

Comparative Study of Electoral Systems Module 3: Macro Report

June 05, 2006

Country: Slovak Republic
Date of Election: June 12, 2010

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Date of Preparation: March 2011

NOTES TO COLLABORATORS:

- The information provided in this report contributes to an important part of the CSES project. The information may be filled out by yourself, or by an expert or experts of your choice. Your efforts in providing these data are greatly appreciated! Any supplementary documents that you can provide (e.g., electoral legislation, party manifestos, electoral commission reports, media reports) are also appreciated, and may be made available on the CSES website.
- Answers should be as of the date of the election being studied.
- Where brackets [] appear, collaborators should answer by placing an “X” within the appropriate bracket or brackets. For example: [X]
- If more space is needed to answer any question, please lengthen the document as necessary.

Data Pertinent to the Election at which the Module was Administered

1a. Type of Election

- Parliamentary/Legislative**
 Parliamentary/Legislative and Presidential
 Presidential
 Other; please specify: _____

1b. If the type of election in Question 1a included Parliamentary/Legislative, was the election for the Upper House, Lower House, or both?

- Upper House
 Lower House
 Both
 Other;

please note: Slovakia has unicameral parliament

2a. What was the party of the president *prior* to the most recent election?

0

2b. What was the party of the Prime Minister *prior* to the most recent election?

Smer- Social Democracy

2c. Report the number of cabinet ministers of each party or parties in cabinet, *prior* to the most recent election. (If one party holds all cabinet posts, simply write "all".) Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have Cabinet voting rights.

<u>Name of Political Party</u>	<u>Number of Cabinet Ministers</u>
Smer – Social Democracy (Smer-SD)	11
Slovak National Party (SNS)	3
People’s Party – Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (ĽS-HZDS)	2

2d. What was the size of the cabinet *prior* to the election (total number of cabinet ministers detailed in 2c)? Please include only full ministers and the prime minister in the count. Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have Cabinet voting rights.

Full number of members of government: 18

Number of ministers + prime minister: 15 (16 together with the Vice-Prime minister)

3a. What was the party of the president *after* the most recent election?

0

3b. What was the party of the Prime Minister *after* the most recent election?

Slovak Democratic and Christian union – Democratic party (SDKÚ-DS)

3c. Report the number of cabinet ministers of each party or parties in cabinet, *after* the most recent election. (If one party holds all cabinet posts, simply write "all"). Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have Cabinet voting rights.

<u>Name of Political Party</u>	<u>Number of Cabinet Ministers</u>
Slovak Democratic and Christian union – Democratic party (SDKÚ-DS)	5
Freedom and Solidarity (SaS)	4
Christian Democratic Movement (KDH)	3
Most- Híd (Bridge)	2

3d. What was the size of the cabinet *after* the election (total number of cabinet ministers detailed in 3c)? Please include only full ministers and the prime minister in the count. Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have Cabinet voting rights.

Full number of members of government: 15

13 cabinet ministers + prime minister = 14 members of cabinet

4a. How many political parties received votes in the election? In this answer, we want political parties, not merely alliances or coalitions of political parties. Please include all parties that received votes, but do not include independents. Where coalitions are present, please count all member parties separately – for instance, a coalition of three parties would count as three parties in your answer, not as one party.

18 political parties

4b. Please provide a source of data and link to a website with official, detailed election results (votes and seats) for all parties participating in the election. If the data is not available electronically, please provide the information in paper format if possible.

<http://portal.statistics.sk/>

4c. Please list all parties who received at least 1% of the vote nationally, and the applicable electoral results for each, in the following table. Please indicate the source (even if the same as in Question 4b), and add additional rows to the table as necessary. Please provide party names both in English and in the original language, if applicable.

