5,084	
Valid votes	21,849,397	
<i>Votes in favor of the National Unity Front</i>	<i>21,746,242</i>	

Political Group	Number of Seats in the <i>Sjem</i>
United Workers' Party	255 (=)
United Peasant Party	117 (=)
Democratic Party	39 (=)
No affiliation	37 (+2)
Catholic Groups (Pax — Znak)	12 (—2)
	<u>460</u>

2. *Distribution of Deputies According to Sex*

Men	387
Women	<u>73</u>
	460

3. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Age Group*

Under 25	1
26-30	10
31-40	76
41-50	209
51-60	128
61-70	33
Over 70	<u>3</u>
	460

REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM

Date of Elections: August 29, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the House of Representatives on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Parliament of the Republic of Viet-Nam is bicameral. It consists of:
— the House of Representatives, composed henceforth of 159 members * elected for 4 years. Sixteen of these seats are set aside for representatives of ethnic minority groups:

— the Senate, composed of 60 members elected for 6 years and renewable by halves every 3 years.

Electoral System

All citizens of Viet-Nameese nationality who are at least 18 years old are permitted to vote. They must also appear on the electoral register, be in possession of the required voter's card, be mentally sane and not have lost their civic rights. Members of the armed forces likewise participate in the poll wherever they happen to be on election day. Voting is not compulsory.

Candidates to the House of Representatives must be at least 25 years old and must have kept their Viet-Nameese nationality since birth or acquired it at least 7 years before, or recovered it 5 years before the date of the elections. They must also have full rights of citizenship, have their military draft status in order, and be resident in Viet-Nam for at least 3 years, except in the case of persons on missions abroad and political exiles. Apart from the classic causes of ineligibility, there is also the fact of having given direct or indirect aid to Communists, pro-communist neutrals or to activities profitable to Communists. Furthermore, the electoral law entitles citizens who have been sentenced for political reasons and have thus been barred from standing as candidates to request the re-examination of their case by a special committee which must give its verdict within a week.

All these provisions apply equally to senatorial candidates who must, moreover, be at least 30 years of age.

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 8.

Both Representatives and Senators are elected by direct suffrage. While the former run as individuals and are elected by simple plurality from 53 constituencies no larger than provinces, Senators are elected on a nationwide basis from lists of 10 candidates, the 3 lists with the highest vote being elected.

If for any reason a vacancy occurs in the House of Representatives more than 2 years prior to the end of the term, an election shall be held within 3 months to choose a replacement. If a vacancy occurs in the Senate the election of the replacement shall be held concurrently with the next regular election of one-half of the Senate.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

Nominations for the 159 House seats at stake were submitted by 1404 candidates. After a number were rejected as disqualified and others had withdrawn, 1297 — of whom more than half were under 40 years old — were left in the field; the 18 Saigon seats were contested by 184 candidates.

Although some candidates were sponsored by 1 or more of the 23 legal political parties, the great majority stood as Independents, often with vaguely expressed policies largely connected with purely local issues; 1 candidate defined his policy as " happiness and kindness ".

While the overall turnout of voters was high, the lowest participation (59.6 %) was in Saigon, as in other big cities. The National Liberation Front made 51 rocket attacks during the day, but most of these were said to have been against military targets and only a small number of incidents at polling stations were reported.

Many complaints of electoral malpractices were made by opposition candidates.

The political significance of the results was difficult to assess, as little was known of the views of many of the successful candidates. According to some observers, however, 91 members were expected to support the Government and 47 to form the Opposition, the other 21 being regarded as Independents.

Of the 118 members of the previous House of Representatives who contested the elections, only 41 returned.

The newly-elected House met for the first time on October 4, the day after Mr. Thieu was re-elected President.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections

Number of registered voters	7,085,943
Voters	5,567,446 (78.5 %)

2. *Distribution of Representatives according to Professional Category*

Members of the armed forces	44
Ex-deputies	37
Public officials	16
Members of provincial councils	13
Teachers	13
Pharmacists	7
Landowners	7
Doctors	6
Tradesmen	5
Lawyers	4
Others	7
	159

3. *Distribution of Representatives according to Sex*

Men	154
Women	5
	159

4. *Distribution of Representatives according to Age Group*

25-29	16
30-34	34
35-39	33
40-44	32
45-49	28
50-54	10
55-59	5
60 and over.	1
	159

SPAIN

Date of Elections: September 29 to November 16, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the elected members of Parliament (*Cortes*) on the normal expiration of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Spanish Parliament (*Cortes*) is unicameral. It is composed of members elected by various bodies of electorate, *ex-officio* members, and appointed members. All members are called *procuradores*.

