



Strasbourg, 2 October 2007

CDL-EL(2007)031*

Study/Etude No/n° 426 / 2007

Or. Bil.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

COMMISSION EUROPEENNE POUR LA DEMOCRATIE PAR LE DROIT
(COMMISSION DE VENISE)

CHOOSING THE DATE OF AN ELECTION

**Constitutional and Legislative
Provisions**

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FIXATION DE LA DATE DES ELECTIONS

**Dispositions constitutionnelles
et législatives**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ALBANIA	3
ANDORRA	4
ARMENIA	5
AUSTRIA	6
AZERBAIJAN	7
BELARUS	7
BELGIQUE	9
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	10
BULGARIA	11
CROATIA	11
CYPRUS	12
CZECH REPUBLIC	13
DENMARK	14
ESTONIA	14
FINLAND	16
FRANCE	16
GEORGIA	17
GERMANY	19
GREECE	20
HUNGARY	21
ICELAND	22
IRELAND	23
ITALY	24
KYRGYZSTAN	24
LATVIA	26
LIECHTENSTEIN	27
LITHUANIA	27
LUXEMBOURG	29
MALTA	29
MOLDOVA	30
MONACO	31
MONTENEGRO	31
NETHERLANDS	33
NORWAY	33
POLAND	34
PORTUGAL	35
ROMANIA	36
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	37
SERBIA	37
SLOVAKIA	39
SLOVENIA	40
SPAIN	42
SUISSE	43
SWEDEN	44
“THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA”	44
TURKEY	45
UKRAINE	46

ALBANIA

Constitution

Article 65

1. The Assembly is elected for four years.
2. Elections for the Assembly are held 60 to 30 days before the end of the mandate and not later than 45 days after its dissolution.
3. The mandate of the Assembly continues until the first meeting of the new Assembly. In this interval, the Assembly may not issue laws or take decisions, except when extraordinary measures have been established.

Article 87

1. A candidate for President is proposed to the Assembly by a group of not less than 20 of its members. A member is not permitted to take part in more than one proposing group.
2. The President of the Republic is elected by the Assembly by secret ballot and without debate by a majority of three-fifths of all its members.
3. When this majority is not reached in the first ballot, a second ballot takes place within 7 days from the day of the first ballot.
4. When this majority is not reached even in the second ballot, a third ballot takes place within 7 days.
5. When there is more than one candidate and none of them has received the required majority, within 7 days, a fourth ballot takes place between the two candidates who have received the greatest number of votes.
6. If even in the fourth ballot neither of the two candidates has received the required majority, a fifth ballot takes place
7. If even in the fifth ballot neither of the two candidates has received the required majority, the Assembly is dissolved and new general elections take place within 60 days.
8. The new Assembly elects the President pursuant to the procedure contemplated in paragraphs 1 to 7 of this article. If even the new Assembly fails to elect the President, the Assembly is dissolved and new general elections take place within 60 days.

Article 104

1. If a motion of confidence presented by the Prime Minister is rejected by a majority of all members of the Assembly, the Assembly elects another Prime Minister within 15 days. In this case, the President appoints the new Prime Minister.
2. When the Assembly fails to elect a new Prime Minister, the President of the Republic dissolves the Assembly.
3. The vote on the motion cannot take place if three days have not passed from the day it was presented.

Article 105

1. If a motion of no confidence presented by one-fifth of the members of the Assembly is approved by a majority of all its members, the Assembly elects another Prime Minister within 15 days. In this case, the President appoints the new Prime Minister.
2. When the Assembly fails to elect a new Prime Minister, the President of the Republic dissolves the Assembly.

3. The vote on the motion cannot take place if three days have not passed from the day it was presented.

The Electoral Code of the Republic of Albania

Article 7

1. The date of the elections is set by a decree of the President of the Republic, according to the rules provided in articles 65, 109, 115, 151 section 3, 152 section 3 and 170 section 6 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania [...]"

3. No later than 75 days before the expiry of the mandate of the Assembly, the President of the Republic sets the date of the elections. [...]

4. Pursuant to article 87 of the Constitution, no later than 24 hours after the Assembly's dissolution, the President of the Republic sets the date for the elections no later than 10 days after the Assembly's dissolution. The Assembly is self-dissolved on the day of the fifth vote when it fails to elect a new President according to section 7 of article 87 of the Constitution. Pursuant to article 65 of the Constitution, the elections are to be conducted no later than 45 days after the dissolution of the Assembly. The date of the dissolution is the date of the fifth vote according to section 7 of article 87 of the Constitution when the Assembly fails to elect a new President.