Source: **<http://portal.statistics.sk/>**

Party Name	Number of Votes	% of Vote	Number of Seats	% of Seats
European Democratic Party (EDS)	10 332	0,40	-	-
Union - Party for Slovakia	17 741	0,70	-	-
Party of Roma Coalition (SRK)	6 947	0,27	-	-
Paliho Kapurková, Cheerful Political Party	14 576	0,57	-	-
Freedom and Solidarity (SaS)	307 287	12,14	22	14,6
Party of Democratic Left (SDL)	61 137	2,41	-	-
Party of Hungarian Coalition (SMK)	109 638	4,33	-	-
People's Party – Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (LS-HZDS)	109 480	4,32	-	-
Communist Party of Slovakia (KSS)	21 104	0,83	-	-
Slovak National Party (SNS)	128 490	5,07	9	6
New Democracy (NOVA DEMOKRACIA)	7 962	0,31	-	-
Association of the Workers of Slovakia (ZRS)	6 196	0,24	-	-
Christian Democratic Movement (KDH)	215 755	8,52	15	10
People's Party – Our Slovakia (LS-Nase Slovensko)	33 724	1,33	-	-
Slovak Democratic and Christian Union-Democratic Party (SDKÚ-DS)	390 042	15,42	28	18,6
AZEN – Alliance for Europe of the Nations	3 325	0,13	-	-
Direction– Social Democracy (Smer-SD)	880 111	34,79	62	41,3

Most – Hid	205 538	8,12	14	9,3
Total	2 529 385	100	150	99,8

4d. What was the voter turnout in the election?

2 572 640 voters, 58, 83%

4e. Please provide the following six statistics for the country at the time of the election studied, so that we may calculate voter turnout in various ways. Some definitions, where provided, are based on those developed by International IDEA.

- Total Population: **5 429 763**

Definition: The total population includes all inhabitants, of all ages, both citizens and non-citizens (including illegal aliens).

- Total Number of Voting Age Citizens: **4 362 369**

Definition: This number is meant to approximate the eligible voting population.

- Total Vote: **2 572 640**

Definition: The total number of votes cast in the relevant election. Total vote includes valid and invalid votes, as well as blank votes in cases where these are separated from invalid votes.

- Total Number of Invalid and Blank Votes: **43 255**

- Voting Age Population: **18 years old**

Definition: Includes all persons above the legal voting age.

- Number of Registered Voters: **4 362 369**

Definition: The figure represents the number of names on the voters' register at the time that the registration process closes, as reported by the electoral management body.

5. Ideological family of political parties. For this question, please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 3 respondent questionnaire, and label them the same way (A-I).

Party Name	Ideological Family
A. Slovak Democratic and Christian Union-Democratic Party (SDKÚ-DS)	Christian Democratic party Center-right
B. Freedom and Solidarity (SaS)	Liberal party
C. Christian Democratic Movement (KDH)	Christian Democratic party Conservative party
D. Most- Híd	Hungarian minority interest – ethnic party, more center-right
E. Direction – Social Democracy (Smer – SD)	Social democratic party
F. Slovak National Party (SNS)	Radical national party
G. Party of Hungarian Coalition (SMK)	Ethnic based party, rather conservative
H. People’s Party- Movement for Democratic Slovakia (ĽS-HZDS)	National Conservative party

Ideological Party Families: (These are suggestions only. If a party does not fit well into this classification scheme, please provide an alternative and some explanation.)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| (A) Ecology Parties | (F) Left Liberal Parties | (K) Independents |
| (B) Communist Parties | (G) Liberal Parties | (L) Agrarian Parties |
| (C) Socialist Parties | (H) Right Liberal Parties | (M) Ethnic Parties |
| (D) Social Democratic Parties | (I) Christian Democratic Parties | (N) Regional Parties |
| (E) Conservative Parties | (J) National Parties | (O) Other Parties |

Notices: The party order:

A-D the current coalition parties

E-F the current opposition parties

G-H the former ruling parties prior to the most recent election

6a. Ideological Positions of Parties:

Please indicate party positions on a left-right dimension (in the expert judgment of the CSES Collaborator). Please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 3 respondent questionnaire, and label them the same way (A-I).