The total number of the members of the *Cortes* is 561. The duration of each legislature is 4 years.

Electoral System

I. *Elected members of the Cortes*

(a) Representatives of Local Governments. These are the following:

1. Representatives of the Communities. The Council of each of the 52 Provinces elects 1 of its members as a member of the *Cortes*.

2. Representatives of Certain Cities. The Council of each of the cities having more than 300,000 inhabitants (Barcelona, Madrid, Malaga, Seville, Valencia, Bilbao and Saragossa (7)) as well as of Ceuta and Melilla (both in Africa (2)) elects one of its members as a member of the *Cortes*.

3. Representatives of 52 Provincial "Deputations" and of the Canarian Interinsular Community. Each of these corporations elects one of its members as a member of the *Cortes*.

4. Representatives of Territories not having the status of Provinces. The local administration of each of these Territories elects one of its members of that administration as a member of the *Cortes*.

Where the member of the *Cortes* ceases to be a member of the Council of Deputation which elected him, he ceases to be a member of the *Cortes*.

(b) "Representatives of the Family"

The electors registered on the electoral lists of each of the 52 Provinces elect 2 members of the *Cortes*.

To be an elector, a person must be "the head of a family" or a married woman. A person who is at least 21 years old and has his or her own household is considered as if he (she) were the head of the family. The elector must, furthermore, be of Spanish nationality and must be in full possession of his (her) civil and political rights. At the time of the 1971 elections, 17,252,103 persons were registered on the electoral lists.

Voting is compulsory. Electoral lists are established every 10 years, and are revised annually.

To be eligible, a person must be born in the Province in which he presents himself for election and must have been a resident of that Province for at least 7 years since the age of 14. Furthermore, such person must be proposed by at least 100 members of the Provincial "Deputation" or 1,000 electors or 5 % of the Province's population, unless he (she) belongs, or has belonged to the *Cortes*, in which case the proposal may be made by 5 members of the *Cortes* or 7 members of the Provincial Council. Those subject to certain disqualifications (for example, those having been deprived of their *patria potestas* or those found guilty in an action for matrimonial separation) are not eligible. Candidates are required to swear allegiance to the National Movement. Judges are not eligible.

By-elections are held if a seat becomes vacant prior to the beginning of the last year of the mandate of the legislature.

- (c) Representatives of the Employers' and Workers' Organizations (*Sindicatos*).

150 members of the *Cortes* are elected by the Central Boards (*Juntas Centrales*) of the Economic (employers) and Social (workers) Sections of each Employers' and Workers' Organization (*Sindicato*) from among the members of the said Boards.

- (d) Representatives of the Royal Academies.

The Royal Academies (Royal Spanish Academy (of the Spanish Language), Academy of History, Academy of Fine Arts, Academy of Physical and Natural Sciences, Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, Academy of Medicine, Academy of Law, Academy of Pharmacy) elect 2 members of the *Cortes* from among their members.

- (e) Representatives of the Supreme Council of Scientific Research.

The members of this Council elect 2 members of the *Cortes* from among themselves.

(f) Representatives of Certain Professional Associations.

The professional associations of attorneys-at-law and medical doctors elect 2 members of the *Cortes* each. The professional associations of engineers, stock brokers, architects, economists, pharmacists, doctors of science and letters, doctors of chemistry or physics, notaries public, solicitors, registrars, veterinaries elect 1 member of the *Cortes* each. Any elected person must be a member of the association electing him.

(g) Representatives of Certain Interest Groups

The official Chambers of Commerce elect 3 members of the *Cortes*. The Chamber of Urban Proprietors and the Associations of Tenants elect 1 member of the *Cortes* each. Any elected person must be a member of the association electing him.

Representatives referred to in paragraphs (c) to (g), above, cease to be members of the *Cortes* if they cease to be members of the association or other body which elected them.

