

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



**Factsheet:**  
**The Slovenian National Council**  
**(Državni svet)**



**1. At a glance**

Slovenia is a republic and a parliamentary democracy. The Parliament of Slovenia has a bicameral structure and consists of the National Assembly (Državni zbor) which has 90 Members and the National Council (Državni svet) which has 40 Members. The Slovenian Parliament is considered as an “incomplete bicameral system”, meaning that the upper chamber (National Council) does not have equal competences with the lower chamber (National Assembly) and therefore has less authority.

The National Council has 40 Members: 22 representatives of local interests, 6 representatives of non-commercial activities, 4 representatives of employers, 4 of employees and 4 representatives of farmers, crafts, trades and independent professionals. It is not elected directly by the population, but meant to represent different interest groups in the country. The councillors are elected for a five-year term. The Committee on International Relations and European Affairs is based on Article 3A of the Constitution and is composed of 10 Members. It was created in 1993 and has a consultative role.

When the adoption of a text in respect of which the National Council envisages resorting to the suspensive veto is included on the Agenda of the National Assembly, the President of the Council convenes the former within six days following the vote in the National Assembly. The National Council sits about 23 times a year and at least twice a month.

The current Slovenian coalition government under Prime Minister Dr Miro Cerar (SMC/ALDE) is composed of the Party of Modern Center (SMC/ALDE), the Democratic Party of Pensioners in Slovenia (DeSUS/NI) and the Social Democrats (SD/S&D). The incumbent President, who was directly re-elected in 2017 by the citizens for a five-year term, is Mr Bohut Pahor.

**2. Composition**

<b>Results of the National Council elections in December 2017</b>				
			<b>%</b>	<b>Seats</b>
	Representatives of local interests		<b>55%</b>	<b>22</b>
	Representatives of non-commercial activities		<b>15%</b>	<b>6</b>
	Representatives of employers		<b>10%</b>	<b>4</b>
	Representatives of employees		<b>10%</b>	<b>4</b>
	Representatives of farmers, crafts, trades and independent professionals		<b>10%</b>	<b>4</b>
			<b>100%</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>The next National Council elections must take place in 2022 at the latest.</b>				

### 3. Officeholders

<b>President of the National Council:</b>    Mr Alojz Kovšca Since December 2017	<b>Chair of the Commission for International Relations and European Affairs:</b>    Mr Bojan Kekec since December 2017
<b>Secretary General of the Slovenian National Council:</b> dr. Dušan Štrus, since December 2017	

### 4. Relations with Members of the European Parliament

<b>Participation rights for Slovenian MEPs in plenary sittings</b>	No
<b>Participation rights for Slovenian MEPs in committee meetings</b>	No
<b>Availability of videoconferencing system in Slovenian National Council</b>	No

### 5. Information links

- Official website: <http://www.ds-rs.si/>
- [Competences of the National Council in English](#)
- [List of committees and working bodies](#)
- [Recent documents submitted by the National Council to the Interparliamentary EU Information Exchange \(IPEX\)](#)
- [European Parliament Information Office in Ljubljana](#)

### 6. Contacts

<b>Factsheet author and contact in the EP Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments:</b>  Ms Monika MOENS DE FERNIG Office WIE 05U022, 1047 Brussels Phone +32 2 28 32364 <a href="mailto:monika.moensdefernig@ep.europa.eu">monika.moensdefernig@ep.europa.eu</a>	<b>Brussels-based contact of the Slovenian National Council:</b>
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<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/relnatpar>  
[relnatpar@ep.europa.eu](mailto:relnatpar@ep.europa.eu)