



VA GOVERNMENT
:RUD PEDERSEN GROUP

14TH LATVIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION RESULTS

OCTOBER 3 • 2022

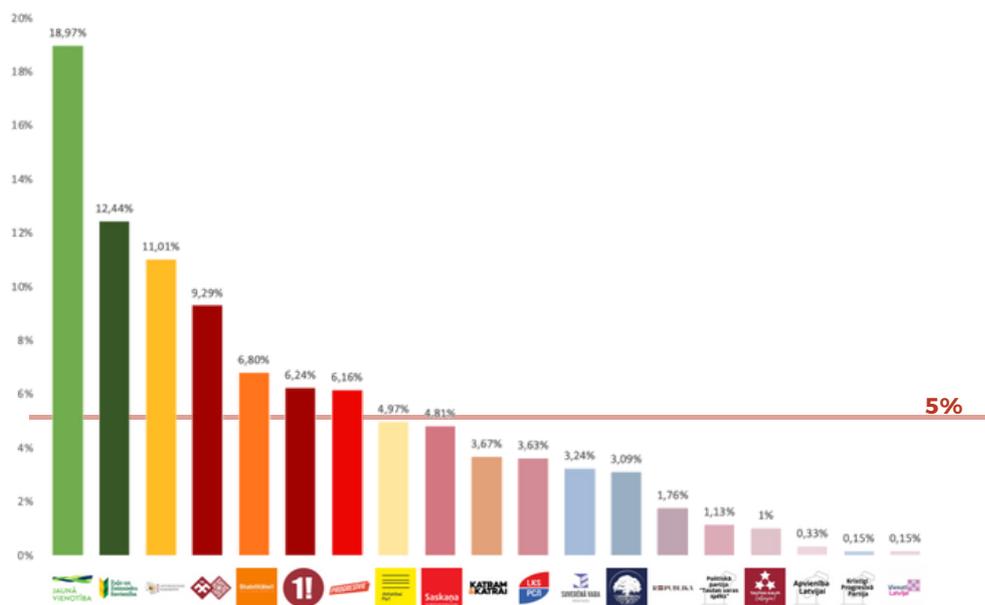
LATVIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2022

BACKGROUND

- The Latvian Parliamentary election took place on Saturday, October 1, 2022.
- The 13th Parliament's coalition government consisted of New Unity, Conservatives, National Alliance, and Development/For!
- The Latvian government has been center-right since the 1990s.
- The coalition discussions will take place now and after these are finalized the Prime Minister will be nominated.

KEY FACTS

- In the 14th Parliament elections, 7 political parties overcame the 5% barrier, guaranteeing their place in the Parliament.
- The number of elected parties is the same as last election.
- Two of the current coalition parties Development/For! and New Conservatives did not reach the 5% barrier and failed to ensure seats in Parliament.
- The current coalition parties that did overcome the 5% barrier have lost a considerable number of seats (now 28,26% of votes), however, there is a considerable probability that they will be part of a new coalition.
- More than half of the current ministers did not get elected in the 14th Parliament.
- This election had a voter turnout rate of 59,43% of the citizens of the voting age, which is a higher voter turnout rate than the last two elections.
- New Unity won the election, followed by Greens and Farmers' Union and the Combined Ballot.
- This year there was high popularity for For Stability! in the Latgale region, parties Greens and Farmers' Union and the Combined Ballot as the leaders in Kurzeme, and Greens and Farmers' Union as the leaders in the Zemgale region. New Unity was the leader in Riga and the Vidzeme region.
- This Parliament has a women's representation - 30 out of 100 MPs elected are women.
- Only one-third of the current MPs will continue working in the new Parliament, which is similar to the last Parliament where there was a record high number of newly elected members with also only one-third of the MPs continuing working in the Parliament.



Source of the graph: LSM.LV



The centrist New Unity (Jaunā Vienotība) holding the PM's office in the last Parliament received most votes in the election - 18.97%. The party had lost a number of their seats last election with 6.7% of votes, compared to 2014 when they gained 21.9%.



The conservative and agrarian political alliance Greens and Farmers' Union (Zaļo un Zemnieku Savienība) received 12.44% of the votes. The party gained 10% last election. In 2022 the Latvian Green Party and Liepāja party left the Green and Farmers' Union and joined the Combined Ballot.



