

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














Factsheet: The Dutch House of Representatives Tweede Kamer













1. At a glance

The Netherlands is the main constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, with its monarch King Willem-Alexander. Since 1848 it has been governed as a parliamentary democracy and a constitutional monarchy, organised as a unitary state. The Dutch Parliament "*Staten-Generaal*" is a bicameral body. It consists of two chambers, both of which are elected for four-year terms. The Senate, the Eerste Kamer is indirectly elected. It consists of 75 members and is elected by the (directly elected) members of the 12 provincial state councils, known as the "*staten*". The 150 members of the House of Representatives, the Tweede Kamer, are directly elected through a national party-list system, on the basis of proportional representation.



Since 26 October 2017 the third Cabinet of Prime Minister Mark Rutte is in office. The governing coalition is formed by four political parties: People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD), Christian Democratic Appeal (CDA), Democrats 66 (D66) and Christian Union (CU).

2. Composition

Results of the parliamentary elections of 15 March 2017 and current redistribution of seats				
	Party	EP affiliation	%	Seats
	Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie (VVD) People's Party for Freedom and Democracy		21,3%	32 (33)
	Partij Voor de Vrijheid (PVV) Party for Freedom		13,1%	20
	Christen Democratisch Appèl (CDA) Christian Democratic Appeal		12,4%	19
	Democraten 66 (D66) Democrats 66		12,2%	19
	Socialistische Partij (SP) Socialist Party	Non-affiliated	9,1%	14
	GroenLinks (GL) Green Left		9,1%	14

	Partij van der Arbeid (PvdA) Labour Party		5,7%	9
	ChristenUnie (CU) Christian Union		3,4%	5
	Partij voor de Dieren (PvdD) Party for the Animals		3,2%	4 (5)
	50PLUS	Non-affiliated	3,1%	3 (4)
	Staatkundig Gereformeerde Partij (SGP) Reformed Political Party		2,1%	3
	DENK	Non-affiliated	2,1%	3
	Forum voor Democratie ForumFor Democracy (FvD)		1,8%	2
	van Kooten-Arissen¹	Non-affiliated		1
	van Haga²	Non-affiliated		1
	Krol³	Non-affiliated		1
			100%	150
Turnout: 81,9%				
The next elections for the House of Representatives will take place in march 2021				

3. Officeholders

<p>Speaker of the Dutch House of Representatives</p>  <p>Ms Khadija Arib (PvdA), since 13 January 2016</p>	<p>Chair of the Standing Committee on European Affairs</p>  <p>Mr Hayke Veldman (VVD), since 19 February 2019</p>
<p>Secretary-General of the Dutch House of Representatives: Ms Simone Roos since 7 June 2018</p>	

4. Relations with Members of the European Parliament

Participation rights for Dutch MEPs in plenary sittings	Partially (Upon invitation)
Participation rights for Dutch MEPs in committee meetings	Partially (Upon invitation)

¹ A former Member of the Party for the Animals group (PvdD)

² A former Member of the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy group (VVD)

³ A former Member of the 50PLUS group

Availability of videoconferencing system in Dutch House of Representatives	Yes
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5. Information links

- Official website: <http://www.houseofrepresentatives.nl>
- [Rules of procedure in English](#)
- [List of committees](#)
- [Recent documents submitted by the Dutch House of Representatives to the Interparliamentary EU Information Exchange \(IPEX\)](#)
- [European Parliament Information Office in The Hague](#)

6. Contacts

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