

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

Factsheet: The Portuguese Parliament



1. At a glance

Portugal is a semi-Presidential Republic and a parliamentary democracy.







The Assembly of the Republic (*Assembleia da República*) is the Parliament of Portugal. According to the Portuguese Constitution, the unicameral Assembly "*is the representative assembly of all Portuguese citizens*" The constitution names the Assembly as one of the country's organs of supreme authority.

The Assembly is made up of 230 Members. Members are elected from lists that parties or coalitions of parties put forward in each constituency. Votes are converted into seats using the proportional representation system and d'Hondt's highest-average rule. Each Member represents the whole country and not just the citizens from the constituency for which he or she was elected. Their term of office is four years, which corresponds to the duration of one legislature.

Each parliamentary year is known as a legislative session, and starts on 15 September. Members' terms of office only end the first time the Assembly sits after new elections have been held.

Following parliamentary elections on 4 October 2015, the Socialist Party (PS, S&D) formed a government under Prime Minister António Costa (Socialist Party, PS, S&D) after having established an anti-austerity left wing parliamentary agreement.

2. Composition

Party	EP affiliation	Seats
Social Democratic Party (PSD) <i>(opposition)</i>		89
Socialist Party (PS) <i>(Government, supported by anti-austerity parliamentary coalition)</i>		86
Left Bloc (BE) <i>(supporting Government)</i>		19
Social Democratic Centre - Popular Party (CDS-PP)		18
Portuguese Communist Party (PCP) <i>(supporting Government)</i>		15
"The Greens" (PEV)		2
Party for People, Animals and Nature (PAN) <i>(opposition)</i>	-----	1
TOTAL		230
Next legislative elections are expected for September 2019.		

3. Officeholders

<p>Speaker of the Portuguese Parliament</p>  <p>Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues (PS/S&D), since 23 October 2015</p>	<p>Chairperson of the EU Affairs Committee</p>  <p>Regina Bastos (PSD/EPP)</p>
<p>Secretary General of the Portuguese Parliament: Albino de Azevedo Soares</p>	

4. Relations with Members of the European Parliament

Participation rights for Portuguese MEPs in plenary sittings	No
Participation rights for Portuguese MEPs in committee meetings	No
Availability of videoconferencing system in Portuguese Parliament	Yes

5. Information links

- Official website <http://www.en.parlamento.pt>
- [Rules of procedure in English and Portuguese](#)
- [List of committees](#)
- [Recent documents submitted by the Portuguese Parliament to the Interparliamentary EU Information Exchange \(IPEX\)](#)
- [European Parliament Information Office in Lisbon](#)

6. Contacts

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