Party Name	Left										Right	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
A. Slovak Democratic and Christian Union-Democratic Party (SDKÚ-DS)								X				
B. Freedom and Solidarity (SaS)							X					
C. . Christian Democratic Movement (KDH)									X			
D. Most- Híd								X				
E. Direction – Social Democracy (Smer – SD)				X								
F. Slovak National Party (SNS)					X							
G. Party of Hungarian Coalition (SMK)									X			
H. . People’s Party- Movement for Democratic Slovakia (ĽS-HZDS)					X							

Notices : The party order:

A-D the current coalition parties

E-F the current opposition parties

G-H the former ruling parties prior to the most recent election

6b. If you have asked respondents to rank political parties on an alternative dimension, other than the left-right dimension, please also provide your own rankings of the parties on this dimension. Please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 3 respondent questionnaire, and label them the same way (A-I).

No alternative dimension has been used.

7. In your view, what are the five most salient factors that affected the outcome of the election (e.g. major scandals; economic events; the presence of an independent actor; specific issues)? Rank them according to their salience (1 = most salient).

1. Economic and social situation, economic crises, social uncertainty, crises of Euro currency
2. Corruption scandals of the governmental parties, above all – junior coalition partner Slovak National Party
3. Floods in Eastern Slovakia
4. Frictions with Hungary (double citizenship law for Hungarians living out of the country and the counter-law passed in the Slovak Parliament immediately afterwards
5. Civic mobilization campaign, via Internet and social networks which mobilized mostly urban young voters to show up and cast the vote.

8. Party Leaders and Presidential Candidates:

In the table below, report the leader(s) of each party. Please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 3 respondent questionnaire, and label them the same way (A-I). If candidates were endorsed by more than one party, please indicate this.

Party Name	Name of Party Leader
A. Slovak Democratic and Christian Union-Democratic Party (SDKÚ-DS)	Iveta Radičová (election leader) Mikuláš Dzurinda (party leader)
B. Freedom and Solidarity (SaS)	Richard Sulík
C. . Christian Democratic Movement (KDH)	Ján Figel'
D. Most- Híd	Béla Bugár
E. Direction – Social Democracy (Smer – SD)	Robert Fico
F. Slovak National Party (SNS)	Ján Slota
G. Party of Hungarian Coalition (SMK)	Pál Csáky
H. . People's Party- Movement for Democratic Slovakia (ES-HZDS)	Vladimír Mečiar

9a. Fairness of the Election

How impartial was the body that administered the election law?

- Very impartial
- Mostly impartial
- Not very impartial
- Not impartial at all

9b. Was there a formal complaint against the national level results?

- Yes
- No

9c. Were there irregularities reported by international election observers?

- Yes
- No
- No international election observers

9d. On what date was the election originally scheduled to be held?

2010 Parliamentary elections were held on June 12, 2010 – ordinary and official date.

9e. On what date was the election actually held? If different from 1d, please explain why.

2010 Parliamentary elections were held on June 12, 2010 – ordinary and official date.

10a. Election Violence

To what extent was there violence and voter or candidate intimidation during the election campaign and the electionday?

- No violence at all
- Sporadic violence on the part of the government
- Sporadic violence on the part of opposition groups
- Sporadic violence on all sides
- Significant violence on the part of the government- Direction's aggressive negative election campaign
- Significant violence on the part of opposition groups
- Significant violence of all sides

10b. If there was violence, was it geographically concentrated or national?

- Geographically concentrated
- National

10c. Post-Election (and election-related) Violence

To what extent was there violence following the election?

- No violence at all
- Sporadic violence on the part of the government
- Sporadic violence on the part of opposition groups
- Sporadic violence on all sides
- Significant violence on the part of the government
- Significant violence on the part of opposition groups
- Significant violence of all sides

10d. Post-Election (and election-related) Protest

To what extent was there protest following the election?

