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# The European Union Facts and figures

JANUARY 2014

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This brochure contains a range of information on the European Union, its Member States and the candidate countries. It is published solely for information purposes. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is obtained from the official websites of the Member States, the candidate countries and Eurostat.

This brochure, which has been prepared by the General Secretariat of the Council, does not commit either the EU institutions or the Member States.

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General Secretariat of the Council  
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175  
1048 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË  
Tel. +32 22815650  
Fax +32 22814977  
[public.info@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:public.info@consilium.europa.eu)  
[www.consilium.europa.eu](http://www.consilium.europa.eu)

A great deal of information on the European Union is available on the Internet and can be accessed through the Europa server at: <http://europa.eu>

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# The European Union Facts and figures

## *Founding members, 1957:*

Belgium  
Germany  
France  
Italy  
Luxembourg  
Netherlands

## **1973:**

  
Denmark  
Ireland  
United Kingdom

## **1995:**

  
Austria  
Finland  
Sweden

## **2004:**

  
Czech Republic  
Estonia  
Cyprus  
Latvia  
Lithuania

Hungary  
Malta  
Poland  
Slovenia  
Slovakia

**1981:**  
+  
Greece

**1986:**  
+  
Spain

Portugal

**2007:**  
+  
Bulgaria

Romania

**2013:**  
+  
Croatia



# EUROPEAN UNION

## The European Union

The 28 Member States of the EU: see page 9.

**Europe Day:** 9 May  
(Schuman Declaration)

## *European institutions*

The *European Parliament* represents the European Union's citizens and is composed of 766 Members of Parliament elected democratically by direct universal suffrage every 5 years. After the elections in 2014 there will be 751 Members. Together with the Council, the Parliament adopts laws proposed by the European Commission, and also adopts the European budget. In addition, the European

Parliament acts as a means of democratic scrutiny. Its headquarters are in Strasbourg, but it also works in Brussels and Luxembourg.

[www.europarl.europa.eu](http://www.europarl.europa.eu)

The *European Council* brings together the Heads of State or Government of the Member States of the European Union and the President of the European Commission. It has a President, who is elected for a term of 2.5 years, which is renewable once. The European Council gives general guidelines for the Union's actions. It does not exercise any legislative function. The headquarters of the European Council are in Brussels.

[www.european-council.europa.eu](http://www.european-council.europa.eu)

The *Council of the European Union* (or *Council*) is made up of ministers from the Member States who meet according to the subject areas on the agenda (foreign affairs, finance, transport, agriculture, etc.). Together with the European Parliament, it adopts laws and the European budget. The Member States take it in turn to chair the Council for a period of 6 months. The headquarters of the Council are in Brussels.

[www.consilium.europa.eu](http://www.consilium.europa.eu)

The *European Commission* is made up of 28 Commissioners, one from each Member State. It is an independent body: the Commissioners defend the general interests of the European Union and not the specific interests of their own country. The Commission proposes laws to the European Parliament and to the Council, executes their decisions and sees that the laws and treaties are respected by the Member States and their citizens. The headquarters of the Commission are in Brussels.

[www.ec.europa.eu](http://www.ec.europa.eu)

The *Court of Justice of the European Union* comprises one judge from each Member State. It reviews the

legality of acts of the EU institutions and ensures that Member States comply with the treaties. It also interprets European law at the request of national judges, and ensures its uniform application. The headquarters of the Court of Justice are in Luxembourg.

[www.curia.europa.eu](http://www.curia.europa.eu)

The *European Central Bank* controls the euro and manages monetary policy in the euro-area countries. Its main task is to maintain price stability in the euro area and thus to protect purchasing power. The euro area comprises the 18 European Union countries that have introduced the euro since 1999. The headquarters of the European Central Bank are in Frankfurt.

[www.ecb.int](http://www.ecb.int)

The *European Court of Auditors* audits the Union's finances. It ensures the proper use of European funds, and helps the Parliament and the Council to oversee the European budget. Its headquarters are in Luxembourg.

[www.eca.europa.eu](http://www.eca.europa.eu)



**EU's internet suffix:** .eu

**Emergency number:** 112

**European Union portal:**

[www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu)

**Studying in the European Union:**

[www.ec.europa.eu/education/study-in-europe/](http://www.ec.europa.eu/education/study-in-europe/)

**Working in the European Union:**

[www.ec.europa.eu/eures](http://www.ec.europa.eu/eures)

**Doing research in the European Union:**

[www.ec.europa.eu/euraxess](http://www.ec.europa.eu/euraxess)

**Area:** 4 413 652 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 508 077 900 (2013)

**Population density:** 116/km<sup>2</sup>

**GDP/inhabitant (PPS<sup>(\*)</sup>):** EUR 25 100 (2011)

**Voting age for European Parliament elections:** 18

**Average age:** 40.9 (2010)

(\*) The gross domestic product (GDP) represents the total value of all goods and services produced during a year in one country; it is often used to express wealth. The PPS (Purchasing Power Standard) is a unit which represents an identical volume of goods and services for each country, whatever the price levels. Source: Eurostat.

# The 24 official languages of the EU (\*)

Bulgarian (bg)	Latvian (lv)
Spanish (es)	Lithuanian (lt)
Czech (cs)	Hungarian (hu)
Danish (da)	Maltese (mt)
German (de)	Dutch (nl)
Estonian (et)	Polish (pl)
Greek (el)	Portuguese (pt)
English (en)	Romanian (ro)
French (fr)	Slovak (sk)
Irish (ga)	Slovenian (sl)
Croatian (hr)	Finnish (fi)
Italian (it)	Swedish (sv)

## Member States (\*)

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Bulgaria .....	12
Czech Republic .....	14
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Lithuania .....	38
Luxembourg .....	40
Hungary .....	42
Malta .....	44

Netherlands .....	46
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## Candidate countries (\*\*)

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(\*) The official order is the alphabetical order of the names of the countries as written in their respective languages.

(\*\*) The order of the dates of requests for accession by candidate countries.



# BELGIUM

Capital: Brussels  
(population: 1 159 500 — 2012)

GMT +1

## *Kingdom of Belgium*

**Political system:** monarchy

Belgium is a bicameral parliamentary monarchy. The Parliament is made up of the *House of Representatives* (150 members) and the *Senate* (71 senators, of whom 40 are directly elected, 21 are appointed by the Community parliaments and 10 are co-opted). Members of the House of Representatives and senators are elected by direct universal suffrage for 4 years. The King is the Head of State, but has no political power. The Prime Minister runs the federal State. The Belgian State is a three-tier federal State. The upper tier is made up of the federal State, the communities

and the regions, which act on an equal footing, but each in their own areas of competence. The middle tier is made up of the provinces, with the communes forming the base.

