



CSES

Comparative Study of Electoral Systems Module 6: Macro Report

Version: August 21, 2024

Country/Polity: Austria

Date of Election: September 29, 2024

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NOTES TO COLLABORATORS IN COMPLETING CSES MACRO REPORT

- The information provided in this report contributes to the macro data portion of the CSES, an essential component 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.
- Collaborators are advised that the CSES makes the macro reports public to the user community upon the release of the dataset.
- There are eight sections (sorted by alphabet section A-H inclusive) in this report. Please ensure that you complete **ALL** eight sections (A-H) before returning the completed report to the CSES Secretariat.
- Any supplementary documents that you can provide (e.g., electoral legislation, party manifestos, electoral commission reports, media reports, district data) 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.
- To help collaborators complete the macro report, instructions and definitions appear in the document where necessary. Specific instructions to collaborators are highlighted in **RED** and the definitions CSES adheres to are highlighted in **BLUE**.

NOTES TO CSES DATA USERS CONSULTING PUBLISHED CSES MACRO REPORTS

CSES Macro Reports are made publicly available in the interests of transparency. Users are advised there may be instances where the macro report indicators for a polity differ from the published macro CSES data. In these circumstances, we recommend users rely on the published CSES data, which takes precedence.

A) DATA PERTINENT TO ELECTION AT WHICH 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?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): If the system is unicameral, please select "Lower House election".

- Upper House election
- Lower House election
- Both Upper and Lower House election
- Other; please specify: _____

2a. What was the president's party *prior* to the most recent election, regardless of whether the election was presidential?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): If no role of President exists, please write "N/A".

Independent (supported by the Green Party). Please note that Austrian president, Alexander Van der Bellen, ran as an Independent but was supported by the Green Party (Die Grünen). He was the former leader of the Green Party and suspended his membership for the time period of his presidency.

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): If no role of Prime Minister exists, please write "N/A".

Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)

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, write "all.") Please also provide a website link to this data if possible.

DEFINITION: Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and who have voting rights at Cabinet meetings. Please also list cabinet members that are 'independent'. If known, specify if the 'independents' are affiliated or close to certain parties.

Party Name	Number of cabinet positions
Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)	8
Green Party	4
Independent (nominated by the ÖVP)	2

- 2d. What was the size of the cabinet *prior* to the election (i.e., total number of cabinet ministers detailed in 2c)? Please include only full ministers and the prime minister in the count.

DEFINITION: Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and have voting rights at Cabinet meetings.

The size of the cabinet prior to the election was 14. It consisted of 13 ministers and the chancellor.

- 2e. Was the President *prior* to the most recent election, regardless of whether the election was presidential, male or female?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Collaborators are requested to specify their best estimate of how the politician self-identifies. If there is no role of the President, please select N/A.

Male Female Other Unsure N/A

- 2f. Was the Prime Minister *prior* to the most recent election male or female?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Collaborators are requested to specify their best estimate of how the politician self-identifies. If there is no role of the Prime Minister, please select N/A.

Male Female Other Unsure N/A

- 2g. How many female members were in the cabinet *prior* to the election?

DEFINITION: Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and have voting rights at Cabinet meetings.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Collaborators are requested to specify their best estimate of how many cabinet members identify as female.

Prior to the 2024 legislative elections, the Austrian cabinet had 5 female members.

- 3a. What was the president's party *after* the most recent election, regardless of whether the election was presidential?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): If no role of President exists, please select "N/A".

Unchanged: Independent (supported by the Green Party). Please note that Austrian president, Alexander Van der Bellen, ran as an Independent but was supported by the Green Party (Die Grünen). He was the former leader of the Green Party and suspended his membership for the time period of his presidency.

- 3b. What was the party of the Prime Minister *after* the most recent election, regardless of whether the election was parliamentary?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): If no role of Prime Minister exists, please select "N/A".

Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)

- 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, write "all"). Please provide a website link to this data if possible.

DEFINITION: Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and have voting rights at Cabinet meetings. Please also list cabinet members that are 'independent'. If known, specify if the 'independents' are affiliated or close to certain parties.

