

ALBANIA

Date of Elections: October 6, 1974

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the members of Parliament on the normal expiry of their term of office.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of Albania, the People's Assembly, is composed of 250 members elected for 4 years.

Electoral System

All Albanian citizens, of either sex, who are at least 18 years of age have the right to vote, with the exception of persons deprived of this right by court decision and the insane.

Electoral registers are drawn up by the executive committees of the local people's councils and made public at least 20 days prior to the election date. Voting is not compulsory.

Every qualified elector may be a candidate for Parliament. The parliamentary mandate is considered to be compatible with other offices.

All candidates must be members of one of the country's mass organizations, such as the Albanian Party of Labour, the Democratic Front, trade unions, the Labour Youth Union or the Women's Union. Candidates' names must be made public at least 15 days before the election date.

Candidates to Parliament are declared elected in each of the 250 single-member constituencies if they obtain an absolute majority of the valid votes cast within their electoral constituency. A second ballot is held, within 15 days, in a constituency where no candidate has obtained the absolute majority of votes cast or when these votes amounted to less than half the number of registered voters.

By-elections are held to fill parliamentary seats which become vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

As for the preceding (1970) general legislative elections, the organizations of the labouring masses of Albania nominated only one candidate in each electoral constituency. These candidates, thus totalling 250, were all those of the Democratic Front.

During the election campaign, Mr. Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour, particularly advocated close relations with Yugoslavia and Greece, Albania's neighbours.

On election day, the electorate was unanimous in favouring the candidates nominated by the Front.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the People's Assembly

Number of registered voters.	1,248,530
Voters.	1,248,530(100%)
Blank or void ballot papers.	2
Valid votes.	1,248,528
<i>Votes for the candidates of the Democratic Front</i>	1,248,528

Political Group	Number of Candidates	Number of Seats
Democratic Front	250	250

2. Distribution of Members of Parliament according to Professional Category

Civil servants (including 24 jurists, 20 engineers, 18 teachers, 16 economists, 16 agronomists, 11 doctors).	170
Members of agricultural co-operatives.	43
Manual workers.	37
	250

*3. Distribution of Members of Parliament
according to Sex*

Men.	167
Women.	83
	250

*4. Distribution of Members of Parliament according
to Age Group*

18-26 years.	26
27-40.	99
41-59.	112
60 and over.	13
	250