

Comparative Study of Electoral Systems Module 3: Macro Report

June 05, 2006

Country: Slovenia
Date of Election: 21 September 2008

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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 specify: _____

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

2002-2007: Dr. Janez Drnovšek, as independent president (between 1992-2002 the president of the leading parliamentary and coalition party Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS));

2007-: Dr. Danilo Türk, as independent president

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

2004-2008: Primer Minister Janez Janša, the president of the **Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS)**

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.

Name of Political Party

Number of Cabinet Ministers

- Slovenian Democratic Party	8
- New Slovenia	4
- Slovenian People's Party	3
- Democratic Party of Retired Persons of Slovenia	1

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.

prime minister + 16 ministries (15 ministries + 1 without portfolio)

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

2007- : Dr. Danilo Türk, as independent president

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

2008-2011: Borut Pahor, the president of **the Social Democrats (SD)**

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>
Social Democrats – SD	9 (+PM)*
Zares – new policy	4
Democratic party of Retired Persons of Slovenia – DESUS	3**
Liberal Democracy of Slovenia – LDS	2

* Two of which without a portfolio.

** One of which without a portfolio.

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.

prime minister + 18 ministries (15 ministries + 3 without portfolio)

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.

17 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.

- 1) **The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia**
http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=1947
- 2) **The National Electoral Commission** <http://volitve.gov.si/dz2008/en/index.html>

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.

Sources: The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia:
http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=1947 and The National Electoral Commission:
<http://volitve.gov.si/dz2008/en/index.html> and
http://volitve.gov.si/dz2008/en/rezultati/rezultati_slo.html.

Lists of candidates	Number of votes	% of votes	Number of seats	% of Seats
Social Democrats * <i>Socialni demokrati (SD)</i>	320,248	30.5	29	32,2
Slovenian Democratic Party <i>Slovenska demokratska stranka (SDS)</i>	307,735	29.3	28	31,1
Zares - new policy (For Real) <i>Zares – nova politika</i>	98,526	9.4	9	10
Democratic party of Retired Persons of Slovenia <i>Demokratska stranka upokojencev Slovenije (DeSUS)</i>	78,353	7.5	7	7,8
Slovenian National Party <i>Slovenska nacionalna stranka (SNS)</i>	56,832	5.4	5	5,55
Slovenian Peoples Party and Slovenian Youth Party <i>Slovenska ljudska stranka (SLS) + Stranka mladih Slovenije (SMS)</i>	54,809	5.2	5	5,55
Liberal Democracy of Slovenia <i>Liberalna demokracija Slovenije (LDS)</i>	54,771	5.2	5	5,55
New Slovenia - Christian People's Party <i>Nova Slovenija Krščanska ljudska stranka (Nsi)</i>	35,774	3.4	0	/
Lipa (Party Lime Tree) <i>Lipa</i>	19,068	1.8	0	/
List for Justice and Development <i>Lista za pravičnost in razvoj</i>	5,897	0.5	0	/
The Green Party of Slovenia <i>Zeleni Slovenije (ZELENI)</i>	5,367	0.5	0	/
National communities**	5,153 (out of 6506)		2	2,2
TOTAL	1,070,523 (out of 1,696,437)	100.0	90	100

* In elections 1990-2004 the name of this party was The United List of Social Democrats.

** The Italian and Hungarian national communities each elect one deputy to the National Assembly. For the election of deputies of the Italian and Hungarian national communities special electoral units are formed on the territory where these communities live; one for the Italian and one for the Hungarian national communities. Deputies of the Italian and Hungarian national communities are elected according to the majority system.

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

63,1 %

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:

2,039,399

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

- Total Number of Voting Age Citizens:

1,696,437

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

- Total Vote:

1,070,523

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:

18,597

- Voting Age Population:

Every citizen of the Republic of Slovenia who is 18 years old by the election day and has not been declared legally incompetent has the right to vote and be elected a National Assembly deputy. The right to vote is exercised in the electoral unit of a person's permanent residence.

Definition: Includes all persons above the legal voting age.

- Number of Registered Voters:

1,696,437

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
Democratic Party of Retired Persons (DeSUS)	O (issue specific)
Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS)	G
New Slovenia (NSi)	I
Slovenian Peoples Party (SLS) and Slovenian Youth Party (SMS)	L
Slovenian National Party (SNS)	J
Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS)	D
Social Democrats (SD)	D
Zares – new policy	G

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 |

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	
Democratic Party of Retired Persons (DeSUS)							X					
Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS)			X									
New Slovenia (NSi)										X		
Slovenian Peoples Party (SLS) and Slovenian Youth Party (SMS)									X			
Slovenian National Party (SNS)											X	
Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS)									X			
Social Democrats (SD)				X								
Zares – new policy			X									

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).

Name of dimension:

Label for left hand position:

Label for right hand position:

Party Name	Left										Right
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I.											
II.											
III.											
IV.											
V.											
VI.											
VII.											
VIII.											
IX.											