The newly formed party alliance the Combined Ballot (Apvienotais Saraksts) consisting of the Latvian Green Party, Latvian Regional Alliance, and Liepāja party earned 11.01% of the votes. The party does not have a clear ideology and has been formed with the election in mind.



The right-wing national-conservative party National Alliance (Nacionālā apvienība "Visu Latvijai!"—"Tēvzemei un Brīvībai/LNNK") gained 9.29% of the votes compared to 11% in the last election. The party has been in the coalition continuously for the longest period since Latvia restored independence.



The party For Stability! (Stabilitātei!) was formed in 2021 and received 6.8% of the votes. One of its founders Rošļikovs was a member of the Harmony party, which had the highest number of votes in the last two elections. The party is pro-Russian and shares similarities with Harmony's program, which was the leader in the last two elections, but the party is considered more extreme.

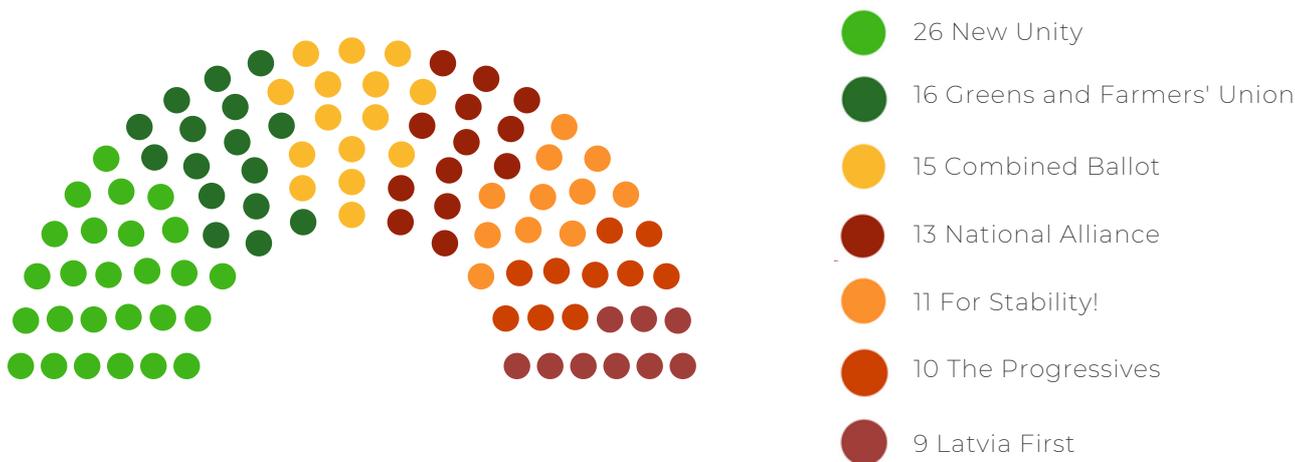


The newly formed populist right-wing party Latvia First (Latvija Pirmajā Vietā) with the leader Ainārs Šlesers at the fore-front, who has been seen as one of the central Latvian oligarchs, gained 6.24% of votes in the election.



The left-leaning social democrats The Progressives (Progresīvie) did not pass the 5% barrier in the last elections but received 6.16% votes in the 14th Parliamentary elections.

BREAKDOWN OF MANDATES



- Seven parties will be represented in the 14th Saeima which is the same number of parties as in the 13th Saeima.
- The largest share of seats is represented by New Unity, which will hold 26 seats, followed by Greens and Farmers' Union with 16 seats and Combined Ballot with 15 seats, the National Alliance with 13 seats, For Stability! with 11 seats, The Progressives with 10 seats and Latvia First with 9 seats.
- The Latvian Saeima consists of 100 seats in total; any coalition has to ensure 51 seats to secure a simple majority in the Parliament.

