

YUGOSLAVIA

Dates of Elections: March 16 to May 10, 1974

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held following the revision of the Constitution, which introduced a new system of assembly and delegation, adopted by the 5 Chambers of the Federal Assembly at their last plenary session of January 30 and 31, 1974.*

Characteristics of Parliament

As denned by the new Constitution, the Assembly of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (S.F.R.Y.) is a body of social self-management and the supreme organ of power within the framework of federal rights and duties; it is bicameral, consisting of the Federal Chamber and the Chamber of Republics and Provinces.

The Federal Chamber is composed of 30 delegates of self-managing organizations and communities and socio-political organizations from each of the 6 Republics, and of 20 delegates from each of the 2 Autonomous Provinces; its total membership is therefore 220 delegates.

The Chamber of Republics and Provinces is composed of 12 delegates from each of the 6 Republican Assemblies, and of 8 delegates from each of the 2 Provincial Assemblies; its total membership is thus 88 delegates.

Delegates to both Chambers of the S.F.R.Y. Assembly serve for a term of 4 years.

Electoral System

All citizens 18 years of age have the right to elect and be elected members of the delegation of their basic self-managing organization or community, and to be delegates to the assembly of a socio-political community. ** Such age requirement does not apply in the case of (1) a worker in an organization of associated labour, that is, an economic work unit (enterprise) or non-economic work unit (institution) wherein workers, utilizing socially-owned resources, themselves manage (in accordance with the principle of self-management) their work and working conditions; (2) a worker with private means of production

* See section *Parliamentary Developments*, p. 16.

** By socio-political community is meant any territorial community, whether on the level of a commune, Autonomous Province, Republic or the Federation itself.

who forms, together with other workers having the same interests, contractual organizations of associated labour.

Members of socio-political organizations (such as the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, the Socialist Alliance of the Working People, the Federation of Trade Unions, the War Veterans' Federations and the Youth League), members of non-organized work communities, citizens within local communities and members of the armed forces on active duty also have the right to elect and be elected delegates. University and secondary school students have the right to form delegations in the field of education.

No person may be elected for more than two consecutive terms as delegate in the same assembly. Officials of federal agencies or organizations, judges of the Constitutional Court of Yugoslavia and the Federal Court, the Federal Public Prosecutor and the Federal Social Attorney of Self-Management may not, simultaneously to holding these posts, be delegates to the S.F.R.Y. Assembly.

The electoral system comprises a sequence of delegations:

The candidates at all levels of delegations are screened and nominated during voters' meetings held within basic organizations and territorial communities, as well as within the framework of the Socialist Alliance of the Working People and other socio-political organizations. The delegations elected by the organizations and basic communities then elect, taking into account the proposals made during the voters' meetings, the delegates to the communal assemblies and propose the list of candidates chosen from among themselves for, on the one hand, delegation to the assemblies of the Republics and Provinces and, on the other hand, delegation to the Federal Chamber. The list of candidates to the Federal Chamber is drawn up 15 days before election day by the nominating conferences of the Socialist Alliance of the Working People of the Republics and Provinces. Candidates appear on these lists in the order of preference voted upon by each conference. Each list comprises at least as many candidates as there are seats to be filled (30 for a Republic, 20 for a Province).

Delegates to the Federal Assembly are elected by the communal assemblies by secret ballot and simple majority vote. Electors vote for candidates appearing on blocked lists. Those candidates obtaining the majority of votes in assemblies of communes having the greatest number of voters are declared elected. In case two or more candidates obtain the same number of votes, election is according to the candidates' order of appearance on the list.

Delegates to the Chamber of Republics and Provinces are elected by the republican and provincial assemblies according to the same system.

By-elections are held for Assembly vacancies which arise more than six months prior to the end of the legislature's term.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

In view of its complexity, the process of elections lasted from March 16 to May 10. In late March, the delegations of basic labour organizations were elected, which delegations then proceeded, in early April, to the election of the communal assemblies. Delegates to the Federal Chamber were elected by the communal assemblies from April 22 to 29, according to the Republic or Province concerned; delegates to the Chamber of Republics and Provinces were elected until May 10.

The electoral campaign centered primarily around the interpretation and discussion of the principles embodied in the new Constitution, notably the consolidation of self-management at all levels of society in the country. The platform of the Socialist Alliance — the principal organizer of the elections — emphasized, *inter alia*, the necessity of introducing an extensive cadre's policy in work centers as well as in public establishments and socio-political organizations — this in order to ensure a better distribution of tasks and responsibilities and to prevent small groups holding key posts from avoiding public control.

The new Assembly of the S.F.R.Y. first met on May 15, 1974.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the S.F.R. Y. Assembly

Delegations of organizations of associated labour

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Number of registered voters. | 9,202,472 |
| Voters. | 8,250,555 (89.65 %) |

Delegations of socio-political communities

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Number of registered voters. | 13,404,179 |
| Voters. | 11,784,237 (87.9 %) |

Distribution of Delegates in the Federal Chamber

| Total | Delegations from | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Self-managing labour organizations and communities | Territorial communities | Socio-political organizations |
| <i>Republics</i> | | | |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina 30 | 17 | | 13 |
| Croatia 30 | 17 | 8 | 5 |
| Macedonia 30 | 16 | — | 14 |
| Montenegro 30 | 17 | 1 | 12 |
| Serbia 30 | 15 | 2 | 13 |
| Slovenia 30 | 18 | 6 | 6 |
| <i>Provinces</i> | | | |
| Vojvodina 20 | 11 | 2 | 7 |
| Kosovo 20 | 10 | 3 | 7 |
| Total 220 | 121 | 22 | 77 |

Distribution of Delegates in the Chamber of Republics and Provinces

| Total | Delegations from | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Self-managing labour organizations and communities | Territorial communities | Socio-political organizations |
| <i>Republics</i> | | | |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina 11* | | 3 | 8 |
| Croatia 12 | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| Macedonia 12 | — | 3 | 9 |
| Montenegro 12 | | 4 | 8 |
| Slovenia 12 | 3 | 1 | 8 |
| Slovenia 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 |
| <i>Provinces</i> | | | |
| Vojvodina 8 | | 1 | 7 |
| Total 87* | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Total 87* | 10 | 18 | 59 |

One delegate from the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina was to be elected subsequently.

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2. Distribution of Delegates by Professional Category

| | Federal Chamber | Chamber of Republics and Provinces |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Farmers | 4 | 1 |
| Miners and workers | 2 | 2 |
| Administrators | | 2 |
| Officials of socio-political organizations | | 15 |
| Employees of high grade | | 14 |
| Members of self-managing bodies (assemblies) and executive bo- dies (local and regional autho- rities) | 14 | 49 |
| Engineers | 32 | |
| Teachers | 14 | |
| Lawyers | 14 | |
| Economists | 13 | |
| Liberal professions | 31 | |
| Others | <u>5</u> | <u>4</u> |
| | 220 | 87 |

3. Distribution of Delegates by Sex

| | Federal Chamber | Chamber of Republics and Provinces |
|-------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Men | 187 | 78 |
| Women | <u>33</u> | 9 |
| | 220 | 87 |

4. Distribution of Delegates according to Age Group

| | Federal Chamber | Chamber of Republics and Provinces |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Under 30 years | | |
| 30-39 | | 7 |
| 40-49 | | 7 |
| 50 and over | | <u>43</u> |
| | 220 | 87 |