

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

Factsheet: The Hellenic Parliament















1. At a glance

Greece is a parliamentary democracy. The Hellenic Parliament is comprised of 300 Members who are directly elected by the citizens under a combination of voting systems. Voting in Greece 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, in accordance with the constitution) and to exercise democratic control over the activities of the Government and other state agencies.

Elections normally take place every four years, but early elections may be called by the Prime Minister at any time. Early elections are also foreseen by the Constitution in the case of loss of confidence to the Government following a relevant vote in Parliament, or in the case of inability to elect the President of the Republic. Following the elections on 20 September 2015, SYRIZA (GUE/NGL) was re-elected as the largest party and continued its coalition government with the Independent Greeks (no affiliation in the EP) under Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras.

2. Composition

Results of the elections of 20 September 2015				
	Party	EP affiliation	%	Seats
	Synaspismos Rizospastikis Aristeras (SYRIZA) Coalition of Radical Left		35.5	145
	Nea Demokratia New Democracy		28.1	75
	Chrysi Avgi Golden Dawn	Non-attached	7.0	18
	Panellinio Sosialistiko Kinima (PASOK) Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement		6.3	17
	Kommounistiko Komma Elladas Communist Party of Greece	Non-attached	5,6	15
	To Potami The River		4,1	11
	Aneksartitoi Ellines (ANEL) Independent Greeks	No affiliation in the EP	3.7	10
	Enosi Kentroon Union of centrists	No affiliation in the EP	3.4	9
	Others		6.3	
			100%	300
Turnout: 56.60%				
The next elections must take place by October 2019 at the latest.				

3. Officeholders

Speaker of the Hellenic Parliament  Mr Nicolaos Voutsis (SYRIZA/GUE-NGL), since 6 February 2015	Chairperson of the Committee on European Affairs  Mr Anastasios (Tasos) Kourakis (SYRIZA/GUE-NGL), since 4 October 2015
Secretary General of the Hellenic Parliament: Mr Kostas Athanasiou	

4. Relations with Members of the European Parliament

Participation rights for Greek MEPs in plenary sittings	No
Participation rights for Greek MEPs in committee meetings	Partially (Greek MEPs have the right to attend the deliberations of the European Affairs Committee but not to vote)
Availability of videoconferencing system in Hellenic Parliament	Yes

5. Information links

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

6. Contacts

Factsheet author and contact in the EP Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments: Mr Paolo Atzori Office WIE 05U043, 1047 Brussels Phone +32 2 28 32386 luis.balsells@europarl.europa.eu	Brussels-based contact of the Hellenic Parliament Ms Despina Fola Office WIE 06U01, 1047 Brussels Phone +32 2 28 44564 despina.fofa@natparl.ep.europa.eu
---	--