POTENTIAL COALITION

- The prime minister will be nominated by the President in November, until then the parties have to agree on a new coalition.
- The current coalition of the 13th Parliament has lost its power as two of the parties did not ensure their seats in the 14th Parliament.
- It is expected that negotiations on coalition building after the elections will be difficult, but also fast, as the crisis situation demands.
- It has already been discussed that it will be hard to form the new coalition as it potentially could be made up of up to 4 parties that are ideologically different.
- Additionally, some parties have spoken out about coalition formation and New Unity, the Combined Ballot and National Alliance have stated that they will not cooperate with the Greens and Farmers' Union if it continues to work with their prime minister candidate Aivars Lembergs.
- The most likely model of the new coalition – New Unity, Combined Ballot, National Alliance, and The Progressives in total holding 64 seats.
- The core of the coalition could be formed by New Unity, Combined Ballot, and National Alliance, which would only consist of 54 seats.
- With a 54-seat coalition, the situation could be too unstable, as it could lead to a minority coalition on some of the more contentious issues, which would force the prime minister to try to obtain votes from the opposition.
- However, as The Progressives are left-leaning it still is a question of whether The Progressives will continue to take part in the coalition talks.
- The National Alliance has major ideological differences with The Progressives; however, for the sake of the stability of the coalition, The Progressives would be a desirable member to secure 64 seats in the Saeima.
- The main issues for the possibly broad coalition are that there may be broad ideological differences and diverging views on fiscal and social questions.
- Currently, New Unity, National Alliance, and Combined Ballot are seen as the potential core of the new government.
- The main focus of the new government will be defense and energy questions.

MOST LIKELY COALITION

COALITION

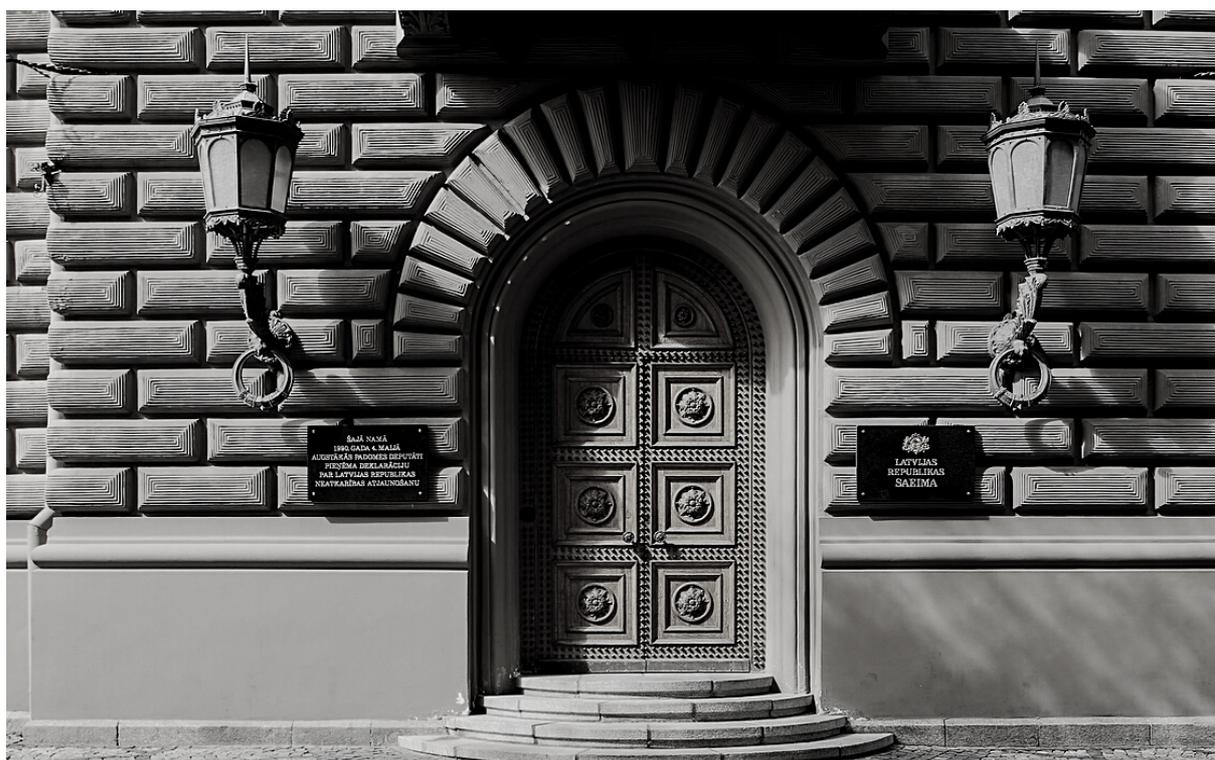


Total number of seats: 64

OPPOSITION



Total number of seats: 36





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