

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

Factsheet: House of Representatives of Cyprus














1. At a glance

Cyprus has a presidential system of government where the President is elected directly by the citizens every five years. At the same time, the Cypriot Parliament - referred to as the House of Representatives - is elected in separate elections, also held every five years (but in different years).



The House of Representatives is composed of 56 Members coming from the Greek Cypriot community. Another 24 seats are reserved for Members coming from the Turkish Cypriot community but, due to the political situation on the island, are currently vacant. In addition, there are three observer members representing the Armenian, Latin and Maronite minorities. Voting for national parliamentary elections is compulsory.

The main functions of the Parliament are to vote on legislation (which can be introduced by Government ministers, individual Members or political groups in the Parliament) and on the budget, as well as to exercise control over the activities of the Government.

2. Composition

Results of the elections of 22 May 2011				
	Party	EP affiliation	%	Seats
	Dimocratikos Synagermos (DISY) Democratic Rally		34.28	20
	Anorthotiko Komma Ergazomenou Laou (AKEL) Progressive Party of Working People		32.67	19
	Dimocratiko Komma (DIKO) Democratic Party		15.76	8
	EDEK - Kinima Sosialdimocratwn EDEK - Social-democratic Movement		8.93	5
	Evropaiko Komma (EVROKO) European Party		3.88	1
	Kinima Oikologwn-Perivallontistwn Cyprus Green Party		2.21	1
	Others		2.27	2
			100%	56
Turnout: 78.70%				
The next elections will take place in May 2016.				

3. Officeholders

<p>Speaker of the House of Representatives</p>  <p>Mr Yiannakis Omirou (EDEK/S&D), since May 2011</p>	<p>Chair of Standing Committee of Foreign and European Affairs</p>  <p>Mr Averof Neophytou (DISY/EPP), since December 2011</p>
<p>Secretary General of the House of Representatives: Ms Vassiliki Anastassiadou</p>	

4. Relations with Members of the European Parliament

Participation rights for Cypriot MEPs in plenary sittings	No
Participation rights for Cypriot MEPs in committee meetings	No
Availability of videoconferencing system in Cyprus House of Representatives	Yes

5. Information links

- Official website: <http://www.parliament.cy/>
- [Rules of procedure \(Greek only\)](#)
- [List of committees](#)
- [European Parliament Information Office in Nicosia](#)

6. Contacts

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