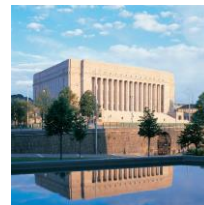


Directorate-General for the Presidency
Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments

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 Mr Antti Rinne (Social Democratic Party/ S&D) came into office on 06 June 2019. It is a 5-party coalition formed by the the Social Democratic Party (S&D), the Centre Party (ALDE), the Greens (Greens/EFA), the Left Alliance (GUE/NGL), and the Swedish People's Party (ALDE). The government's programme in English is available [here](#).

2. Composition

Results of the elections of 19 April 2015				
	Party	EP affiliation	%	Seats
	Suomen Sosialidemokraattinen Puolue (SDP) The Finnish Social Democratic Party		17,7	40
	Perussuomalaiset (PS) Finns Party	Identity and Democracy (ID)	17,5	39
	Kansallinen Kokoomus (KOK) National Coalition Party		17,0	38
	Suomen Keskusta (KESK) Center Party		13,8	31
	Vihreä liitto (Vihr) Green League		11,5	20
	Vasemmistoliitto (Vas) Left Alliance		8,2	16
	Suomen ruotsalainen kansanpuolue (SFP-RKP) Swedish People's Party in Finland		4,5	9
	Kristillisdemokraatit (KD) Christian Democrats in Finland		3,9	5
	Others		2,9	2
				200
Turnout: 72,1%. The next elections will take place by April 2023.				

3. Officeholders

Speaker of the Finnish Parliament  Mr Matti VANHANEN (KESK/ ALDE) since 07 June 2019	Chair of the Grand Committee  Ms Satu HASSI (VIHR/ Greens EFA), since 19 June 2019
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

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