**National Day:** 21 July (date when King Leopold I was sworn in — 1831)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+32 2

**Country's internet suffix:** .be

**Head of State's website:** [www.monarchie.be](http://www.monarchie.be)

**Government's website:** [www.premier.be](http://www.premier.be)

**Parliament website:** [www.lachambre.be](http://www.lachambre.be)

**Senate website:** [www.senat.be](http://www.senat.be)



**Accession:** 1957 (founding state)

**Number of members in the European**

**Parliament:** 22 (after the 2014 elections: 21)

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.belgium.be](http://www.belgium.be)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Belgians

**Official languages:** German (de), French (fr),  
Dutch (nl)

**Area:** 30 528 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 11 041 300 (2013)

**Population density:** 364.3/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 34 000 (2012)

**Voting age:** 18, voting compulsory

**Average age:** 40.9 (2010)

**Other cities** (\*): Antwerp, Ghent, Charleroi,  
Liège, Bruges

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 61-63

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22332111

[dispatch.belgoeurop@diplobel.fed.be](mailto:dispatch.belgoeurop@diplobel.fed.be)

[www.diplomatie.be/belgoeurop](http://www.diplomatie.be/belgoeurop)

(\*) Includes the three to five largest cities by population.



# BULGARIA

Capital: Sofia (population: 1 300 000 — 2012)

GMT +2

## *Republic of Bulgaria*

**Political system:** republic

Bulgaria has a unicameral parliamentary system. The National Assembly (*Narodno Sobranie*) has 240 members elected for 4 years. The Head of State is the President of the Republic, elected for 5 years, but the main executive power lies with the Council of Ministers.

**National Day:** 3 March (date of independence from the Ottoman Empire — 1878)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+359 2

**Country's internet suffix:** .bg

**Head of State's website:** [www.president.bg](http://www.president.bg)

**Government's website:** [www.government.bg](http://www.government.bg)

**Parliament website:** [www.parliament.bg](http://www.parliament.bg)

**Accession:** 2007

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 18 (after the 2014 elections: 17)

**Schengen area:** no

**Country information:** [www.bulgariatravel.org](http://www.bulgariatravel.org)

**Currency:** lev (BGN)

**People:** Bulgarians

**Official language:** Bulgarian (bg)

**Area:** 111 002 km<sup>2</sup>



**Population:** 7 327 200 (2013)

**Population density:** 67.5/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 11 600 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 41.4 (2010)

**Other cities:** Plovdiv, Varna, Burgas, Ruse, Stara Zagora

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Square Marie-Louise/Maria-Louizasquare 49

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22358300

[Mission.BrusselsEU@bg-permrep.eu](mailto:Mission.BrusselsEU@bg-permrep.eu)

[www.bg-permrep.eu](http://www.bg-permrep.eu)



⌚ GMT +1

## *Czech Republic*

**Political system:** republic

The bicameral parliament is composed of the Chamber of Deputies (*Poslanecká sněmovna*), which has 200 members elected for 4 years, and the Senate (*Senát*), which has 81 senators elected by direct universal suffrage for 6 years, with one-third of the seats renewed every 2 years. The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage for a term of 5 years, which may be renewed once. The President appoints the Prime Minister, who exercises executive power together with the government.

# CZECH REPUBLIC

**Capital:** Prague  
**(population:** 1 241 700 — 2012)

**National Day:** 28 October (founding of the independent Czechoslovak state — 1918)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+420 2

**Country's internet suffix:** .cz

**Head of State's website:** [www.hrad.cz](http://www.hrad.cz)

**Government's website:** [www.vlada.cz](http://www.vlada.cz)

**Parliament website:** [www.psp.cz/sqw/hp.sqw](http://www.psp.cz/sqw/hp.sqw)

**Senate website:** [www.senat.cz](http://www.senat.cz)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 22 (after the 2014 elections: 21)

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.czech.cz](http://www.czech.cz)

**Currency:** Czech crown (CZK)



**People:** Czechs

**Official language:** Czech (cs)

**Area:** 78 865 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 10 505 400 (2013)

**Population density:** 135.9/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 20 200 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 39.4 (2010)

**Other cities:** Brno, Ostrava, Plzeň, Olomouc, Liberec

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Rue Caroly/Carolystraat 15

1050 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22139111

[eu.brussels@embassy.mzv.cz](mailto:eu.brussels@embassy.mzv.cz)

[www.czechrep.be](http://www.czechrep.be)



# DENMARK

**Capital:** Copenhagen  
**(population:** 717 000 — 2013)

 **GMT +1**

## *Kingdom of Denmark*

**Political system:** monarchy

Denmark has a unicameral parliamentary system. The People's Assembly (*Folkeetinget*) is composed of 179 members elected for 4 years. The Queen is the Head of State and appoints the Prime Minister, but has no political power. There are two autonomous regions — Greenland and the Faroe Islands — which form part of the Kingdom of Denmark.

**National Day:** 5 June (signing of the Danish Constitution — 1849)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+45

**Country's internet suffix:** .dk

**Head of State's website:** [www.kongehuset.dk](http://www.kongehuset.dk)

**Government's website:** [www.stm.dk](http://www.stm.dk)

**Parliament website:** [www.ft.dk](http://www.ft.dk)

**Accession:** 1973

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 13

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.denmark.dk](http://www.denmark.dk)

**Currency:** Danish crown (DKK)

**People:** Danes

**Official language:** Danish (da)

**Area:** 43 098 km<sup>2</sup>



**Population:** 5 580 500 (2013)

**Population density:** 129.7/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 31 500 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 40.5 (2010)

**Other cities:** Aarhus, Odense, Aalborg, Esbjerg,  
Randers

#### **Permanent Representation to the European Union:**

Rue d'Arlon/Aarlenstraat 73

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22330811

brurep@um.dk

[www.eu.um.dk](http://www.eu.um.dk)



# GERMANY

Capital: Berlin (population: 3 501 900 — 2012)

⌚ GMT +1

## *Federal Republic of Germany*

### **Political system:** republic

The bicameral parliament is made up of the Federal Assembly (*Bundestag*: around 600 members elected for 4 years) and the Federal Council (*Bundesrat*: 69 members appointed by the governments of the federal states, or *Länder*). Each federal state appoints between three and six members depending on the size of its population). The Head of State is the President of the Republic. The President is elected by indirect suffrage for a term of 5 years, renewable once, but the role is essentially honorary and representative, as executive power is in fact exercised by the Federal Chancellor.

Germany is a decentralised State, made up of federal states, districts and municipalities. Power is shared between the Federal Government and the *Länder*.

**National Day:** 3 October (German Unity Day — 1990)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+49 30

**Country's internet suffix:** .de

**Head of State's website:**  
[www.bundespraesident.de](http://www.bundespraesident.de)

**Government's website:**  
[www.bundesregierung.de](http://www.bundesregierung.de)

**Bundestag website:** [www.bundestag.de](http://www.bundestag.de)

**Bundesrat website:** [www.bundesrat.de](http://www.bundesrat.de)



**Accession:** 1957 (founding state)

**Number of members in the European**

**Parliament:** 99 (after the 2014 elections: 96)

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.deutschland.de](http://www.deutschland.de)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Germans

**Official language:** German (de)

**Area:** 357 108 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 81 843 700 (2013)

**Population density:** 229/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 30 300 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 44.2 (2010)

**Other cities:** Hamburg, Munich, Cologne,  
Frankfurt, Stuttgart

**Permanent Representation**

**to the European Union:**

Rue Jacques de Lalaing/  
Jacques de Lalaingstraat 8-14

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 27871000

[info@eu-vertretung.de](mailto:info@eu-vertretung.de)

[www.bruessel-eu.diplo.de](http://www.bruessel-eu.diplo.de)



# ESTONIA

Capital: Tallinn (population: 401 000 — 2012)

 *GMT +2*

## *Republic of Estonia*

**Political system:** republic

Estonia has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Riigikogu*) is composed of 101 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by the Parliament for 5 years. The President has a primarily representative function, as executive power rests with the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister is appointed by Parliament.