Party Name	Number of cabinet positions
Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)	6
Social Democratic Party of Austria (SPÖ)	6
NEOS	2

Please note that the current government also encompasses 7 state secretaries. State secretaries can be entrusted with special tasks. They take part in Cabinet meetings, but do not have the right to vote.

For the full list of members, please see:

https://www.parlament.gv.at/recherchieren/personen/bundesregierung/BEBILD_MIT_BREG.html (last accessed March 6, 2025)

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.

DEFINITION: Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and have voting rights at Cabinet meetings.

The size of the cabinet after the election was 14. It consisted of 13 ministers and the chancellor.

3e. Was the President *after* the most recent election, regardless of whether the election was presidential, male or female?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Collaborators are requested to specify their best estimate of how the politician self-identifies. If no role of President exists, please select "N/A".

Male Female Other Unsure N/A

3f. Was the Prime Minister *after* the most recent election male or female?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Collaborators are requested to specify their best estimate of how the politician self-identifies. If no role of Prime Minister exists, please select "N/A".

Male Female Other Unsure N/A

3g. How many female members were in the cabinet *after* the election?

DEFINITION: Ministers are considered those members of government who are members of the Cabinet and have voting rights at Cabinet meetings.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Collaborators are requested to specify their best estimate of how many cabinet members identify as female.

After the 2024 legislative elections, the Austrian cabinet had 6 female ministers.

Please note that the cabinet also encompasses 7 state secretaries, thereof 4 female state secretaries. State secretaries can be entrusted with special tasks and take part in Cabinet meetings, but do not have the right to vote.

For the full list of members, please see:

https://www.parlament.gv.at/recherchieren/personen/bundesregierung/BEBILD_MIT_BREG.html (last accessed March 6, 2025)

3h. Were the Finance Minister, Foreign Affairs (External Affairs) Minister, and Health Minister *prior* to **(Column A)** and *after* **(Column B)** the election male or female?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Collaborators are requested to specify their best estimate of how many cabinet members identify as female. Mark the box below in column A and column B respectively.

Minister	(A)		(B)	
	Officeholder <i>prior</i> to the election		Officeholder <i>after</i> the election	
Finance Minister	Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure <input type="checkbox"/>
Foreign Affairs Minister	Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure <input type="checkbox"/>
Health Minister	Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure <input type="checkbox"/>

3i. What was the party of the Finance Minister, Foreign Affairs (External Affairs) Minister, and Health Minister both *prior* to and *after* the election?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Please specify the party holding the portfolio in the below columns. Only politics classified as parliamentary systems or semi-presidential systems where party affiliations are apparent are required to answer this question. Politics that are Full Presidential systems or where cabinet affiliation is unclear can omit and move to question 4.

Minister	(A)	(B)
	Party holding the office <i>prior</i> to the election	Party holding the office <i>after</i> the election
Finance Minister	ÖVP	SPÖ
Foreign Affairs Minister	ÖVP	NEOS
Health Minister	The Greens	SPÖ

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Detailed results here are not required. Instead, providing an official source, preferably using the Roman/Latin script¹, where the results can be obtained is sufficient. Should the source be unavailable in the Roman/Latin alphabet (e.g., the source data is only available in scripts such as Cyrillic, Chinese, Arabic, or Japanese, etc...), the CSES Secretariat may require your assistance in collecting the official election results and the district data.

<https://www.bundeswahlen.gv.at/2024/nr/>

(Last accessed: March 3, 2025)

- 4b. Please provide **a source** of data detailing the official election results at the **electoral district level** (votes and seats) for **all** parties participating in the election. Please provide a website link to this data if possible. If the data is not available electronically, please provide the information in paper format.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Detailed results here is not required. Instead, providing an official source, preferably using the Roman/Latin script¹, where the results can be obtained, is sufficient. Should the source be unavailable in the Roman/Latin alphabet (e.g., the source data is only available in scripts such as Cyrillic, Chinese, Arabic, or Japanese, etc...), the CSES Secretariat may require your assistance in collecting the official election results and the district data.