II. *Ex-officio* Members of the Cortes

(a) The Members of the Government

(b) The Members of the National Council

The National Council is the collegial body of the National Movement. The members of the National Council are the following *:

1. 1 elected member for each of the 52 Provinces.
2. 40 members appointed by the *Caudillo*.
3. 6 members appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers.
4. The Secretary General of the National Council.

(c) The Presidents of 5 High State Institutions, namely, of the Supreme Court of Justice, the Council of State, the Supreme Military Tribunal, the Royal Fiscal Tribunal and the Council of National Economy.

(d) The Heads (Rectors) of the (12) Universities

(e) The Presidents of 3 High Institutions of Arts and Sciences, namely, of the Institute of Spain, of the Supreme Council of Scientific Research, and the Institute of Engineers.

* The National Council has 12 more members: 4 elected by and among the members of the *Cortes*, representatives of local government; 4 elected by and among the members of the *Cortes*, representatives of "the family"; 4 elected by and among members of the *Cortes*, representatives of the Employers' and Workers' Organizations. These 12 persons are, of course, members of the *Cortes* independently of the fact that they are members of the National Council.

Any *ex-officio* member of the *Cortes* ceases to be a member thereof if he ceases to hold the office by virtue of which he held his seat in the *Cortes*.

III. *Appointed members of the Cortes*

The Head of State, after having heard the Council of the Kingdom, appoints not more than 25 members of the *Cortes* on the basis of their rank in the ecclesiastical, military or administrative hierarchy or the services they rendered to the country. These members' mandates may be revoked by the Head of State at any time.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

All candidates had to pledge allegiance to the principles of the National Movement. Political parties are not allowed and could not campaign.

The campaign for the election of the "Representatives of the Family" opened on September 15, 1971, that is, 2 weeks prior to the date of that election (September 29, 1971). The number of candidates (237) in the said election was more than double of the seats available (104). Less than half of the electorate voted (7,294,134 voters out of 17,252,103 registered voters). The poll was particularly low in Madrid (31%), Catalonia and the Basque provinces; it was the highest in the rural provinces of central Spain.

Most of the members of the *Cortes* elected by the local governments are the mayors of the municipalities and the presidents of the provincial "deputations".

Statistics

1. *Distribution of Seats in the Cortes*

Elected members

Representatives of local governments	114
— of communities	52
— of certain cities	9
— of the Provincial "Deputations" and the Canarian Interinsular Community	53
Representatives of the family	104
Representatives of <i>Sindicatos</i>	150
<i>Ex-officio</i> members	39
National Council of the Movement	
Elected Members	53
Members appointed by the <i>Caudillo</i>	40
Members appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers . .	6
Representatives of cultural institutions, colleges, corporations or professional associations	30
	561

2. Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex

Men	553
Women	8
	561

3. Average Age of Parliamentarians : 53 years

SWAZILAND

Date of Elections: May 16 and 17, 1972

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of the House of Assembly on the normal expiration of their mandate. This marked the first general election since Swaziland gained independence in September 1968.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Parliament of Swaziland is bicameral.

The House of Assembly is comprised of 24 elected members, 6 members appointed by the King, and the Attorney-General, who has no vote. The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, elected by the House, may be chosen either from its own members (other than the Attorney-General, Ministers or Assistant Ministers) or from among persons who are not members but are qualified to be such.

The Senate consists of 12 members: 6 elected by the members of the House of Assembly and the remaining 6 appointed by the King.

The term of office of all parliamentarians is 5 years.

Electoral System

All citizens of either sex at least 21 years of age, who are registered on the electoral lists of their constituency, have the right to vote. The insane, criminals under sentence of death or imprisonment for or exceeding a term of 6 months, and persons guilty of electoral fraud are disqualified from registration.

Electoral lists, compiled within each constituency, are continuously updated. Voting is not compulsory.

Any person ordinarily resident in Swaziland, qualified for registration as a voter and so registered in any constituency may be elected to the House of Assembly. Persons under allegiance to a foreign State, those connected with certain government contracts, those holding public or election-connected offices, undischarged bankrupts, and members of the armed forces are disqualified. Moreover, there is incompatibility of office as regards members and Senators.

Candidatures must be submitted to the returning officer on the date specified by the latter. Any candidate to the House of Assembly must be backed by at least 10 electors of the constituency he wishes to represent. Further, a deposit of 100 rands must be made in order for his candidature to be valid.

For electoral purposes, Swaziland is divided into 8 constituencies; in each the 3 candidates who have obtained the most votes are declared elected.