**National Day:** 24 February (date of the declaration of independence from Russia — 1918)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+372

**Country's internet suffix:** .ee

**Head of State's website:** [www.president.ee](http://www.president.ee)

**Government's website:** [www.valitsus.ee](http://www.valitsus.ee)

**Parliament website:** [www.riigikogu.ee](http://www.riigikogu.ee)

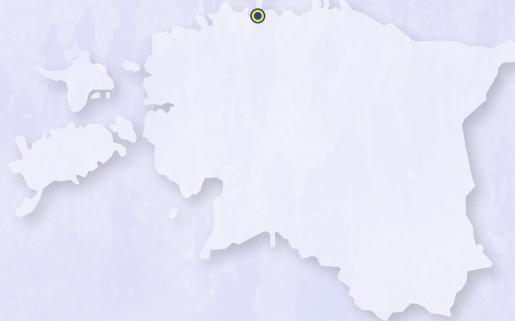
**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 6

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.estonia.eu](http://www.estonia.eu)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)



**People:** Estonians

**Official language:** Estonian (et)

**Area:** 45 227 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 1 339 700 (2013)

**Population density:** 30.9/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 16 900 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 39.5 (2010)

**Other cities:** Tartu, Narva, Kohtla-Järve

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Rue Guimard/Guimardstraat 11-13  
1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22273910

permrep.eu@mfa.ee

[www.eu.estemb.be/eng](http://www.eu.estemb.be/eng)



# IRELAND

Capital: Dublin (population 1 273 100 — 2011)



## Ireland

### **Political system:** republic

Ireland has a bicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Oireachtas*) is composed of the Chamber of Deputies (*Dáil Éireann*: 166 members elected for 5 years) and the Senate (*Seanad Éireann*: 60 senators; 11 appointed by the Prime Minister and the others by various civil society groups, for 5 years). The Prime Minister is appointed by the President of the Republic after being proposed by the *Dáil Éireann*. The President is elected for 7 years by direct universal suffrage, with the term renewable once. The President has no specific executive powers: these rest with the Prime Minister.

**National Day:** 17 March (St Patrick's Day)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+353 1

**Country's internet suffix:** .ie

**Head of State's website:** [www.president.ie](http://www.president.ie)

**Government's website:** [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie)

**Parliament website:** [www.oireachtas.ie](http://www.oireachtas.ie)

**Accession:** 1973

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 12 (after the 2014 elections: 11)

**Schengen area:** no

**Country information:** [www.ireland.com](http://www.ireland.com)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)



**People:** Irishman/Irishwoman

**Official languages:** Irish (ga), English (en)

**Area:** 69 797 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 4 582 800 (2013)

**Population density:** 66.9/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 31 900 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 34.3 (2010)

**Other cities:** Cork, Galway, Waterford

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Rue Froissart/Froissartstraat 50  
1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22308580

irlprb@dfa.ie

[www.irelandrepbrussels.be](http://www.irelandrepbrussels.be)



# GREECE

Capital: Athens  
(population: 1 118 500 — 2011)

GMT +2

## *Hellenic Republic*

**Political system:** republic

Greece has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Greek Parliament (*Vouli ton Ellinon*, or Council of the Greeks) has 300 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by the Parliament for 5 years. The term may be renewed once. The President is the Head of State, but has no political power. Executive power rests with the Prime Minister.

**National Day:** 25 March (date of independence from the Ottoman Empire — 1821)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+30 210

**Country's internet suffix:** .gr

**Head of State's website:** [www.presidency.gr](http://www.presidency.gr)

**Government's website:**

[www.primeminister.gov.gr/english](http://www.primeminister.gov.gr/english)

**Parliament website:**

[www.hellenicparliament.gr](http://www.hellenicparliament.gr)

**Accession:** 1981

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 22 (after the 2014 elections: 21)

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.visitgreece.gr](http://www.visitgreece.gr)



**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Greeks

**Official language:** Greek (el)

**Area:** 131 957 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 11 290 900 (2013)

**Population density:** 86.4/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 20 100 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting compulsory

**Average age:** 41.7 (2010)

**Other cities:** Thessaloniki, Piraeus, Patras, Larissa, Heraklion

#### **Permanent Representation**

#### **to the European Union:**

Rue Jacques de Lalaing/  
Jacques de Lalaingstraat 19-21

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 25515611

[mea.bruxelles@rp-grece.be](mailto:mea.bruxelles@rp-grece.be)

[www.mfa.gr/missionsabroad/en/belgium-en](http://www.mfa.gr/missionsabroad/en/belgium-en)



# SPAIN

**Capital:** Madrid  
**(population:** 3 233 500 — 2012)

GMT +1

## *Kingdom of Spain*

**Political system:** monarchy

Spain has a bicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Cortes Generales*) is composed of the Chamber of Deputies (*Congreso de los Diputados*: 350 members elected for 4 years) and the Senate (*Senado*: 264 seats filled for 4 years; 208 senators are elected at provincial level by direct universal suffrage; in addition, each autonomous community appoints at least one senator, with one additional senator for every million inhabitants in its territory). Spain is a highly decentralised State, composed of 17 autonomous communities and two autonomous cities.

**National Day:** 12 October (Hispanic Day, anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus — 1492)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+34 91

**Country's internet suffix:** .es

**Head of State's website:** [www.casareal.es](http://www.casareal.es)

**Government's website:**  
[www.lamoncloa.gob.es](http://www.lamoncloa.gob.es)

**Chamber of Deputies website:**  
[www.congreso.es](http://www.congreso.es)

**Senate website:** [www.senado.es](http://www.senado.es)

**Accession:** 1986

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 54



**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.spain.info](http://www.spain.info)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Spaniards

**Official language:** Spanish (es)

**Area:** 505 990 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 46 196 300 (2013)

**Population density:** 92/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 24 700 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 39.9 (2010)

**Other cities:** Barcelona, Valencia, Seville, Zaragoza, Malaga

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Boulevard du Régent/Regentlaan 52

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 25098611

[reper.bruselasue@reper.maec.es](mailto:reper.bruselasue@reper.maec.es)

[www.es-ue.org](http://www.es-ue.org)



# FRANCE

Capital: Paris (population: 2 243 800 — 2010)

*GMT +1*

## *French Republic*

### **Political system:** republic

France has a bicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament is composed of the National Assembly (*Assemblée nationale*) (577 members elected for 5 years) and the senate (*Sénat*) (348 senators are elected by an electoral college for 6 years, with half the seats up for re-election every 3 years). The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage for 5 years. He/she may not serve more than two consecutive terms. The President has considerable political powers and appoints the Prime Minister. France also has overseas departments and territories which enjoy a specific individual status within

the Republic. More information can be found at: [www.outre-mer.gouv.fr](http://www.outre-mer.gouv.fr)