<https://www.bundeswahlen.gv.at/2024/nr/>

(Last accessed: March 3, 2025)

- 4c. Can voters cast a ballot before Election Day(s)? (i.e., Is early voting possible)?

Yes, for the whole electorate

Yes, but only for some of the electorate – please specify below:

No

- 4d. Can voters cast a ballot by mail?

Yes, for the whole electorate

Yes, but only for some of the electorate – please specify below:

No

- 4e. Can voters cast a ballot by the Internet?

Yes, for the whole electorate

Yes, but only for some of the electorate – please specify below:

No

¹ By this we mean scripts that use the letters A, B, C etc...

B) COLLABORATOR EXPERT CLASSIFICATIONS: PARTY POSITIONS

5a. Ideological family of political parties: Please indicate the ideological party family for each party by using the numbered categories below. For this question, please use the same parties used in the CSES Module 6 respondent questionnaire.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Up to 9 parties can be classified for each polity. Please provide scores for the first nine parties achieving 1% of the national popular vote. Regarding labeling the parties alphabetically, Parties A-F are the six most popular parties/coalitions, ordered in descending order of their share of the popular vote in the parliamentary (or Presidential) election. Thus, Party A is the party/coalition that received the most votes in the election, Party B is the second most votes, and so on. Parties G, H, and I are supplemental parties. They may, but do not have to, accord with how parties A-F are ordered, that is ordered on the popular share of the vote in a polity.

Party Name	Ideological Family
A. ÖVP (Österreichische Volkspartei)	(8) Christian Democratic Parties
B. SPÖ (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs)	(4) Social Democratic Parties
C. FPÖ (Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs)	(10) National Parties
D. Grüne (Die Grünen – Die Grüne Alternative)	(1) Ecology Parties
E. NEOS (NEOS – Das Neue Österreich und Liberales Forum)	(6) Liberal Parties
F. Bierpartei	(15) Others
G. KPÖ (Kommunistische Partei Österreichs)	(2) Communist Parties
H.	
I.	

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.)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Ecology Parties | (6) Liberal Parties | (11) Agrarian Parties |
| (2) Communist Parties | (7) Right Liberal Parties | (12) Ethnic Parties |
| (3) Socialist Parties | (8) Christian Democratic Parties | (13) Regional Parties |
| (4) Social Democratic Parties | (9) Conservative Parties | (14) Independents |
| (5) Left Liberal Parties | (10) National Parties | (15) Others |

The party names are based on Q111 in the questionnaire (common abbreviations). Additionally, in this table, the full party names are in parentheses.

5b: How many country experts/national collaborators have assisted in the classification of parties on the above scale? 2

6a. Ideological Positions of Parties: Please indicate party positions on a left-right dimension (in the expert judgment of the CSES Collaborator(s)). Please use the same parties that were used in the CSES Module 6 respondent questionnaire.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Up to 9 parties can be classified for each polity. Please provide scores for the first nine parties achieving 1% of the national popular vote. Regarding labeling the parties alphabetically, Parties A-F are the six most popular parties/coalitions, ordered in descending order of their share of the popular vote in the parliamentary (or Presidential) election. Thus, Party A is the party/coalition that received the most votes in the election, Party B is the second most votes, and so on. Parties G, H, and I are supplemental parties. They may, but do not have to, according to how parties A are ordered, that is, ordered on the popular share of the vote in a polity.

Party Name	Left						Right				
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A. ÖVP (Österreichische Volkspartei)								X			
B. SPÖ (Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs)				X							
C. FPÖ (Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs)										X	
D. Grüne (Die Grünen – Die Grüne Alternative)				X							
E. NEOS (NEOS – Das Neue Österreich und Liberales Forum)							X				
F. Bierpartei					X						
G. KPÖ (Kommunistische Partei Österreichs)		X									

6a2: How many country experts/national collaborators have assisted in the classification of parties on the above scale? 7

6a3: We encourage collaborators to provide any further specific or relevant information (if applicable) regarding the above classifications which might help users of the data understand them to a greater extent. This information will be included in the CSES codebook. Please fill in below.

