

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

Factsheet: The Polish Senate



1. At a glance









Re-established after the democratic transformations of 1989 the Senate consists of 100 senators elected for 4 years by direct universal suffrage, by secret ballot, in single-member constituencies.

In accordance with article 10 (2) and article 95 of the Constitution of 2 April 1997, the legislative power is exercised by the Sejm and the Senate. In specific cases, both chambers may have joint sessions as the National Assembly.



The Chamber has the right to initiate legislation. The Senate examines bills passed by the Sejm within 30 days of their submission, unless a bill is urgent, in which case it is examined within 14 days. The Senate may accept, amend or reject a bill passed by the Sejm. The Senate's resolution to reject or amend a bill is deemed accepted when it is not overruled by the Sejm by an absolute majority of votes in the presence of at least half the statutory number of deputies.

Parliamentary elections to both the Sejm and Senate were held in Poland on 13 October 2019. The opposition Civic Coalition (KO) won the election with 48% of the votes against governing party Law and Justice (PiS) who gained a 43% share. Since December 2017 Mateusz Morawiecki from PiS is the Prime Minister. Next elections are to be scheduled for October 2024 at latest.

2. Composition

SENATE				
	Parties	EP	%	Number of seats
	KO - Koalicja Obywatelska (Civic Coalition)		48%	48
	PiS - Prawo i Sprawiedliwość (Law and Justice)		43%	43
	PSL - Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe (Polish Peasants' Party)		3%	3
	SLD - Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej (Democratic Left Alliance)		2%	2
	Independent Senators		4%	4
				100

3. Officeholders

Marshal of the Senate  Tomasz Grodzki (Koalicja Obywatelska - Civic Coalition)	Chairman of the Foreign Affairs and EU Affairs Committee  Bogdan Klich (Koalicja Obywatelska - Civic Coalition)
Secretary General of the Polish Senate: Piotr Świątecki	

4. Relations with Members of the European Parliament

Participation rights for Polish MEPs in plenary sittings	n/a
Participation rights for Polish MEPs in committee meetings	Yes
Availability of videoconferencing system in the Polish Senate	No

5. Information links

- Official website: <http://www.senat.gov.pl/>
- [Rules of procedures Polish Senate](#)
- [List of committees](#)
- [Recent documents submitted by the Senate to the Interparliamentary EU Information Exchange \(IPEX\)](#)
- [European Parliament Liaison Office in Warsaw](#)

6. Contacts

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