**National Day:** 14 July (Bastille Day — 1789)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+33 1

**Country's internet suffix:** .fr

**Head of State's website:** [www.elysee.fr](http://www.elysee.fr)

**Government's website:**  
[www.gouvernement.fr](http://www.gouvernement.fr)

**National Assembly website:**  
[www.assemblee-nationale.fr](http://www.assemblee-nationale.fr)

**Senate website:** [www.senat.fr](http://www.senat.fr)

**Accession:** 1957 (founding state)

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 74

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.france.fr](http://www.france.fr)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Frenchman/Frenchwoman

**Official language:** French (fr)

**Area:** 632 833 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 65 397 900 (2013)

**Population density:** 103/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 27 200 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 39.8 (2010)

**Other cities:** Marseilles, Lyons, Toulouse, Nice, Nantes

### **Permanent Representation to the European Union:**

Place de Louvain/Leuvenseplein 14

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22298211

[courrier.bruxelles-dfra@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:courrier.bruxelles-dfra@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

[www.rpfrance.eu](http://www.rpfrance.eu)



# CROATIA

Capital: Zagreb (population: 793 000 — 2011)

GMT +1

## *Republic of Croatia*

**Political system:** republic

Croatia has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Sabor*) has 153 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage for 5 years and appoints the Prime Minister. Croatia is made up of counties (*Županija*) and local authorities or municipalities which have decentralised powers.

**National Day:** 25 June (date of independence from the former Yugoslavia — 1991)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+385 1

**Country's internet suffix:** .hr

**Head of State's website:** [www.predsjednik.hr](http://www.predsjednik.hr)

**Government's website:** [www.vlada.hr](http://www.vlada.hr)

**Parliament website:** [www.sabor.hr](http://www.sabor.hr)

**Accession:** 2013

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 12 (after the 2014 elections: 11)

**Schengen area:** no

**Country information:** [www.croatia.hr](http://www.croatia.hr)

**Currency:** kuna (HRK)

**People:** Croats

**Official language:** Croatian (hr)



**Area:** 56 594 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 4 400 000 (2011)

**Population density:** 77.8/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 15 200 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 41.3 (2010)

**Other cities:** Split, Rijeka, Osijek

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Avenue des Arts/Kunstlaan 50  
1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 25075411

[hr.perm.rep@mvep.hr](mailto:hr.perm.rep@mvep.hr)

[eu.mfa.hr](http://eu.mfa.hr)



# ITALY

Capital: Rome (population: 2 743 800 — 2012)

*GMT +1*

## *Italian Republic*

**Political system:** republic

The Parliament is bicameral and is composed of the Chamber of Deputies (*Camera dei Deputati*: 630 members elected for 5 years) and the Senate (*Senato della Repubblica*: 315 senators elected for 5 years at provincial level, with a few life senators who are appointed by the Head of State or who are former Presidents of the Republic). The Head of State is the President of the Republic. The President is elected by indirect universal suffrage for 7 years, but the role is essentially honorary and representative, since executive power is exercised by the President of the Council of Ministers. Italy is made up of regions, provinces and municipalities.

Five regions have a special status with greater autonomy (Sicily, Sardinia, Trentino-Alto Adige, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Val d'Aosta).

**National Day:** 2 June (anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic — 1946)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+39 6

**Country's internet suffix:** .it

**Head of State's website:** [www.quirinale.it](http://www.quirinale.it)

**Government's website:** [www.governo.it](http://www.governo.it)

**Chamber of Deputies website:**

[www.camera.it](http://www.camera.it)

**Senate website:** [www.senato.it](http://www.senato.it)

**Accession:** 1957 (founding state)



**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 73

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.italia.it](http://www.italia.it)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Italians

**Official language:** Italian (it)

**Area:** 301 336 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 60 820 800 (2013)

**Population density:** 201.5/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 25 100 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18 (25 for elections to the Senate), voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 43.1 (2010)

**Other cities:** Milan, Naples, Turin, Palermo, Genoa

**Permanent Representation to the European Union:**

Rue du Marteau/Hamerstraat 7-15

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22200411

[rpue@rpue.esteri.it](mailto:rpue@rpue.esteri.it)

[www.italiae.esteri.it](http://www.italiae.esteri.it)



# CYPRUS

Capital: Nicosia (population: 246 000 — 2012)

⌚ GMT +2

## *Republic of Cyprus*

**Political system:** republic

Cyprus has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament is composed of the House of Representatives (*Vouli ton Antiprosópon*), which has 80 members, 56 of whom are elected for 5 years by direct universal suffrage, with the other 24 seats reserved for the Turkish community, but vacant since 1964. There are also three representatives of religious minorities (from the Maronite, Roman Catholic and Armenian Churches) who have observer status. The President of the Republic is elected by universal suffrage for 5 years.

**National Day:** 1 October (anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic — 1960)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+357 22

**Country's internet suffix:** .cy

**Head of State's website:**  
[www.presidency.gov.cy](http://www.presidency.gov.cy)

**Government's website:** [www.cyprus.gov.cy](http://www.cyprus.gov.cy)

**Parliament website:** [www.parliament.cy](http://www.parliament.cy)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 6

**Schengen area:** no



**Country information:** [www.visitcyprus.com](http://www.visitcyprus.com)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Cypriots

**Official languages:** Greek (el), Turkish (tr)

**Area:** 9 250 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 862 000 (2013)

**Population density:** 92.3/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 23 700 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting compulsory

**Average age:** 36.2 (2010)

**Other cities:** Limassol, Larnaka, Paphos

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Avenue de Cortenbergh/Kortenberglaan 61  
1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 27395111

[cy.perm.rep@mfa.gov.cy](mailto:cy.perm.rep@mfa.gov.cy)

[www.mfa.gov.cy/permrepeu](http://www.mfa.gov.cy/permrepeu)



# LATVIA

Capital: Riga (population: 650 000 — 2012)

 GMT +2

## *Republic of Latvia*

**Political system:** republic

Latvia has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Saeima*) has 100 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by the Parliament for 4 years. He/she may not serve more than two consecutive terms. The President appoints the Prime Minister.

**National Day:** 18 November (anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of Latvia — 1918)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+371 6

**Country's internet suffix:** .lv

**Head of State's website:** [www.president.lv](http://www.president.lv)

**Government's website:** [www.mk.gov.lv](http://www.mk.gov.lv)

**Parliament website:** [www.saeima.lv](http://www.saeima.lv)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 9 (after the 2014 elections: 8)

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.latvia.lv](http://www.latvia.lv)

**Currency:** euro (EUR) from 1 January 2014

**People:** Latvians

**Official language:** Latvian (lv)

**Area:** 64 559 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 2 041 800 (2013)



**Population density:** 33.1/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 14 700 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 40.0 (2010)

**Other cities:** Daugavpils, Liepāja, Jelgava

#### **Permanent Representation**

#### **to the European Union:**

Avenue des Arts/Kunstlaan 23  
1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22383100

[permrep.eu@mfa.gov.lv](mailto:permrep.eu@mfa.gov.lv)

[www.am.gov.lv/en/brussels/](http://www.am.gov.lv/en/brussels/)



# LITHUANIA

Capital: Vilnius (population: 538 700 — 2013)

GMT +2

## *Republic of Lithuania*

**Political system:** republic

Lithuania has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Seimas*) has 141 members elected for 4 years: 71 elected by direct universal suffrage on a first-past-the-post system and 70 under a system of proportional representation. The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage for 5 years. He/she may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