A by-election is held within 6 months to fill any seat of an elected member which becomes vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The National Liberatory Congress Party (NLCP) provided the main opposition to the majority party, the *Imbokodwo* National Movement, which held all 24 elective seats in the previous Parliament.

Three other parties were likewise in the opposition. Of the 37 opposition candidates 29 did not obtain sufficient votes to recoup their deposits.

The *Imbokodwo* majority, led by the outgoing Prime Minister, Prince Makhosini Dlamini, nephew of King Sobhuza II, lost only 3 seats to the NLCP, headed by Dr. Ambrose Zwane.

Following the elections, Prince Hakhosini Dlamini reconstituted his Cabinet, adding 3 more Ministers of State therein.

Statistics

1. *Distribution of Seats in the House of Assembly*

Political Group	Number of Elective Seats in the House of Assembly
<i>Imbokodwo</i> National Movement	21
National Liberatory Congress Party (NLCP)	3
	24

SWITZERLAND

Date of Elections: October 30 and 31, 1971

Reason for Elections

The Swiss electorate, including women for the first time, was called to the polls to renew the whole National Council and 31 of 44 Representatives — from 14 cantons and 3 half-cantons — in the Council of States.

These parliamentarians, elected in 1967, had reached the end of their mandate.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Swiss Federal Assembly is bicameral; it consists of the National Council, composed of popularly elected members, and the Council of States, wherein are represented the cantons.

The National Council is comprised of 200 members elected for 4 years. The Council of States is comprised of 44 cantonal representatives, 2 from each canton and 1 from each half-canton, all members being elected for 4 years with the exception of the canton of Glarus, where the mandate is 3 years.

Electoral System

While the electoral laws for the National Council are drawn up on the federal level, those for the Council of States are done so within the cantons.

Swiss men, and, since the constitutional amendment of March 25, 1971, Swiss women, at least 20 years of age and residing in Switzerland are eligible to vote for members of the National Council, unless they have been deprived of their civil rights by court decree.

A further prerequisite to voting is registration on the electoral rolls maintained and constantly under revision in each community: Voting is not compulsory, except in the cantons of St. Gallen, Thurgau and Schaffhausen, where unexcused abstention is punishable by fine.

Citizens of Switzerland of either sex, at least 20 years old and not deprived of their civil rights, may be candidates to the National Council. Neither residence in Switzerland nor registration on the electoral rolls is required. Membership in the National Council is incompatible with membership in the Council of States or in the Federal Council (Cabinet), or with the posts of federal judge, judge in the Federal Insurance Court, or Chancellor of the Confederation. Further incompatibilities are the exercise of a public federal or religious func-

tion. Lastly, no member of the National Council may accept decorations, titles, or pensions from foreign governments.

In theory, a list of candidates may be presented by 15 voters. In practice, candidates are chosen by the political parties.

There are 25 constituencies — one for each canton and half-canton. Voting in the multi-member constituencies is designed to ensure proportional representation; however, in the 5 smallest constituencies (half-cantons: Appenzell-Outer and Inner Rhodes, Unterwalden-Nidwalden and Obwalden; cantons: Uri and Glarus) which have only 1 representative, vote is by simple plurality.

The number of seats allotted to each canton is regulated by law on the basis of a census every 10 years.

To express his choice, the elector has as many votes as there are seats to be filled. He may express them in several ways: combine them all on a party list and vote for the list without modifying it; insert candidates from other parties in his list; or accumulate votes for his favorite candidate by repeating his name so as to improve his chances. If the ballot bears the name and number of a party, his write-in votes constitute an order of preference for the candidates; any write-in votes not expressed automatically revert to the relevant party. If he chooses a list without any heading, only his write-in votes are counted. Lists may be combined and together figure in the first distribution of seats.

As regards the distribution of seats, the Hagenbach-Bischoff method is used. The number of votes obtained by each party is divided by an electoral quotient which itself is calculated by dividing the number of seats to be filled in each constituency, plus one, into the total number of valid votes. Two or even three calculations may be necessary.

Cantonal law governs election to the Council of States. The same electoral body generally chooses both the National Council and the Council of States, except for 5 cantons and 3 half-cantons in German-Speaking Switzerland where women still do not have the vote. Moreover, in 2 cantons, members of the Council of States are elected indirectly by means of the cantonal Parliaments. In the other cantons party-list majority voting is used.

