

## HUNGARY

**Date of Elections:** 8 June 1980

### **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 Hungary, the National Assembly, is composed of 352 members elected for 4 years.

### **Electoral System**

All Hungarian citizens who have reached the age of 18 have the right to vote. Disqualified, however, are persons who have been disfranchised by court order, those under police surveillance or detention, and the insane.

Electoral registers are drawn up on the constituency level and revised before each election. A constituency absentee may be included on the electoral register of his temporary residence and vote in that constituency. Voting is not compulsory.

Candidates for the National Assembly must be qualified electors who have received the endorsement of the country's Patriotic People's Front. The parliamentary mandate is not incompatible with remunerative work, which the Deputies may continue to carry on throughout the duration of their mandate.

Prior to the elections and within each constituency, local committees of the Front organize voters' meetings in the communes, factories, offices and all working places, as well as for members of the army and police. Parliamentary candidates—who may be proposed by organs of the Front, social organizations, workers' collectives or individual voters—are chosen during these meetings. All those persons who receive at least one third of the votes of electors present at the meetings and who fulfill the conditions set by the statutes of the Front are endorsed. Several candidates may therefore contest the same seat.

Deputies are elected in 352 single-member constituencies. If, within a constituency, no candidate obtains an absolute majority of the votes in the course of the first ballot, or if less than an absolute majority of the total number of registered electors have voted, a second or subsequent ballots are held until these requirements are met.

By-elections are held within 12 months to fill parliamentary seats which become vacant between general elections.

### **General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections**

As required by law, the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic set the date of the elections to the National Assembly 45 days in advance.

Lists of candidates to the Assembly are compiled by the Patriotic People's Front on the basis of nominations made at public meetings organized by over 3,700 local committees of the Front. The Front is a mass movement embracing the country as a whole. This collective assembly groups together the trade unions, various mass organizations, federations of national minorities and clergy; on this basis, it unites the forces of society with a view to promoting the full construction of socialism and the solution of political, economic and cultural tasks, and participates in the activities of the organs of popular representation.

At the pre-election voters' meetings, two candidates received the necessary support to stand as candidates in 15 of the country's 352 constituencies. There were consequently a total of 367 candidates for the Assembly seats. Their names were made public at least 10 days before polling day.

The Prime Minister (Chairman of the Council of Ministers) is Mr. Gyorgy Lazar.

Hungary

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats  
in the National Assembly*

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Number of registered electors. . . . . | 7,809,407       |
| Voters. . . . .                        | 7,577,401 (97%) |
| Blank or void ballot papers. . . . .   | 60,738          |
| Valid votes. . . . .                   | 7,516,663       |

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Patriotic People's Front . . . . . | 352 |
|------------------------------------|-----|

2. *Distribution of Deputies according to  
Professional Category*

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Workers. . . . .        | 158 |
| Intellectuals . . . . . | 147 |
| Farmers. . . . .        | 46  |
| Other. . . . .          | I   |
|                         | 352 |

3. *Distribution of Deputies according to Sex*

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Men. . . . .   | 246 |
| Women. . . . . | 106 |
|                | 352 |

4. *Distribution of Deputies according to Age Group*

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Under 30 years. . . . . | 44  |
| 31-35. . . . .          | 29  |
| 36-40. . . . .          | 43  |
| 41-45. . . . .          | 31  |
| 46-50. . . . .          | 51  |
| 51-55. . . . .          | 63  |
| 56-60. . . . .          | 53  |
| 61-65. . . . .          | 16  |
| 66-70. . . . .          | 16  |
| Over 70. . . . .        | 6   |
|                         | 352 |