**National Day:** 16 February (date of independence from Russia — 1918)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+370 5

**Country's internet suffix:** .lt

**Head of State's website:** [www.president.lt](http://www.president.lt)

**Government's website:** [www.lrvk.lt](http://www.lrvk.lt)

**Parliament website:** [www.lrs.lt](http://www.lrs.lt)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 12 (after the 2014 elections: 11)

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.lietuva.lt](http://www.lietuva.lt)

**Currency:** litas (LTL)

**People:** Lithuanians

**Official language:** Lithuanian (lt)



**Area:** 65 300 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 3 007 800 (2013)

**Population density:** 48.3/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 16 600 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 39.2 (2010)

**Other cities:** Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai

**Permanent Representation**

**to the European Union:**

Rue Belliard/Belliardstraat 41-43

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 27710140

[office@eurep.mfa.lt](mailto:office@eurep.mfa.lt)

[www.eurep.mfa.lt](http://www.eurep.mfa.lt)



# LUXEMBOURG

Capital: Luxembourg  
(population: 100 000 — 2011)

GMT +1

## *Grand Duchy of Luxembourg*

**Political system:** monarchy

Luxembourg has a hereditary Grand Duke and a unicameral parliamentary system. The Grand Duke is the Head of State. He appoints the Prime Minister, who is head of the executive. The Parliament is composed of the Chamber of Deputies (*Châmber vun Députéirten/Abgeordnetenkammer/Chambre des Députés*), which has 60 members elected for 5 years.

**National Day:** 23 June (official birthday of the sovereign)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+352

**Country's internet suffix:** .lu

**Head of State's website:** [www.monarchie.lu](http://www.monarchie.lu)

**Government's website:**  
[www.gouvernement.lu](http://www.gouvernement.lu)

**Parliament website:** [www.chd.lu](http://www.chd.lu)

**Accession:** 1957 (founding state)

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 6

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.luxembourg.lu](http://www.luxembourg.lu)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Luxembourgers



**Official languages:** German (de), French (fr), Luxembourgish (lb)

**Area:** 2 586 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 524 900 (2013)

**Population density:** 200.4/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 68 100 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting compulsory

**Average age:** 38.9 (2010)

**Other cities:** Esch-sur-Alzette, Dudelange, Schiffange

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Avenue de Cortenbergh/Kortenberglaan 75  
1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 27375600

[bruxelles.rp@mae.etat.lu](mailto:bruxelles.rp@mae.etat.lu)

[www.mae.lu](http://www.mae.lu)



# HUNGARY

**Capital:** Budapest  
**(population:** 1 721 600 — 2012)

*GMT +1*

## *Hungary*

**Political system:** republic

Hungary has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament is composed of the National Assembly (*Országgyűlés*), which has 386 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by the Parliament every 5 years. The President proposes the appointment of the Prime Minister to the Parliament, which must give its agreement.

**National Day:** 20 August (St Stephen's Day)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+36 1

**Country's internet suffix:** .hu

**Head of State's website:** [www.keh.hu](http://www.keh.hu)

**Government's website:** [www.kormany.hu](http://www.kormany.hu)

**Parliament website:** [www.parlament.hu](http://www.parlament.hu)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 22 (after the 2014 elections: 21)

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.visit-hungary.com](http://www.visit-hungary.com)

**Currency:** forint (HUF)

**People:** Hungarians

**Official language:** Hungarian (hu)

**Area:** 93 027 km<sup>2</sup>



**Population:** 9 957 700 (2013)

**Population density:** 107.2/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 16 500 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 39.8 (2010)

**Other cities:** Debrecen, Szeged, Miskolc, Pécs,  
Győr

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Rue de Trèves/Trierstraat 92-98

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22341200

[sec.beu@kum.hu](mailto:sec.beu@kum.hu)

[www.hunrep.be](http://www.hunrep.be)



# MALTA

Capital: Valletta (population: 5 500 — 2012)

⌚ GMT +1

## *Republic of Malta*

**Political system:** republic

Malta has a unicameral parliamentary system. The House of Representatives (*Kamra tar-Raprezentanti*) has 69 members elected for 5 years. The President of the Republic is elected by the Parliament for 5 years. The President appoints the Prime Minister.

**National Day:** 21 September (Independence Day — 1964)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+356

**Country's internet suffix:** .mt

**Head of State's website:**

[www.president.gov.mt](http://www.president.gov.mt)

**Government's website:** [www.gov.mt](http://www.gov.mt)

**Parliament website:** [www.gov.mt](http://www.gov.mt)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 6

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.visitmalta.com](http://www.visitmalta.com)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Maltese

**Official languages:** Maltese (mt), English (en)

**Area:** 316 km<sup>2</sup>



**Population:** 416 100 (2013)

**Population density:** 1 318.6/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 21 500 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 39.2 (2010)

**Other cities:** Birkirkara, Mosta, San Pawl il-Baħar

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Rue Archimède/Archimedesstraat 25  
1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 23430195

[maltarep@gov.mt](mailto:maltarep@gov.mt)

[www.foreign.gov.mt/European\\_Union\\_B](http://www.foreign.gov.mt/European_Union_B)



# NETHERLANDS

Constitutional capital: Amsterdam (population: 803 000 — 2013)

Seat of the court, the government and the parliament:

The Hague (population: 506 500 — 2013)

⌚ GMT +1

## *Kingdom of the Netherlands*

**Political system:** monarchy

The Netherlands has a bicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Staten Generaal*) is composed of the First Chamber (*Eerste Kamer*: 75 members elected for 4 years by indirect universal suffrage by the 12 provinces of the Kingdom) and the Second Chamber (*Tweede Kamer*: 150 members elected for 4 years by direct universal suffrage). The King is the Head of State and appoints the Prime Minister, but has no real political power. The Netherlands also has island territories in the Antilles.

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+31 20 Amsterdam, +31 70 The Hague

**Country's internet suffix:** .nl

**Head of State's website:**

[www.koninklijkhuis.nl](http://www.koninklijkhuis.nl)

**Government's website:** [www.regering.nl](http://www.regering.nl)

**First chamber of parliament website:**

[www.eerstekamer.nl](http://www.eerstekamer.nl)

**Second chamber of parliament website:**

[www.tweede kamer.nl](http://www.tweede kamer.nl)

**Accession:** 1957 (founding state)

**Number of members in the European**

**Parliament:** 26



**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.holland.com](http://www.holland.com)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Dutchman/Dutchwoman;  
Netherlanders

**Official language:** Dutch (nl)

**Area:** 41 543 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 16 730 300 (2013)

**Population density:** 494.5/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 32 900 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 40.6 (2010)

**Other cities:** Rotterdam, Utrecht, Eindhoven,  
Tilburg, Almere

#### **Permanent Representation to the European Union:**

Avenue de Cortenbergh/Kortenberglaan 4-10

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 26791511

[bre@minbuza.nl](mailto:bre@minbuza.nl)

[eu.nlmission.org](http://eu.nlmission.org)



# AUSTRIA

Capital: Vienna  
(population: 1 731 200 — 2012)

⌚ GMT +1

## *Republic of Austria*

**Political system:** republic

Austria has a bicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Bundesversammlung*) is composed of the National Council (*Nationalrat*: 183 members elected for 5 years) and the Federal Council (*Bundesrat*: 62 members (variable) appointed by the provinces for the duration of the legislative period in the province concerned; each one appoints between 3 and 12 members depending of the size of its population). The President of the Republic is elected by universal suffrage for 6 years. The President has an essentially representative role and appoints the Federal Chancellor. Austria is composed of nine

autonomous regions with some autonomous powers.