If a seat becomes vacant between general elections in the National Council it is filled by the "next-in-line" of the party list from which the holder had been elected; there are no by-elections except in the 5 constituencies using the majority system. By-elections are resorted to in case of a vacancy in the Council of States.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The election campaign opened in the last week of September 1971. The following groups participated therein: the 4 parties of the coalition Government (Federal Council) — the Social Democrats, the Radical Democrats, the Christian

Democrats, and the Swiss People's Party (formerly the Farmers', Traders' and Citizens' Party); 7 opposition parties — one left-wing, the Labour Party (Communist); 4 right-wing — the Independents, the Liberal Democrats, the Evangelical People's Party, and the Democrats; and 2 from the extreme right — the National Campaign and the Republican Movement. Altogether, 1966 candidates — including 268 women — were in contention and spread among 158 lists. Fifty-eight former parliamentarians decided not to run. Many identical issues were discussed by all parties — housing, the economy, environmental protection and pollution.

While the Radicals boasted of their governmental representatives' accomplishments in public financial and economic matters, the Socialists stressed social questions and the rise in the cost of living. The Christian Democrats (formerly the Conservative-Christian Social Party) proposed that its coalition partners join it in drafting a common platform before the formation of the new Government. The Agrarians, fourth member of the coalition, underlined the problems of agriculture and migration out of rural areas.

Among the opposition, the Labour Party deplored the general rise in prices, notably that in rents, whereas the opposition of the right, also emphasizing economic problems, split into 2 distinct factions. On the one hand, the extreme right was represented by the National Campaign and the Republican Movement, of xenophobic orientation. As for the other parties of the right, they assumed more traditional stances, the Independent Alliance reaffirming its belief in free commerce and industry.

After a calm campaign, the elections revealed — except for a slight breakthrough by the extreme right — the stability of the Swiss electorate.

In spite of losing 6 seats, the 4 governmental parties maintained their large majority in the National Council, with 160 of 200 seats. Nevertheless, a slight overall swing to the right was occasioned by the 2 xenophobic groups (National Campaign and Republican Movement), which had not been founded at the time of the previous elections, and which had had only 1 representative in the outgoing Parliament.

On December 8, 1971, the Federal Assembly elected the Government (Federal Council). Six of 7 of the latter's members were re-elected; 1 new Christian-Democrat replaced another, who had resigned.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats
in the National Council*

Number of registered voters	3,551,008
Voters	2,018,122 (56.8 %)
Blank or void ballot papers	25,700
Valid votes	1,992,422

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Votes obtained	%	Number of Seats in the National Council	Number of Seats won at Previous Elections	Number of Seats held prior to Dissolution
Social Democrats	248 (20)*	452,194	22.9	46	51	51
Radical Democrats	318 (23)	431,364	21.8	49	49	50
Christian Democrats	194 (21)	402,528	20.4	44	45	45
Swiss People's Party	272 (9)	217,907	11.0	23	21	23
Independents' Party	145 (11)	150,684	7.6	13	16	16
Republican Movement	98 (10)	88,327	4.5	7	1	1
National Campaign	74 (10)	62,749	3.2	4	—	—
Liberal Democrats	33 (4)	43,338	2.2	6	6	6
Evangelical People's Party	92 (4)	42,298	2.1	3	3	3
Labour Party	72 (6)	50,834	2.6	5	5	5
Others	150 (10)	33,370	1.7	—	—	—
Democrats **	—	—	—	—	3	—
	<u>1,696</u>			<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>

* In parentheses appear the number of cantons in which each party presented candidates.

** The Democratic Party was dissolved on the eve of the elections. Together with the Evangelical People's Party it had formed a single parliamentary group. Of the 3 Democratic representatives, 1 joined the Radical Democrats and 2 the Swiss People's Party. Presently, the Evangelical People's Party is united with the Liberal Democrats in a single parliamentary group.