Our answers in 6a are based on an expert survey with 7 members of the Department of Government. For the classification in the table above, answers were averaged across all members and then rounded. The following table provides the mean and median values our answers are based on:

F. Bierpartei							X				
G. KPÖ (Kommunistische Partei Österreichs)					X						

6b2: How many country experts/national collaborators have assisted in the classification of parties on the above scale? 7

6b3: We encourage collaborators to provide any further specific or relevant information (if applicable) regarding the above classifications which might help users of the data understand them to a greater extent. This information will be included in the CSES codebook. Please fill in below.

Our answers in 6c are based on an expert survey with 7 members of the Department of Government. For the classification in the table above, answers were averaged across all members and then rounded. The following table provides the mean and median values our answers are based on:

Party name	Mean (SD)	Median
ÖVP	3.86 (1.07)	4
SPÖ	3.85 (0.69)	4
FPÖ	9 (0.82)	9
Grüne	1.86 (0.90)	2
NEOS	2 (1.41)	2
Bierpartei	5.71 (2.56)	7
KPÖ	4.14 (2.61)	5

C) SALIENT ISSUES IN THE ELECTION

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)?
Note: Please rank the issues according to their salience (1 = most salient).

1. Migration and asylum
2. Inflation
3. Health and care
4. Environmental protection and climate change
5. Security and crime

D) FAIRNESS OF THE ELECTION & ELECTION SCHEDULING

8a. How impartial was the body that administered the election law?

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

8b. Was there a formal complaint against the national level results?

- Yes
- No

8c. Were there irregularities reported by international election observers?

- Yes
- No
- No international election observers

8d. On what date was the election originally legally scheduled to be held?

September 29, 2024

8e. On what date was the election actually held? If different from 8d, please explain why.

September 29, 2024

E) ELECTION VIOLENCE

9a. To what extent was there violence and voter or candidate intimidation **during** the election campaign and on 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

9b. If there was violence, was it geographically concentrated or national?

N/A: No violence at all

Geographically concentrated

National

9c. 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

9d. To what extent was there protest following the election?

No protest at all

Sporadic protest

Significant protest

On election day, a small protest with a few hundred participants took place in Vienna after the first projections were announced, opposing the Freedom Party's electoral success and the possibility of its inclusion in the government.

In the following days and weeks, larger demonstrations gathered thousands of people, urging mainstream parties to exclude the FPÖ from coalition talks. Further protests occurred during and after the coalition negotiations.

During the first round of coalition talks between ÖVP, SPÖ and NEOS, about a thousand people took to the streets to protest the fact that the FPÖ was not tasked with the formation of a new government by President Alexander Van der Bellen, despite having received the most votes.

When the ÖVP entered coalition negotiations with the FPÖ following the failure of the negotiations with SPÖ and NEOS, several thousands demonstrated against a possible FPÖ-led government under the potential chancellor Herbert Kickl.

Sources (in German):

News report by Austrian public broadcast ORF on protests on election day:

<https://wien.orf.at/stories/3275182/>

News report by Austrian regional newspaper Kleine Zeitung on protests a few days after the election:

<https://www.kleinezeitung.at/innenpolitik/18927648/am-donnerstag-wird-wieder-demonstriert>

News report by Austrian public broadcast ORF on pro-FPÖ protests

<https://wien.orf.at/stories/3283425/>

News report by Austrian newspaper Der Standard on protests after FPÖ and ÖVP started coalition talks

<https://www.derstandard.at/story/3000000252248/zehntausende-demonstrieren-gegen-blau-schwarz-sie-wollen-keinen-volkskanzler>

Sources (in English):

News report by Reuters on protests a few days after the election:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/thousands-march-vienna-against-far-right-before-coalition-talks-2024-10-03/>

News report by The Irish Times on protests after FPÖ and ÖVP started coalition talks

<https://www.irishtimes.com/world/europe/2025/01/06/angry-austrian-protests-as-far-right-leader-begins-coalition-talks/>

F) ELECTORAL ALLIANCES & CANDIDATES

10a. There are multiple types of electoral alliances/coalitions, but we are specifically 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?

DEFINITION: A joint list refers to one on which candidates of different parties run together.