**National Day:** 26 October (adoption of Austria's Law of Neutrality — 1955)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+43 1

**Country's internet suffix:** .at

**Head of State's website:**  
[www.bundespraesident.at](http://www.bundespraesident.at)

**Government's website:** [www.bka.gv.at](http://www.bka.gv.at)

**Parliament website:** [www.parlament.gv.at](http://www.parlament.gv.at)

**Accession:** 1995

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 19 (after the 2014 elections: 18)



**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.help.gv.at](http://www.help.gv.at)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Austrians

**Official language:** German (de)

**Area:** 83 879 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 8 443 000 (2013)

**Population density:** 102.2/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 32 400 (2011)

**Voting age:** 16, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 41.7 (2010)

**Other cities:** Graz, Linz, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Avenue de Cortenbergh/Kortenberglaan 30

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22345100

[brussel-ov@bmeia.gv.at](mailto:brussel-ov@bmeia.gv.at)

[www.aussenministerium.at/brusselov](http://www.aussenministerium.at/brusselov)



# POLAND

Capital: Warsaw  
(population: 1 710 000 — 2012)

⌚ GMT +1

## *Republic of Poland*

**Political system:** republic

Poland has a bicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament is composed of the lower house (*Sejm*: 460 members elected for 4 years) and the Senate (Senat: 100 members elected for 4 years). The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage for 5 years. His/her term of office may be renewed once. The President appoints the Prime Minister and has a right of veto over the promulgation of laws.

**The two main national days** are 11 November (restoration of independence — 1918) and 3 May (1791 Constitution).

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+48 22

**Country's internet suffix:** .pl

**Head of State's website:** [www.president.pl](http://www.president.pl)

**Government's website:** [www.premier.gov.pl](http://www.premier.gov.pl)

**Sejm website:** [www.sejm.gov.pl](http://www.sejm.gov.pl)

**Senate website:** [www.senat.gov.pl](http://www.senat.gov.pl)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European**

**Parliament:** 51

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.poland.gov.pl](http://www.poland.gov.pl)

**Currency:** złoty (PLN)

**People:** Poles



**Official language:** Polish (pl)

**Area:** 312 685 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 38 538 400 (2013)

**Population density:** 123.2/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 16 200 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 37.7 (2010)

**Other cities:** Cracow, Łódź, Wrocław, Poznań,  
Gdańsk

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Rue Stévin/Stevinstraat 139

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 27804200

bebrustpe@msz.gov.pl

[www.brukselaue.msz.gov.pl/en](http://www.brukselaue.msz.gov.pl/en)



# PORTUGAL

Capital: Lisbon (population: 550 000 — 2011)

⌚ GMT

## Portuguese Republic

**Political system:** republic

Portugal has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Assembleia da República*) is composed of 230 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage for 5 years. He/she appoints the Prime Minister and plays a mediation role. Portugal comprises 18 districts and two autonomous regions (Madeira and the Azores).

**National Day:** 10 June (anniversary of the death of the poet Luis de Camões — 1580)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+351 21

**Country's internet suffix:** .pt

**Head of State's website:** [www.presidencia.pt](http://www.presidencia.pt)

**Government's website:** [www.portugal.gov.pt](http://www.portugal.gov.pt)

**Parliament website:** [www.parlamento.pt](http://www.parlamento.pt)

**Accession:** 1986

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 22 (after the 2014 elections: 21)

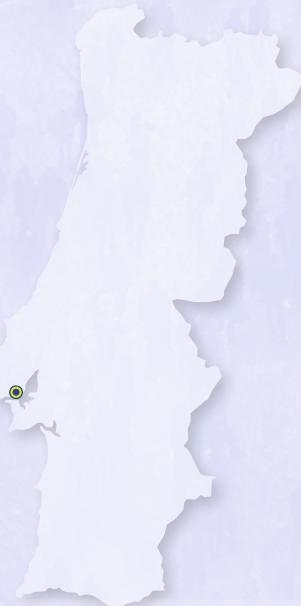
**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.portugalglobal.pt](http://www.portugalglobal.pt)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Portuguese

**Official language:** Portuguese (pt)



**Area:** 92 094 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 10 541 800 (2013)

**Population density:** 114.5/km<sup>2</sup>

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 19 500 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 40.7 (2010)

**Other cities:** Porto, Amadora, Braga, Queluz, Setúbal

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Avenue de Cortenbergh/Kortenberglaan 12

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22864211

[reper@reper-portugal.be](mailto:reper@reper-portugal.be)

[www.ue.missaoportugal.mne.pt](http://www.ue.missaoportugal.mne.pt)



# ROMANIA

Capital: Bucharest  
(population: 1 680 000 — 2011)

⌚ GMT +2

## Romania

**Political system:** republic

The Parliament (*Parlamentul României*) is composed of the Chamber of Deputies (*Camera Deputaților*: 332 members elected for 4 years) and the Senate (*Senat*: 137 senators elected for 4 years). The President of the Republic is elected by universal suffrage for 5 years. His/her term of office may be renewed once. The Prime Minister is appointed by Parliament. The President's role is primarily one of representation and mediation.

**National Day:** 1 December (Union of Transylvania with the former Kingdom of Romania — 1918)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+40 21

**Country's internet suffix:** .ro

**Head of State's website:** [www.presidency.ro](http://www.presidency.ro)

**Government's website:** [www.guv.ro](http://www.guv.ro)

**Parliament website:** [www.cdep.ro](http://www.cdep.ro)

**Senate website:** [www.senat.ro](http://www.senat.ro)

**Accession:** 2007

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 33 (after the 2014 elections: 32)

**Schengen area:** no

**Country information:**  
[www.romaniatourism.com](http://www.romaniatourism.com)

**Currency:** Romanian leu (RON)



**People:** Romanians

**Official language:** Romanian (ro)

**Area:** 238 391 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 21 355 800 (2013)

**Population density:** 93/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 11 400 (2010)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 38.3 (2010)

**Other cities:** Cluj-Napoca, Constanța, Craiova, Galați, Iași

#### **Permanent Representation to the European Union:**

Rue Montoyer/Montoyerstraat 12

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 27000640

[bru@rpro.eu](mailto:bru@rpro.eu)

[ue.mae.ro](http://ue.mae.ro)



# SLOVENIA

Capital: Ljubljana  
(population: 276 000 — 2012)

GMT +1

## *Republic of Slovenia*

**Political system:** republic

Slovenia has a bicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament is composed of the National Assembly (*Državni zbor*: 90 members elected for 4 years, two seats being reserved for the Hungarian and Italian minorities) and the Council of State (*Državni svet*: 40 members elected by indirect suffrage for 5 years). The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage every 5 years. The President proposes the appointment of the Prime Minister to the Parliament, which must give its agreement.