2. Distribution of Seats in the Council of States

Political Group	Number of Seats in the Council of States	Number of Seats in the Previous Legislature
Social Democrats	4	2
Radical Democrats	15	14
Christian Democrats	17	18
Swiss People's Party	5	3
Independents' Party	1	1
Liberal Democrats	2	3
Labour Party	—	—
Democrats	—	3
Christian Democrat dissidents	—	—
Team 1967 (Aargau canton).	—	—
	44	44

3. Distribution of Members of the National Council
according to Professional Category

Lawyers	34
Public (communal) officials	25
High administrative officials	19
Professors	19
Journalists	16
Public (cantonal) officials	15
Businessmen	15
Architects	14
Agricultural workers	13
Public (federal) officials	11
Doctors	8
Artisans	7
Others	4
	200

4. Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex

	National Council	Council of States
Men	189	43
Women	11	1
	200	44

5. *Distribution of Members of the National Council according to Age Group*

20-29	2
30-39	15
40-49	64
50-59	79
60-69	39
70 and over	1
	200

URUGUAY

Date of Elections: November 28, 1971

Reason for Elections

Elections were held to renew all the members of Parliament on the normal expiration of their mandate. These elections were combined with the presidential and municipal polls.

Characteristics of Parliament

The Parliament of Uruguay, the General Assembly, is bicameral, comprising a House of Representatives and a Senate.

The 99 Representatives and 30 of the 31 Senators are elected for 5 years. The Vice-President of the Republic is a member *ex-officio* of the Senate and enjoys the right to vote therein. He is also President *ex-officio* of the Senate as well as of the two Houses when they meet in joint session.

Electoral System

All citizens of either sex, at least 18 years of age, residing in Uruguay during the 3 months preceding the election and appearing on the electoral rolls, have the right to vote.

Foreign nationals who have relatives in Uruguay, have resided in the country for 15 years and have observed "good conduct" during their sojourn, and have economic interests in the country also have the right to vote. On the other hand, members of the Army and Navy holding a rank lower than Corporal, the mentally or physically unsound, and persons convicted of dishonest practices are not entitled to vote.

Voting is compulsory. Unjustified abstention is punishable by fine.

A candidate to the House of Representatives must be at least 25 years of age, be Uruguayan by birth or naturalized for no less than 5 years and in possession of his civil rights.

A candidate to the Senate must be at least 30 years of age, be Uruguayan by birth or naturalized for no less than 7 years and in possession of his civil rights. Judges, prosecuting attorneys, police officials and military officers may not be candidates to either the Senate or the House, in the constituency where

they hold office, unless they resign from their posts at least 3 months prior to the election; directors of national enterprises at least 12 months prior to the election.

A Representative or Senator may neither maintain a teaching post at the university level nor be a member of the armed forces; members of the military or university instructors who become parliamentarians are given a leave of absence during their parliamentary mandate. Furthermore, no one may hold simultaneously the offices of Representative and Senator.

Political parties must submit their lists of candidates to the National Electoral Court at least 20 days before the elections.

Members of Parliament are elected according to a party-list proportional representation system. The uniquely Uruguayan system, the Law of *Lemas*, is designed to encourage the representation of those smaller parties which have been assimilated into the 2 or 3 parties of nationwide importance. This system is used for senatorial and legislative elections.

For senatorial elections, all of Uruguay forms a single electoral constituency. To gain proportional representation, an electoral quotient is determined by dividing the total number of votes cast by the number of Senators to be elected; division of the total vote in each *lema* by this quotient indicates the number of seats to be allotted. Remaining seats are distributed by dividing the total votes of each *lema* by the number of seats already assigned to it, plus one. The *lema* which has the highest quotient wins the additional seat. This process is repeated until all the seats are distributed.

Within each *lema* the *sub-lemas* receive the number of seats attributed to them by virtue of the aforementioned process.

For election to the House of Representatives, the National Electoral Court determines, prior to the election, the number of Representatives allotted to each constituency. The Court considers the number of votes as in the previous election plus new registrants. None of the 19 constituencies may have less than 2 Representatives. After the election, the Representatives in each constituency are divided among the *lemas* by the same method used in distributing the Senate seats on the national level. Any remaining seats are distributed by dividing the total national vote for the *lema* by the number of seats already assigned to the *lema* in the constituency, plus one. The *lema* with the highest quotient obtains a seat, and this process is repeated until all the seats are distributed. This type of distribution allows a *lema* with insufficient votes in any single constituency to be awarded a seat. Seats are divided within each *lema* in the same manner used in the Senate.