- No protest at all
- Sporadic protest
- Significant protest

Questions about the Possibilities of Electoral Alliance

Definitions: A joint list refers to one on which candidates of different parties run together. Apparentement refers to a legal agreement between two or more lists to pool their votes for the purposes of an initial seat allocation, with seats initially allocated to the alliance then reallocated to the lists in the alliance.

11. Joint Lists/Candidates

There are multiple types of electoral alliances/coalitions, but we are explicitly interested in those involving joint lists or candidates - i.e. those where parties compete as a unit during the election.

Is this type of electoral coalition legally allowable?

- Yes
 No

Is this type of electoral coalition used in practice, even if not legally allowable?

- Yes
 No

If “Yes” was answered to either of the above questions, then please complete the following table for the election at which the Module was administered. Please mention only alliances that received at least 1% of the vote nationally. Add additional lines to the table as necessary.

Alliance Name	Participating Parties (please indicate dominant members with an “*”)
Alliance 1:	
Alliance 2:	
Alliance 3:	
Alliance 4:	
Alliance 5:	

Explanation: in 2010 election there no regular coalition running, however, there were two case when candidates form one party (or grouping) candidate on the list of another bigger party.

1. First one – members of Civic conservative party were running on the list of Most-Híd, 4 of them got onto the parliament whereas 3 of those thanks to the preferential votes (each voter could give 4 preferential votes, they are counted if the exceed more than 3% of the votes for the relevant party).

2. Four members of an association “Ordinary People” run at the list of Freedom and Solidarity on the lowest position of the list (147. – 150.). Thanks to the preferential votes all four got into the parliament.

12. If joint lists are possible, are they subject to different regulations than single-party lists? For example, higher thresholds, different numbers of candidates that may appear on the list, etc. (please mark all applicable responses)

Yes, joint party lists must satisfy higher thresholds

Yes, joint party lists may present different numbers of candidates

Yes, joint party lists are subject to other regulations that are different from the regulations governing independent parties; please specify: _____

No, joint parties are governed by the same rules as the other parties

Not applicable; no joint party lists are allowed

13a. Is there apparentement or linking of lists?

Yes

No

13b. If apparentement is possible, what lists can participate in such agreements:

lists of the same party in the same constituency

lists of the same party from different constituencies

lists of different parties in the same constituency

14a. Can candidates run with the endorsement of more than one party?

Yes

No

14b. If candidates can run with the endorsement of more than one party, is this reflected on the ballot?

No

No party endorsements are indicated on the ballot paper

Yes, candidate's name appears once, together with the names of all supporting parties

Yes, candidate's name appears as many times as there are different parties endorsing him/her, each time with the name of the endorsing party

Yes, other; please explain: _____

Data on Electoral Institutions

If possible, please supplement this section with copies of the electoral law, voters' handbooks, electoral commission reports, and/or any other relevant materials.

Questions 15a through 21d must be repeated for each electoral tier (segment) of each directly elected house of the legislature.

Electoral Tier (Segment) and House

15a. In your answers for questions 15a through 21d, which electoral tier (segment) is being referred to? (Note: Countries with only one tier may skip this question.)

http://aceproject.org/ero-en/index_html?filter&topic=&country=Slovakia&type=Ballot%20Papers

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slovak_parliamentary_election,_2010

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elections_in_Slovakia

http://spectator.sme.sk/articles/view/37818/10/slovakias_parliamentary_elections_set_for_june12.html

15b. In your answers for questions 15a through 21d, which house is being referred to (lower or upper)? (Note: Countries with only one tier may skip this question.)

Questions about Voting

16a. How many votes do voters cast or can cast? In systems where voters rank order the candidates, if there are 10 candidates (for example), the response to this question should be 10.
1 voter = 1 vote

16b. Do they vote for candidates (not party lists) or party lists? (Note: Collaborators may select multiple answers, if appropriate.)

(Definition: Party bloc voting is used in multi-member districts where voters cast a single party-centered vote for their party of choice; the party with the most votes wins all of the district seats.)