**National Day:** 25 June (date of independence from the former Yugoslavia — 1991)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+386 1

**Country's internet suffix:** .si

**Head of State's website:** [www.up-rs.si](http://www.up-rs.si)

**Government's website:** [www.vlada.si](http://www.vlada.si)

**National Assembly website:** [www.dz-rs.si](http://www.dz-rs.si)

**Council of State website:** [www.ds-rs.si](http://www.ds-rs.si)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 8

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.slovenia.si](http://www.slovenia.si)



**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Slovenians

**Official language:** Slovenian (sl)

**Area:** 20 273 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 2 055 500 (2013)

**Population density:** 101.9/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 21 000 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 41.4 (2010)

**Other cities:** Maribor, Celje, Kranj

#### **Permanent Representation**

#### **to the European Union:**

Rue du Commerce/Handelsstraat 44  
1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22136300

spbr@gov.si

[www.brussels.representation.si](http://www.brussels.representation.si)



⌚ GMT +1

## *Slovak Republic*

### **Political system:** republic

Slovakia has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament is composed of the National Council of the Slovak Republic (*Národná rada Slovenskej republiky*) and has 150 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage every 5 years. He/she has only limited power. Executive power is essentially exercised by the Prime Minister.

**National Day:** 1 September (anniversary of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic — 1992)

# **SLOVAKIA**

**Capital:** Bratislava  
(population: 455 000 — 2012)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+421 2

**Country's internet suffix:** .sk

**Head of State's website:** [www.prezident.sk](http://www.prezident.sk)

**Government's website:**  
[www.www.government.gov.sk](http://www.www.government.gov.sk)

**Parliament website:** [www.nrsr.sk](http://www.nrsr.sk)

**Accession:** 2004

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 13

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.slovakia.travel](http://www.slovakia.travel)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Slovaks



**Official language:** Slovak (sk)

**Area:** 49 036 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 5 404 300 (2013)

**Population density:** 110.1/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 18 400 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 36.9

**Other cities:** Košice, Prešov, Žilina, Nitra, Banská Bystrica

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Avenue de Cortenbergh/Kortenberglaan 79

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 27436811

[eu.brussels@mzv.sk](mailto:eu.brussels@mzv.sk)

[www.eubrussels.mfa.sk](http://www.eubrussels.mfa.sk)



# FINLAND

Capital: Helsinki (population: 604 000 — 2013)

⌚ GMT +2

## *Republic of Finland*

**Political system:** republic

Finland has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Eduskunta*) has 200 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by universal suffrage for 6 years. He/she may not serve more than two consecutive terms. The Prime Minister is elected by the Parliament and formally appointed by the President.

**National Day:** 6 December (date of independence from the Russian Empire — 1917)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+358 9

**Country's internet suffix:** .fi

**Head of State's website:** [www.tpk.fi](http://www.tpk.fi)

**Government's website:** [www.vn.fi](http://www.vn.fi)

**Parliament website:** [web.eduskunta.fi](http://web.eduskunta.fi)

**Accession:** 1995

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 13

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.finland.fi](http://www.finland.fi)

**Currency:** euro (EUR)

**People:** Finns

**Official languages:** Finnish (fi), Swedish (sv)

**Area:** 338 424 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 5 401 300 (2013)

**Population density:** 17.7/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 28 800 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 42.0 (2010)

**Other cities:** Espoo, Tampere, Vantaa, Turku, Oulu

**Permanent Representation  
to the European Union:**

Avenue de Cortenbergh/Kortenberglaan 80  
1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22878411

[sanomat.eue@formin.fi](mailto:sanomat.eue@formin.fi)

[www.finland.eu](http://www.finland.eu)



# SWEDEN

Capital: Stockholm  
(population: 1 370 000 — 2012)

⌚ GMT +1

## *Kingdom of Sweden*

**Political system:** monarchy

Sweden has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Sveriges riksdag*) has 349 members elected for 4 years. The King is the Head of State, but has no political power. The Prime Minister is appointed by Parliament.

**National Day:** 6 June (anniversary of King Gustav Vasa's accession to the throne — 1523)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**

+46 8

**Country's internet suffix:** .se

**Head of State's website:** [www.kungahuset.se](http://www.kungahuset.se)

**Government's website:** [www.sweden.gov.se](http://www.sweden.gov.se)

**Parliament website:** [www.riksdagen.se](http://www.riksdagen.se)

**Accession:** 1995

**Number of members in the European Parliament:** 20

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.sweden.se](http://www.sweden.se)

**Currency:** Swedish krona (SEK)

**People:** Swedes

**Official language:** Swedish (sv)

**Area:** 441 369 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 9 482 900 (2013)

**Population density:** 23/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 31 800 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 40.7 (2010)

**Other cities:** Gothenburg, Malmö,  
Uppsala, Västerås, Örebro

#### **Permanent Representation**

##### **to the European Union:**

Square de Meeûs/De Meeûssquare 30  
1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22895611

[representationen.bryssel@foreign.ministry.se](mailto:representationen.bryssel@foreign.ministry.se)  
[www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/2250](http://www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/2250)



## *United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

### Political system: monarchy

The Parliament is composed of the House of Commons, which has 650 members elected for 5 years, and the House of Lords, which has some 830 members divided into three categories: hereditary peers, 26 bishops and archbishops of the Church of England, and life peers. The Queen is Head of State, but her role is essentially ceremonial and representative. Executive power is exercised by the Prime Minister. The United Kingdom is made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

## UNITED KINGDOM

Capital: London  
(population: 8 136 300 — 2012)



## **National Day:** Queen's official birthday

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+44 20

## Country's internet suffix: .uk

**Head of State's website:** [www.royal.gov.uk](http://www.royal.gov.uk)

**Government's website:**  
[www.number10.gov.uk](http://www.number10.gov.uk)

Parliament website: [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk)

Accession: 1973

## **Number of members in the European Parliament: 73**

### Schengen area: no

**Country information:** [www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com)

**Currency:** pound sterling (GBP)



**People:** Britons

**Official language:** English (en)

**Area:** 243 069 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 62 989 600 (2013)

**Population density:** 256.8/km<sup>2</sup> (2010)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 27 300 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 39.6 (2010)

**Other cities:** Birmingham, Glasgow, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Leeds

#### **Permanent Representation to the European Union:**

Avenue d'Auderghem/Oudergemlaan 10

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22878211

ukrep@fco.gov.uk

[www.ukeu.fco.gov.uk/en/](http://www.ukeu.fco.gov.uk/en/)



⌚ GMT +2

## TURKEY

Capital: Ankara  
(population: 4 771 700 — 2012)

# *Candidate countries*

## *Republic of Turkey*

**Political system:** republic

Turkey has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (Grand National Assembly) has 550 members elected for 5 years. The President of the Republic is elected by direct universal suffrage for 5 years. His/her term of office may be renewed once. The President appoints the Prime Minister.