Any vacancy arising in Parliament between general elections is filled by the substitute elected at the same time as the titular holder.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The electoral campaign began as of the summer of 1971. For the first time, the 2 major and traditional political organizations, the liberal majority *Colorado* party and the conservative opposition *Blanco* party were challenged by the leftist coalition, *Frente Amplio* (Broad or United Front).

Formed on March 26, 1971, the Front was comprised of Christian Democrats, Communists and Socialists, as well as Liberals and extreme-leftists. It also consisted of dissidents from the *Blanco* and *Colorado* Parties. Its President was the retired Army general Liber Seregni.

The 3 aforementioned parties also had candidates to the presidential elections, which occurred on the same day as legislative elections. One of the *Colorado* candidates, the outgoing President, Mr. Pacheco Areco, proposed, alongside his candidature to the Presidency, an amendment to the Constitution which, in existing form, limited a President to one 5-year term of office.

Whereas the *Blanco* and *Colorado* Parties proposed similar electoral platforms, placing primary emphasis on maintaining law and order, strengthening the national currency and combatting inflation, the Broad Front announced a series of 30 measures in its governmental programme of September 1. These measures, to be implemented as soon as the party came to power, included amnesty for political prisoners (essentially *Tupamaros* guerillas), control over private banks and export companies until their nationalization, agrarian reform, the setting up of a policy of full-employment and renewed industrial activity, and, finally, the restoration of diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Contrary to Uruguayan tradition, some violence marked the electoral campaign; there were, for instance, two abortive attempts on the life of Mr. Seregni. The Army, for its part, agreed to ensure the legitimacy of the elections.

Contrary to the predictions of certain observers, who felt that a large number of electors would rally around the Broad Front, the latter only obtained a fifth of the seats, with the 2 major parties virtually dividing the other seats.

The constitutional reform sponsored by Mr. Pacheco Areco, as well as his candidature to the Presidency, were rejected by the electorate. Indeed, it was another *Colorado* candidate, Mr. Jan Bordaberry, who became President. The latter only introduced his Government to Parliament on March 1, 1972, as there was some contention over election results; the Electoral Court had to intervene for the final results to be established. The new Cabinet consists of 11 members, including 8 Ministers from the *Colorado* Party. Two *Blancos* and 1 Socialist are also members in an individual capacity.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in Parliament*

Political Group	Votes obtained	Number of Seats in the Senate	Number of Seats in the House of Representatives
<i>Colorado Party</i>	681,624	13	41
<i>Blanco Party</i>	668,822	12	40
<i>Broad Front</i>	304,275	5	18
		<u>30</u>	<u>99</u>

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Unless otherwise indicated, the publications mentioned below are obtainable from the Inter-Parliamentary Bureau, Place du Petit-Saconnex, 1211 Geneva 28 (Switzerland)

PARLIAMENTS. — A Comparative Study on the Structure and Functioning of Representative Institutions in Fifty-Five Countries (New revised edition). Preface by Mr. G. Codacci-Pisanelli and Mr. A. de Blonay. Pp. 346 (1966). French edition also available. On sale in bookshops and, for members of the Union, at the Inter-Parliamentary Bureau. Sw. Fr. 25.—

Present-Day Problems of Parliament. International Symposium held in Geneva from November 4 to 6, 1965, by the CIDP, under the auspices of the Union.

1. Verbatim Report. Introductory reports and debates *in extenso*, in the original language (French or English). Pp. 250 (out of print).
2. Official Report. Special issue of the **Inter-Parliamentary Bulletin**. Introductory reports; synthesis and conclusions of the debates, by Mr. C. Dominicié (English and French). Pp. 84. » 3.—

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Reports and Debates. Introductory reports and verbatim record of the debates of the 2nd International Symposium, organized in Geneva from December 5 to 7, 1968, by the CIDP, under the auspices of the Union. In the original language, English or French. Mimeographed volume. Pp. 316. » 15.—

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- I. July 1, 1966 - June 30, 1967.
Bilingual edition (English-French) » 7.—
- II. July 1, 1967 - June 30, 1968* » 10.—
- III. July 1, 1968 - June 30, 1969* » 15.—
- IV. July 1, 1969 - June 30, 1970* » 30.—
- V. July 1, 1970 - June 30, 1971* » 30.—
- VI. July 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972* » 30.—

(The elections contained in Volumes II, III and IV are printed on detachable index-cards.)

* French edition also available.

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