Candidates

Party Lists

Party Bloc Voting

Other; please explain: Slovak voters can vote for party lists of political subjects and every voter has got 4 preferential votes, they are counted if they reach 3% of all votes for the party.

16c. How many rounds of voting are there?

One-round of voting

16d. If there are lists, are they closed, open, flexible, or is there party bloc voting?

Closed (order of candidates elected is determined by the party and voters are unable to express preference for a particular candidate)

Partially open (voters can indicate their preferred party and their favored candidate within that party)

Flexible (voters can allocate votes to candidates either within a single party list or across different party lists as they see fit)

17. Are the votes transferable?

(Definition: In systems with preferential voting, a voter can express a list of preferences. E.g., votes can be cast by putting a '1' in the column next to the voter's preferred candidate, a '2' beside their second favorite candidate and so on. Votes are counted according to the first preferences and any candidates who have achieved the predetermined quota are elected. To decide which of the remaining candidates are elected the votes are *transferred* from candidates who have more than the necessary number to achieve the quota and from the candidate with the least number of votes. An example of this is the election in Ireland in 2002.)

Yes

No

18. If more than one vote can be cast, can they be cumulated?

(Definition: Cumulative voting refers to systems in which voters are allowed to cast more than one vote for a single candidate.)

Yes

No

19. Is voting compulsory?

(Definition: Voting is compulsory if the law states that all those who have the right to vote are obliged to exercise that right.)

Yes; Strictly Enforced Sanctions

Yes; Weakly Enforced Sanctions

Yes; Without Sanction for Violation

No

20. Please list and describe any other features of voting that should be noted.

Questions about Converting Votes into Seats

21a. Are there legally mandated thresholds that a party must exceed before it is eligible to receive seats?

Yes

No

21b. If YES in Question 21a, what is the threshold?

Election threshold:

one political party : 5%

coalition which consisting of two or three political subject: 7%

coalition consisting of four and more four political subjects: 10%

21c. If YES in Question 21a, what is the unit for the threshold mentioned in Question 21b?

Percent of total votes

Percent of valid votes

Percent of the total electorate

Other; please explain: _____

21d. If YES in Question 21a, please specify to what House/ Electoral Tier (Segment) the threshold(s) apply.

Slovak republic has just one electoral district. And has an unicameral parliament. It is called National Council of Slovak Republic (Národná rada Slovenskej republiky). The votes are important for future members of this institution.

Please repeat questions 15a through 21d for each electoral tier (segment) of each directly elected house of the legislature. Countries with only one tier should proceed to Question 22.

References

22. Please provide an official source for district-level election results. English language sources are especially helpful. Include website links or contact information if applicable.

<http://portal.statistics.sk/>

<http://www.government.gov.sk/>

<http://www.nrsr.sk/>

<http://www.minv.sk/?nr10-uvk>

Notices: all those web pages, there is possible to read also in English language!

23. Please list any resources that were consulted in the preparation of this report, or that the CSES community may find especially helpful in understanding the political system described. Include website links if applicable.

Web pages:

<http://portal.statistics.sk/>

<http://www.government.gov.sk/>

<http://www.nrsr.sk/>

<http://www.minv.sk/?nr10-uvk>

Notices: all those web pages, there is possible to read also in English language!

Books:

Zsuffa, István: *Developing accurate voter lists in transitional democracies*, Budapest: ACEEEO 2010. 175 p. ISBN 978-963-08-0535-3

Group of authors: *Election in Europe*, Budapest: ACEEEO. 2010. 86 p. ISSN 2074-6733

Slovakia 2009. Trends in Quality of Democracy. Bútorá M. - Kollár M. – Mesežnikov, G. (eds). Institute for Public Affairs, Bratislava 2010.

Gyárfášová, O. – Mesežnikov, G. (eds) *Visegrad Elections 2010: Domestic Impact and European Consequences*. Institute for Public Affairs, Bratislava 2011.