

EU Election Monitor 2026

Parliamentary Election Cyprus



General Data

* - Sources



Nicosia



979.865
Inhabitants



EU-Member State since
1. May 2004



Schengen
membership process
ongoing



6/720 Seats in the
EU-Parliament



Euro since
January 2008



EU Council Presidency
1 January – 30 June 2026



BIP/capita*
40.700 (13/27)

Pre-Election

On 24 May Cyprus will elect a new Parliament. In the only presidential system within the European Union, the Cypriot House of Representatives is responsible exclusively for legislative matters. Currently, 41 of 56 members of the House of Representatives belong to the opposition, with the strongest parties being the conservative DISY and the left-wing AKEL. The independent President, Nikos Christodoulides, currently enjoys the support of 16 MPs from three centrist to social democratic parties.

Election Insides

The election campaign is largely dominated by day-to-day domestic issues. The focus is on rising living costs, high rents and the question of whether wages and social security are keeping pace with the inflation. Since the drone attack in March on a British military Base in the south of the island in the context of the Iran war, a geopolitical dimension has also come to play an increasingly significant role. Above all, the right-wing populist National Popular Front (ELAM) is increasingly linking these issues to demands for a highly restrictive migration policy, thereby shifting the public as whole to the right. The Cyprus conflict is less prominent than in previous elections. The high number of non and undecided voters, as well as the increasing fragmentation of the party system, are symptoms of a widespread dissatisfaction with the political elites. Younger voters in particular show less attachments to traditional parties.

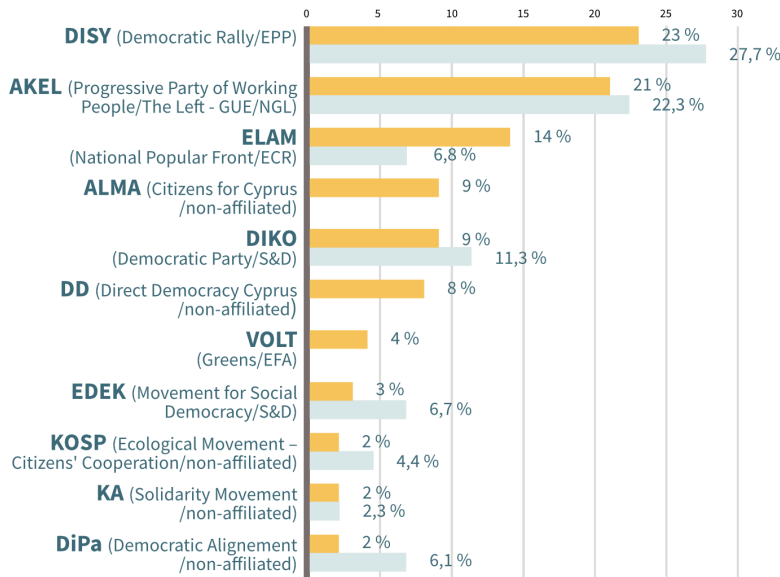
Political System

The Republic of Cyprus is a presidential System with a unicameral system: the House of Representatives officially comprises of 80 seats, of which 56 are allocated to the Greek Cypriots and 24 to the Turkish Cypriots. Due to the continuing division of the country the latter remain vacant. The electoral threshold for the House of Representatives is 3.6 per cent. The Armenian as well as the religious minorities of Maronite and Latin Catholics may each elect one representative, who have the right to speak, but not to vote in the parliament. The President is both Head of State and Government, he or she appoints the ministers and is elected for a five-year term by direct vote. Neither the President nor the ministers may be members of parliament.



President Nikos Christodoulides

Who Is on the Ballot?



● Prognosis for 2026 *
● Election Results 2021

Status as of 19 Mai 2026

Election outcome scenarios

Cyprus is facing a historic general election that could significantly alter the composition of the House of Representatives. Almost all established parties face the prospect of losing a significant share of the vote. The outcome of the election remains uncertain, but a close race is emerging between the two major parties, the centre-right DISY and the left-wing AKEL. At the same time, smaller and new parties are set to gain ground. In the case of ALMA, Citizens for Cyprus and Direct Democracy Cyprus, these are primarily supported by protest voters. This points to a further fragmentation of the parliament. Due to the presidential system direct implications for the government are limited.

Position of Cyprus in the EU

Its geographical location in the eastern Mediterranean allows Cyprus to act as a mediator between the European Union and the Middle East and to pursue its own diplomatic agenda, most recently at a multilateral meeting held in Nicosia in April 2026. Whilst its traditionally close ties with Russia have been significantly reduced since 2022, an informal presence remains visible. The official line, however, is clearly pro-European and condemns Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Overall, Cyprus acts consistently in line with the EU, pursuing, among other things, the aim of keeping the Cyprus issue in the spotlight. In terms of fiscal policy, following the experiences of the financial crisis, the country prioritises budgetary discipline and stability, supports European rules, but remains open to flexible measures in times of crisis. The central objective of Cyprus's current Council Presidency is a more independent, stronger Union.

The election's implications for European policy

Given the country's presidential system of government, the parliamentary elections have only a limited direct impact on the European policy. However, the election result may influence the domestic balance of power and thus President Christodoulides' scope for action. With regard to the 2028 presidential elections, it will be crucial whether Christodoulides relies more heavily on the conservative DISY in future or seeks to build closer ties with ELAM. In particular a stronger showing by Eurosceptic or right-wing parties such as ELAM, which could double its share of the vote in the 24 May elections compared to 2021, could then lead to a more cautious or selective stance on specific European policy issues, such as migration, sanctions or enlargement.