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. **Patria scandal** launched by/through the media in the beginning of the electoral campaign:
– the claims of bribery of Slovenian officials by the Finnish company Patria when buying the infantry armored vehicles. The president of the 2004-2008 governmental coalition Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS) was accused to be involved in
2. A vigorous government media campaign against ‘**tycoons**’ (managers who succeeded in becoming big capitalists with the help of Slovenian bank loans, as then allowed by the law and politics) had been underway since early 2008.
3. The unsolved **border dispute** between **Slovenia** and **Croatia**, existing since the independence of the two countries.
4. The establishment of the **new party Zares – new policy** in November 2007, majority of its key members came from the decaying Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS). The new leadership of the long-time leading party of the **Liberal Democracy of Slovenia** (LDS). Party got its first female president Katarina Kresal, the attorney without any political experiences from the past.
5. The **results of the presidential elections in 2007**, where the independent candidate with the support of the left-centered parties’ was elected in the second round, defeated the right-centered governmental coalition candidate.

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	Name of Presidential Candidate, if appropriate
Democratic Party of Retired Persons (DeSUS)	Karel Erjavec	Without their own candidate, but gave party's support to Danilo Türk (independent candidate)
Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (LDS)	Katarina Kresal	Without their own candidate, but gave party's support to Mitja Gaspari (independent candidate)
New Slovenia (NSi)	Andrej Bajuk	Without their own candidate, but gave party's support to Lojze Peterle (independent candidate)
Slovenian Peoples Party (SLS) and Slovenian Youth Party (SMS)	Bojan Šrot	Without their own candidate, but gave party's support to Lojze Peterle (independent candidate)
Slovenian National Party (SNS)	Zmago Jelinčič Plemeniti	Zmago Jelinčič Plemeniti
Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS)	Janez Janša	Without their own candidate, but gave party's support to Lojze Peterle (independent candidate)
Social Democrats (SD)	Borut Pahor	Without their own candidate, but gave party's support to Danilo Türk (independent candidate)
Zares – new policy	Gregor Golobič	Without their own candidate, but gave party's support to Danilo Türk (independent candidate) established yet)

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?

21 September 2008

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

21 September 2008

10a. Election Violence

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

- 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

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

In general it is not common to form alliances of that kind in Slovenia due to proportional electoral system and relatively low threshold.

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: Slovenian Peoples Party (SLS) and Slovenian Youth Party (SMS) 5,21 % of votes	“Slovenian Peoples Party (SLS)” * “Slovenian Youth Party (SMS)”
Alliance 2: Green Coalition: Green Party and Green Progress 0,21 % of votes	“Green Party” * “Green Progress”
Alliance 3:	
Alliance 4:	
Alliance 5:	

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.)

For the election of National Assembly deputies **8 electoral units (constituencies)** are formed. Each unit is divided into **11 electoral districts**. In each electoral unit eleven deputies are elected. In each electoral district one deputy is elected.

For the election of deputies of the Italian and Hungarian national communities special electoral units are formed on the territory where these communities live; one for the Italian and one for the Hungarian national communities.

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.)

Lower

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 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: _____

16c. How many rounds of voting are there?

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)

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.

The National Assembly is composed of deputies of the citizens of Slovenia and comprises **90 deputies**. Deputies are elected by universal, equal, direct and secret voting. **88** National Assembly deputies are elected according to the proportional system with certain corrective elements of the majority system. **2** deputies of the Italian and Hungarian national communities are elected according to the majority system.

At the 2008 national elections a gender quota was applied for the first time. According to the National Assembly Elections Act each gender must make up no less than 35 per cent of the total number of all candidates on a list for national elections.

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?

4 %

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.

Lower House. See answers 15a through 21d

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.

1. The National Electoral Commission (2008). Results of voting by constituencies at: http://volitve.gov.si/dz2008/en/rezultati/izidi_enote.html
2. The National Electoral Commission (2008). Results of voting by electoral districts http://volitve.gov.si/dz2008/en/rezultati/izidi_okraji.html

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.

Sources used:

1. The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (2008). Election of the members of the National Assembly, Slovenia, 21 September 2008. http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=1947
2. The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (2008). Candidates for Deputies in The National Assembly Of The Republic Of Slovenia, Slovenia. Methodological Explanations. http://www.stat.si/doc/metod_pojasnila/06-078-ME.htm
3. The National Electoral Commission (2008). Elections to the National Assembly <http://volitve.gov.si/dz2008/en/index.html>
4. The National Assembly Elections Act (*Zakon o volitvah v Državni zbor (Ur.l. RS, št. 44/92, 60/95,14/96– odločba US, 67/97– odločba US, 70/2000) <http://legislationline.org/documents/action/popup/id/3825>.
5. Fink-Hafner, D. (2009). Slovenia. *European Journal of Political Research* 48: 1106–1113.
6. Lajh, D. (2009). *Nations in Transit: Slovenia*. London: Freedom House.