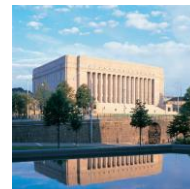


Directorate-General for the Presidency
Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments

Factsheet: The Finnish Eduskunta



1. At a glance

Finland is a republic and a parliamentary democracy. The Finnish Parliament (*Eduskunta*) is a unicameral body. Its 200 deputies are elected by direct, proportional and secret universal suffrage for a mandate of four years. The Parliament enacts legislation, decides on the state budget, ratifies international treaties and oversees the Government.

The Eduskunta meets in three major formations: the plenary session makes final decisions, the committees prepare the files and the parliamentary groups define the political orientations. The Eduskunta has quite extensive powers to formulate Finnish EU policy. Parliament's position on EU affairs is generally expressed by the Grand Committee which serves as Parliament's EU committee. Finnish Constitution provides that the Eduskunta is involved whenever an EU dossier touches on the Eduskunta's legislative or budgetary power and may also assume responsibility for other dossiers if either the Government or the Grand Committee (or the Foreign Affairs Committee for CFSP issues) so decides. The Grand Committee's position is normative for the Government.

The current Finnish coalition government under Prime Minister Juha Sipilä (KESK/ALDE) came into office on 29 May 2015 and is formed by the Centre Party (KESK/ALDE), the Finns Party (PS/ECR) and the National Coalition Party (KOK/EPP).

2. Composition

Results of the elections of 19 April 2015				
	Party	EP affiliation	%	Seats
	Suomen Keskusta (KESK) Center Party		21,1	49
	Perussuomalaiset (PS) Finns Party		17,7	38
	Kansallinen Kokoomus (KOK) National Coalition Party		18,2	37
	Suomen Sosialidemokraattinen Puolue (SDP) Social Democratic Party		16,5	34
	Vihreä liitto (Vihr) Green League		8,5	15
	Vasemmistoliitto (Vas) Left Alliance		7,1	12
	Suomen ruotsalainen kansanpuolue (SFP-RKP) Swedish People's Party		4,9	9
	Kristillisdemokraatit (KD) Christian Democrats		3,5	5
	Others		0,6	1
				200
Turnout: 70,1%. The next elections will take place by April 2019.				

3. Officeholders

Speaker of the Finnish Parliament  Ms Maria Lohela (Finns Party/ECR), since 29 May 2015	Chair of the Grand Committee  Ms Anne-Mari Virolainen (KOK/EPP), since 5 May 2015
Secretary General of the Finnish Parliament: Ms Maija-Leena Paavola, since 1 January 2016	

4. Relations with Members of the European Parliament

Participation rights for Finnish MEPs in plenary sittings	No
Participation rights for Finnish MEPs in committee meetings	No (MEPs can participate only as invited experts on a specific subject)
Availability of videoconferencing system in the Finnish Parliament	Yes

5. Information links

- Official website: <http://web.eduskunta.fi>
- [Rules of procedure in English](#)
- [List of committees](#)
- [Recent documents submitted by the Finnish Parliament to the Interparliamentary EU Information Exchange \(IPEX\)](#)
- [European Parliament Information Office in Helsinki](#)

6. Contacts

Factsheet author and contact in the EP Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments: Ms Jitka Polášková Office WIE 05U024, 1047 Brussels Phone +32 2 28 31056 jitka.polaskova@ep.europa.eu	Brussels-based contact of Eduskunta: Ms Satu Tuomikorpi Office WIE 06U015, 1047 Brussels Phone +32 2 28 42412 satu.tuomikorpi@natparl.ep.europa.eu
--	---