

ALBANIA

Date of Elections: 14 November 1982

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the seats in Parliament on the normal expiry of the members' 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 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 the country's Democratic Front. The right to make nominations belongs to mass organizations such as the Albanian Party of Labour, trade unions, organizations of youth and women, and others.

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 any 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 Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

On 10 November, during the election campaign, Mr. Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour and President of the Democratic Front, delivered a speech which focused on the Government's economic, social and non-aligned foreign policy. On polling day, the voter turnout was high and the 250 People's Assembly candidates of the country's Democratic Front were unanimously returned; successful candidates included 76 women.

The newly-elected Assembly met for the first time on 22 November, when it elected Mr. Ramiz Alia as President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly (Head of State) to succeed Mr. Haxhi Lleshi. The Assembly also approved a proposal by Mr. Hoxha that Mr. Adil Carcani be asked to remain as Prime Minister. On 23 November, Mr. Carcani presented a new Council of Ministers (Cabinet), which was approved by the Assembly.

Statistics

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

Number of registered electors.	1,627,968
Voters.	1,627,968
Blank or void ballot papers.	9
Valid votes.	1,627,959
<i>Votes for candidates of the Democratic Front . . .</i>	<i>1,627,959</i>

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

2. *Distribution of Members of Parliament
according to Professional Category*

Workers.	95
Members of agricultural co-operatives.	73
Lawyers and teachers.	27
Engineers.	24
Economists.	12
Doctors.	11
Military.	8
	250

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

Men.	174
Women.	76
	250

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

18-27 years.	.12
28-40.	.125
41-60.	.98
Over 60.	.15
	250