

## UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

**Date of Elections: June 14, 1970**

### **Characteristics of Parliament**

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR consists of 2 Chambers:

— The Soviet of the Union, whose 767 members are elected for 4 years, on the basis of one Deputy for every 300,000 inhabitants.

— The Soviet of Nationalities, whose 750 members are also elected for 4 years, on the basis of 32 Deputies for each Union Republic, 11 Deputies for each Autonomous Republic, 5 Deputies for each Autonomous Region and 1 Deputy for each National Area.

The elections of June 14, 1970, were held to renew all the members of the two Chambers of the Supreme Soviet on the normal expiry of the 7th legislature.

### **Electoral System**

All citizens, both men and women, who have reached the age of 18, have the right to vote, with the exception of persons certified insane.

Electoral lists are drawn up in each constituency by local commissions of workers' deputies. They are posted and made known to the public 30 days prior to election day.

There is no provision for postal voting but citizens absent from their place of residence on election day may receive an elector's card thus enabling them to fulfil their electoral duty in the constituency in which they may be during the election.

Every elector who has reached the age of 23 is eligible.

Deputies for both the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities are elected by uninominal majority ballot, on the basis of 1 per constituency. If, in a given constituency, no candidate obtains an absolute majority of valid votes, a second ballot is organized within 2 weeks, between the 2 candidates who polled the greatest number of votes.

The electoral constituencies, 767 for the Soviet of the Union and 750 for the Soviet of Nationalities, are defined by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. The list of constituencies must be published not later than 2 months before polling day. A Central Election Commission set up by the Presidium then directs the legal procedure of the elections.

Candidatures are put forward to the Election Commission by social organizations and workers' associations (Communist Party, syndicates, co-operative organizations, youth organizations and cultural societies) at least 30 days before the elections.

There is no provision for substitute Deputies, and, should a seat become vacant during the course of a legislature, a by-election is organized within 2 months in the relevant constituency.

### General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

According to the traditional procedure in the USSR, social organizations and workers' associations agreed to put forward only one candidate for each constituency. The choice of the latter was the cause of a very broad exchange of opinions during numerous meetings held at all levels.

During its final days, the very lively electoral campaign resembled a popular celebration. It was conducted under the banner of Lenin's centenary. The principal current themes were evoked, particularly the meeting of the 24th Communist Party Congress which was then planned for the present year, and the improvement of the economy. The importance given to economic problems by candidates such as Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, who delivered a long speech on the eve of the election, gives rise to predictions that particular emphasis will be placed on increasing productivity and improving methods of administration and planning during the 8th legislature.

All candidates were elected on June 14. It will be noted that 72.3 % of the Deputies are members of the Communist Party and 27.7 % are partyless.

### Statistics

Number of registered voters . . . . .	153,237,112
Voters . . . . .	153,172,213 (99.96 %)

## 1. Results of the Elections to the Soviet of the Union

	Votes obtained by Candidates		Negative Votes	Void Ballot Papers	Number elected
	Numbers	%			
SFSR of Russia . . . . .	84,511,249	99.62	318,725	222	423
SSR of Ukraine . . . . .	32,496,538	99.92	27,431	—	150
SSR of Byelorussia . . . . .	5,838,677	99.92	4,423	2	28
SSR of Uzbek . . . . .	5,616,759	99.84	8,847	114	35
SSR of Kazakh . . . . .	7,038,724	99.72	19,755	1	39
SSR of Georgia . . . . .	2,833,298	99.98	549	6	15
SSR of Azerbaijan . . . . .	2,472,025	99.95	1,260	7	15
SSR of Lithuania . . . . .	2,055,767	99.96	873	2	10
SSR of Moldavia . . . . .	2,163,805	99.93	1,583	—	11
SSR of Latvia . . . . .	1,701,358	99.92	1,354	10	7
SSR of Kirghiz . . . . .	1,475,729	99.77	3,364	—	9
SSR of Tajik . . . . .	1,336,401	99.86	1,939	1	8
SSR of Armenia . . . . .	1,251,812	99.91	1,140	—	7
SSR of Turkmen . . . . .	1,033,718	90.80	2,081	—	6
SSR of Estonia . . . . .	945,879	99.67	3,019	56	4
USSR . . . . .	152,771,739	99.74	396,343	420	767

## 2. Results of the Elections to the Soviet of Nationalities

	Votes obtained by Candidates		Negative Votes	£ j * I a ] i -rs	Number elected
	Numbers	%			
15 Union Republics. . . . .	152,843,228	99.79	320,633	441	480
20 Autonomous Republics. . . . .	11,449,897	99.59	47,169	24	220
8 Autonomous Regions. . . . .	1,115,099	99.64	3,978	1	40
10 National Areas . . . . .	583,055	99.55	2,645	—	10

3. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Profession*

Workers. . . . .	<b>481</b>
Collective farmers. . . . .	282
Intellectuals. . . . .	754
	1,517

4. *Distribution of Parliamentarians according to Sex*

	Soviet of the Union	Soviet of Nationalities	T t l
Men. . . . .	535	519	1,054
Women. . . . .	232	231	463
	767	750	1,517

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction . . . . .	3
Parliamentary Developments in the World . . . . .	5
In Africa . . . . .	5
In America . . . . .	11
In Asia . . . . .	12
In Europe . . . . .	14
In the Middle East . . . . .	15
In Oceania . . . . .	16
Chronicle of Elections . . . . .	17
Afghanistan . . . . .	19
Australia . . . . .	21
Austria . . . . .	27
Botswana . . . . .	31
Cameroon . . . . .	35
Ceylon . . . . .	39
Chad . . . . .	43
Colombia . . . . .	45
Costa Rica . . . . .	49
Dominican Republic . . . . .	53
El Salvador . . . . .	57
Federal Republic of Germany . . . . .	59
Finland . . . . .	65
Ghana . . . . .	69
Guatemala . . . . .	73
Israel . . . . .	75
Japan . . . . .	79
Kenya . . . . .	85
Liechtenstein . . . . .	87
New Zealand . . . . .	89
Norway . . . . .	93
Philippines . . . . .	97
Portugal . . . . .	101
Rwanda . . . . .	105
South Africa . . . . .	107
Tunisia . . . . .	111
Turkey . . . . .	115
United Kingdom . . . . .	119
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics . . . . .	123

Dean of the Department of Law at the University of Geneva; Mr. H. Faulkner (Canada), Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons; Mr. A. F. Gorkine (USSR), Member of the Soviet of the Union; Mr. F. Humblet (Belgium), President of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments; Mr. R. Premadasa (Ceylon), Minister of Local Government; Mr. E. Sankale (Senegal), Secretary General of the National Assembly.

The Centre is run by Mr. P. Cornillon, Assistant Secretary of the Union; its network of National Correspondents covers 85 countries, 19 of which are not represented in the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

## HEADQUARTERS

International Centre for Parliamentary Documentation  
Place du Petit-Saconnex  
1211 Geneva 19 (Switzerland)

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE CIDP

Unless otherwise indicated, the publications mentioned below are obtainable from the Centre.

**PARLIAMENTS.** — **A Comparative Study on the Structure and Functioning of Representative Institutions in Fifty-Five Countries** (New revised edition). Preface by Mr. G. Codacci-Pisanelli and Mr. A. de Blonay. Pp. 346 (1966). French edition also available. On sale in bookshops and, for members of the Union, at the Inter-Parliamentary Bureau. . . . . Sw. Fr. 25.—

**Present-Day Problems of Parliament.** International Symposium held in Geneva from November 4 to 6, 1965, by the CIDP, under the auspices of the Union.

1. Verbatim Report. Introductory reports and debates *in extenso*, in the original language (French or English). Pp. 250 (out of print).
2. Official Report. Special issue of the **Inter-Parliamentary Bulletin**. Introductory reports; synthesis and conclusions of the debates, by Mr. C. Dominice (English and French). Pp. 84. . . . . » 3.—

**The Role of Parliament in the Elaboration and Control of Economic Development Plans** (English and French). Mimeographed brochure. Pp. 50. . . . . » 5.—

**Parliament and Its Means of Contact with Public Opinion through the Press, Radio and Television**  
*Reports and Debates.* Introductory reports and verbatim record of the debates of the 2nd International Symposium, organized in Geneva from December 5 to 7, 1968, by the CIDP, under the auspices of the Union. In the original language, English or French. Mimeographed volume. Pp. 316. . . . . » 15.—

### Chronicle of Parliamentary Elections

- I. *July 1, 1966 — June 30, 1967*  
Bilingual edition (English-French). Pp. 95. . . . . » 7.—
- II. *July 1, 1967 — June 30, 1968*  
Index cards per country. English and French editions. Pp. 130 » 10.—
- III. *July 1, 1968 — June 30, 1969*  
Index cards per country. English and French editions. Pp. 116 » 15.—
- IV. *July 1, 1969 — June 30, 1970*  
Index cards per country. English and French editions, Pp. 127 » 30.—