Yes

No

10b. Is this type of electoral coalition used in practice, even if not legally allowable?

Yes

No

10c. 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:	

11. 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

12a. Is there apparentement or linking of lists?

DEFINITION: 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.

- Yes
- No

12b. If apparentement is possible, what lists can participate in such agreements:

DEFINITION: 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.

- 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
- No apparentement

13a. Can candidates run with the endorsement of more than one party?

- Yes
- No

13b. 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: _____

G) ELECTORAL INSTITUTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): If possible, please supplement answers to questions 14-25 inclusive by submitting copies of the electoral law, voters' handbooks, electoral commission reports, and/or any other relevant materials in the deposit of your CSES data to the CSES Secretariat.

14a. Have there been any electoral rule changes (e.g., electoral system changes, number of seats contested, number of districts, candidate nomination rules, etc...) in the polity in the preceding 5 years?

Yes

No

14b. If the answer to q14a was YES, please state below what changes occurred?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): In explaining, please attach any documents/sources that may help explain the change(s).

Electoral Tiers (Segments)

DEFINITION: CSES takes a generalized approach to classifying electoral tiers. Many electoral systems (both plurality and proportional operate a single-tier system where all elected representatives within the polity are elected in the same way (e.g., of systems that accord to this general principle are the United Kingdom, Canada, Ireland, or the Netherlands). There are conventionally two tiers of representatives in mixed systems (e.g., of systems like this include Germany and New Zealand, which elect representatives in two distinct ways – one set elected via constituency mandates and the other through list mandates). Even purely proportional systems can have multiple tiers. These can be delineated in various ways. For example, representatives elected through different list procedures, like in South Africa, where representatives can be elected via regional and national lists. Alternatively, the tiers may delineate compensatory seats, distributed to achieve a proportional outcome at the national level. For example, in polities like Norway and Sweden, the compensatory seat allocations are conventionally considered separate tiers even though electors don't cast separate ballots for these segments.

15a. For lower house elections, how many electoral tiers operate?

One tier

Two tiers

Three tiers

Other; please explain: _____

15b. For lower house elections, if more than one electoral tier operates in the polity (see answer to q15a above), please specify the different tiers, and the maximum number of seats awarded (if applicable) at each tier?

Tier name	Maximum number of seats awarded
Regional (Local) Tier	
State (Provincial) Tier	
National Tier	

First tier seats are allocated on the regional level. There are 39 regional constituencies (“Regionalwahlkreise”). Seats are distributed using proportional representation at all levels, with a 4% national electoral threshold (unless a party wins a direct mandate in at least one constituency).

15c. For upper house elections, how many electoral tiers operate?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Only required to answer this question if the election under study is an upper house election or has an upper house election taking place simultaneously with a lower house and/or presidential election.

- One tier
- Two tiers
- Three tiers
- Other; please explain: _____

15d. For upper house elections, if more than one electoral tier operates in the polity (see answer to q15c), please specify the different tiers, and the maximum number of seats awarded (if applicable) at each tier?

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): Only required to answer this question if the election under study is an upper house election or has an upper house election taking place simultaneously with a lower house and/or presidential election.

Tier	Maximum number of seats awarded

Voting procedures

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATOR(S): The voting procedure questions are asked of each electoral tier in the system (see the answer to Question 15 above). Hence, questions Q16a-Q20d and Q21a-25d are identical, but the answers should relate to the procedures operated at different tiers.

Questions Q16a-Q20d should be completed by polities with one electoral tier only or by polities with multiple electoral tiers, with the answers to questions Q16a-Q20d referring to tier 1 in that polities’ multi-tier system.

Questions Q21a-Q25d need only be completed by polities that operate multiple election tiers, with the answers to questions Q21a-Q25d referring to tier 2 in that polities’ multi-tier system. For those few polities with more than two tiers (e.g., Greece), we request that collaborators in answering Q21a-Q25d specify the answers for both tiers 2 and 3, clarifying which answers refer to tier 2 and tier 3, respectively.