**National Day:** 29 October (founding of the Republic — 1923)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+90 312

**Country's internet suffix:** .tr

**Head of State's website:** [www.tccb.gov.tr](http://www.tccb.gov.tr)

**Government's website:**  
[www.basbakanlik.gov.tr](http://www.basbakanlik.gov.tr)

**Parliament website:** [www.tbmm.gov.tr](http://www.tbmm.gov.tr)

**Candidate country since:** 1999

**Schengen area:** no

**Country information:** [www.goturkey.com](http://www.goturkey.com)

**Currency:** Turkish lira (TRY)

**People:** Turks

**Official language:** Turkish



**Area:** 783 562 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 74 724 300 (2012)

**Population density:** 95/km<sup>2</sup> (2010)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 13 100 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 28.8 (2010)

**Other cities:** Istanbul, Izmir, Bursa, Adana, Gaziantep, Konya

**Mission to the European Union:**

Rue Montoyer/Montoyerstraat 4

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 25132836

[embassy.brussels@mfa.gov.tr](mailto:embassy.brussels@mfa.gov.tr)

[www.bruksel.be.mfa.gov.tr](http://www.bruksel.be.mfa.gov.tr)



## FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA (FYROM)

Capital: Skopje (population: 487 000 — 2012)

⌚ GMT +1

# *Candidate countries*

## *Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)*

### **Political system:** republic

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament (*Sobranie*) has 123 members elected for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected for 5 years and has no executive power.

**National Day:** 2 August (date of the uprising against the Ottoman Empire — 1903)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+389 2

**Country's internet suffix:** .mk

**Head of State's website:**

[www.president.gov.mk](http://www.president.gov.mk)

**Government's website:** [www.vlada.mk](http://www.vlada.mk)

**Parliament website:** [www.sobranie.mk](http://www.sobranie.mk)

**Candidate country since:** 2005

**Schengen area:** no

**Country information:**

[www.exploringmacedonia.com](http://www.exploringmacedonia.com)

**Currency:** denar (MKD)



**People:** inhabitants of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

**Official language:** language of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

**Area:** 25 713 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:** 2 059 800 (2012)

**Population density:** 82.6/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 8 700 (2010)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 35.8 (2010)

**Other cities:** Kumanovo, Bitola, Tetovo

#### **Mission to the European Union:**

Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 38

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22350350

[mission.eu@mfa.gov.mk](mailto:mission.eu@mfa.gov.mk)

[www.missions.gov.mk/european-union/home](http://www.missions.gov.mk/european-union/home)



# MONTENEGRO

Capital: Podgorica  
(population: 156 000 — 2011)

⌚ *GMT +1*

## *Candidate countries*

### *Republic of Montenegro*

**Political system:** republic

Montenegro has a unicameral parliamentary system. The Parliament has 81 members elected by universal suffrage for 4 years. The President of the Republic is elected by universal suffrage for 5 years. He/she appoints the Prime Minister, whose appointment must be approved by Parliament.

**National Day:** 13 July (independence from the Ottoman Empire — 1878)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+382 20

**Country's internet suffix:** .me

**Head of State's website:** [www.predsjednik.me](http://www.predsjednik.me)

**Government's website:** [www.gov.me](http://www.gov.me)

**Parliament website:** [www.skupstina.me](http://www.skupstina.me)

**Candidate country since:** 2010

**Schengen area:** no

**Country information:** [www.montenegro.travel](http://www.montenegro.travel)

**Currency:** euro (EUR). Adopted unilaterally; Montenegro is not part of the euro area.

**People:** Montenegrins

**Official language:** Montenegrin

**Area:** 13 812 km<sup>2</sup>



**Population:** 621 200 (2012)

**Population density:** 44.9/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** approx. EUR 5 500 (2011  
World Bank estimate)

**Voting age:** 18 and 2 years of residence, voting  
not compulsory

**Average age:** 36.2 (2010)

**Other cities:** Nikšić, Pljevlja, Bar

## **Mission to the European Union:**

Rue du Trône/Troonstraat 117

1050 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22235561

[eu@mfa.gov.me](mailto:eu@mfa.gov.me)

[www.mip.gov.me](http://www.mip.gov.me)



⌚ GMT

## ICELAND

Capital: Reykjavik  
(population: 120 000 — 2013)

# Candidate countries

## *Republic of Iceland*

**Political system:** republic

Iceland has a unicameral parliamentary system. The *Althing*, Iceland's Parliament, has 63 members elected for 4 years. The President is elected by direct universal suffrage for 4 years and may be re-elected several times. Executive power rests with the Prime Minister.

**National Day:** 17 June (proclamation of independence from Denmark — 1944)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+354 5

**Country's internet suffix:** .is

**Head of State's website:** [www.forseti.is](http://www.forseti.is)

**Government's website:** [www.government.is](http://www.government.is)

**Parliament website:** [www.althingi.is](http://www.althingi.is)

**Candidate country since:** 2010

**Schengen area:** yes

**Country information:** [www.iceland.is](http://www.iceland.is)

**Currency:** Icelandic krona (ISK)

**People:** Icelanders

**Official language:** Icelandic

**Area:** 103 000 km<sup>2</sup>



**Population:** 319 600 (2012)

**Population density:** 3.2/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** EUR 28 100 (2011)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 34.8 (2010)

**Other cities:** Kópavogur, Hafnarfjörður, Akureyri

## **Mission to the European Union:**

Rond-Point Schuman/Schumanplein 11  
1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 22385000

emb.brussels@mfa.is

[www.iceland.is/be](http://www.iceland.is/be)



# SERBIA

Capital: Belgrade  
(population: 1 166 800 — 2011)

⌚ GMT +1

## *Candidate countries*

### *Republic of Serbia*

**Political system:** republic

The Republic of Serbia has a unicameral parliamentary system. The single-chamber Parliament, the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (in Serbian: *Народна скупштина Републике Србије* and *Narodna skupština Republike Srbije*), has 250 members elected by direct universal suffrage every 4 years. The President of the Republic is the Head of State and is elected for a five-year term of office, renewable once. The President nominates the Prime Minister, who together with his government must have the confidence of the Parliament.

**National Day:** 15 February (Commemoration of the first Serb revolt against the Turks — 1804)

**Dialling code for the country and capital:**  
+381 11

**Country's internet suffix:** .rs

**Head of State's website:** [www.predsednik.rs](http://www.predsednik.rs)

**Government's website:** [www.srbija.gov.rs](http://www.srbija.gov.rs)

**Parliament website:** [www.parlament.rs](http://www.parlament.rs)

**Candidate country since:** 2012

**Schengen area:** no

**Country information:** [www.serbia.travel](http://www.serbia.travel)

**Currency:** Serbian dinar (RSD)

**People:** Serbs

**Official language:** Serbian

**Area:** 77 474 km<sup>2</sup> (excluding Kosovo<sup>(\*)</sup>)

**Population:** 7 241 300 (2012) (excluding Kosovo<sup>(\*)</sup>)

**Population density:** 92/km<sup>2</sup> (2011)

**GDP per capita (PPS):** approx. EUR 8 700 (2012  
World Bank estimate)

**Voting age:** 18, voting not compulsory

**Average age:** 41.1 (2011)

**Other cities:** Novi Sad, Niš, Kragujevac

### **Mission to the European Union:**

Boulevard du Régent/Regentlaan 53

1000 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 26498242

mission.serbia.eu@mfa.rs

www.eu-brussels.mfa.gov.rs

(\*)

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*



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CONSLIUM

Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175  
1048 Bruxelles/Brussel  
Belgique/België  
Tél. +32 22816111

[www.consilium.europa.eu](http://www.consilium.europa.eu)

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