For polities who have only one tier or tier 1 for multi-tier polities

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLLABORATORS: Questions Q16a-Q20d should be completed by polities with one electoral tier only or by polities who have multiple electoral tiers with the answers to questions Q16a-Q20d referring to tier 1 in that polities' multi-tier system.

TIER 1 (“Regionalwahlkreise”/Regional constituencies)

16a. How many votes do voters cast or can cast?

Voters can cast a party vote on an open list and indicate their preferred candidate on the respective party list.

16b. Do voters vote for candidates (not party lists) or party lists, or some other variant?

(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
- Candidates and Party Lists
- Other; please explain: _____

16c. How many rounds of voting are there?

There is 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)
- 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

N/A – only one vote cast

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

20a. Are there legally mandated thresholds that a party must exceed before it is eligible to receive seats?

Yes

No

20b. If YES in Question 20a, what is the threshold? Please supply all potential thresholds. Also, in multi-tier systems, please specify at which tier the thresholds operate.

Parties can enter parliament if they win at least one seat in one of the 39 regional districts (“Regionalwahlkreis”) or receive at least 4% of the valid nationwide votes.

20c. If YES in Question 20a and the threshold relates to a percentage of the vote a party needs to obtain to win seats, what is the unit for this threshold?

Percent of total votes

Percent of valid votes

Percent of the total electorate

Other; please explain: _____

If parties fail to gain a seat in at least one regional district, they must reach 4% of the valid nationwide votes to be eligible to receive seats. This threshold, therefore, applies to the federal level (tier 3). Parties that surpass this nationwide threshold (without already winning seats on the first tier) then take part in seat allocation in the second (provincial/“Länder” constituencies) and third (federal level) tier.

For polities with more than one tier only – please provide answers related to tier 2 & 3 here.

For polities that operate only one tier, the Collaborator can skip questions Q21a-Q25d and go straight to Q26.

Questions Q21a-Q25d (below) need only be completed by polities who operate MULTIPLE election tiers, with the answers to questions Q21a-Q25d referring to tier 2 in that polities’ multi-tier system. For those few polities with more than two tiers (e.g., Greece), we request that collaborators in answering Q21a-Q25d specify the answers for both tiers 2 and 3, clarifying which refers to tier 2 and tier 3, respectively.

21a. How many votes do voters cast or can cast?

Second tier seats are allocated on the provincial (“Länder”) level. There are nine provinces (“Bundesländer”). Third tier seats are allocated on the federal level (“Bundesebene”).

Voters can cast a party vote on an open list and indicate their preferred candidate on the respective party list.

21b. Do voters vote for candidates (not party lists) or party lists, or some other variant?

(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
- Candidates and Party Lists
- Other; please explain: _____

21c. How many rounds of voting are there?

There is one round of voting.

21d. 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)
- N/A

22. Are the votes transferable?

(DEFINITION: In systems with preferential voting, a voter can express a list of preferences. For example, 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

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

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

- Yes
- No
- N/A – only one vote cast

24. 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

25a. Are there legally mandated thresholds that a party must exceed before it is eligible to receive seats?

- Yes
 No

25b. If YES in Question 25a, what is the threshold? Please supply all potential thresholds. Also, in multi-tier systems, please specify at which tier the thresholds operate.

Parties can enter parliament if they win at least one seat in one of the 39 regional districts (“Regionalwahlkreis”) or receive at least 4% of the valid nationwide votes.

25c. If YES in Question 25a and the threshold relates to a percentage of the vote a party needs to obtain to win seats, what is the unit for this threshold?

- Percent of total votes
 Percent of valid votes
 Percent of the total electorate
 Other; please explain: _____

If parties fail to gain a seat in at least one regional district, they must reach 4% of the valid nationwide votes to be eligible to receive seats. This threshold, therefore, applies to the federal level (tier 3). Parties that surpass this nationwide threshold (without already winning seats on the first tier) then take part in seat allocation in the second (provincial/“Länder” constituencies) and third (federal level) tier.

H) References

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

Further information about the Austrian electoral law is available here (German and English):

https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/Erv/ERV_1992_471/ERV_1992_471.pdf

(last accessed March 3, 2025)