5. Pursuant to section 4 of article 96 of the Constitution, when the Assembly fails to elect a new Prime Minister, the President of the Republic decrees the dissolution of the Assembly and, no later than 24 hours after the vote provided in section 3 of the same article, sets the election date. Pursuant to article 65 of the Constitution, the elections are to be held no later than 45 days after the dissolution of the Assembly.

6. When the Assembly dissolves itself for reasons other than those mentioned in sections 3, 4 and 5 of this article, the President of the Republic no later than 24 hours after the Assembly's dissolution sets the date of the elections. The Assembly is to be dissolved on the day it votes to dissolve itself. Pursuant to article 65 of the Constitution, the elections shall take place no later than 45 days after the dissolution of the Assembly.

7. In any case, the elections for the Assembly shall take place on the Sunday nearest to the forty-fifth day after the date of the decree setting the election date.

ANDORRA

Constitution

Article 45

The Coprinceps, with the countersignature of the Cap de Govern or when appropriate, of the Síndic General will call for general elections; d) Sign the decree of dissolution of the Consell General following the procedure of article 71 of the Constitution.

Article 51.2

Elections for the Consell General shall be held between the thirtieth and fortieth days following the end of the term/the dissolution of the Consell General

Article 71

1. The Cap de Govern, after consulting the Govern, and under his or her own responsibility, may request the Coprinceps to dissolve the Consell General prematurely. The decree of dissolution shall call new elections in accordance with art. 51.2 of the Constitution.

2. No dissolution shall be carried out after the presentation of a motion of censure or under the state of emergency.
3. No dissolution shall be carried out before one year has elapsed after the most recent elections.

ARMENIA

Constitution

Article 55.3

The President of the Republic: (3) may dissolve the National Assembly in the cases and in conformity with the procedure prescribed by Article 74.1 of the Constitution and declares extraordinary elections.

Article 63. 3

The National Assembly may not be dissolved during the of state of martial law and state of emergency as well as in the event a motion on impeaching the President of Republic is put forward.

Article 68

Regular elections to the National Assembly shall be held no sooner than fifty and no later than forty days prior to the expiration of the term of the National Assembly. The extraordinary elections of the National Assembly shall be held no sooner than thirty and no later than forty days after the dissolution of the National Assembly. The date of elections to the National Assembly shall be appointed by a Presidential decree. (...).

Article 74.1

The President of the Republic shall dissolve the National Assembly if the National Assembly does not give an approval to the program of the Government two times in succession within two months. The President of Republic may also dissolve the National Assembly upon the recommendation of the Chairman of the National Assembly or the Prime Minister in the following cases: a) If the National Assembly fails within three months to resolve on the draft law deemed urgent by the decision of the Government or; b) If in the course of a regular session no sittings of the National Assembly are convened for more than three months or c) If in the course of a regular session the National Assembly fails for more than three months to adopt a resolution on issues under debate.

Electoral Code

Article 117

1. Regular elections to the National Assembly shall be held within 60 days preceding the end of the current National Assembly's term.
2. The President of the Republic issues a decree on assignment of regular elections, not later than 100 days prior to the day of voting.

Article 119

1. Extraordinary elections shall be held not earlier than 30 and no later than 40 days after the dissolution of the National Assembly.
2. The President of the Republic issues a decree on assigning extraordinary elections together with the decree on the National Assembly dissolution.

AUSTRIA

Constitution

Article 27 Term

1. The legislative period of the House of Representatives lasts four years, calculated from the day of its first meeting but in any case until the day on which the new House of Representatives meets.
2. The newly elected House of Representatives shall be convened by the Federal President within thirty days after the election. The latter shall be so arranged by the Federal Government as to enable the newly elected House of Representatives to meet on the day after the expiry of the fourth year of the legislative period.

Article 29 Dissolution

1. The Federal President can dissolve the House of Representatives, but he may avail himself of this prerogative only once for the same reason. In such case the new election shall be so arranged by the Federal Government that the newly elected House of Representatives can at the latest meet on the hundredth day after the dissolution.
2. Before expiry of a legislative period the House of Representatives can vote its own dissolution by simple law.
3. After a dissolution pursuant to Paragraph (2) as well as after expiry of the period for which the House of Representatives has been elected, the legislative period lasts until the day on which the newly elected House of Representatives meets.

Article 60

6. Before expiry of his term of office the Federal President can be deposed by referendum. The referendum shall be held if the Federal Assembly so demands. The Federal Assembly shall be convoked by the Federal Chancellor for this purpose if the House of Representatives has passed such a motion. The House of Representatives vote requires the presence of at least half the members and a majority of two thirds of the votes cast. By such a House of Representatives vote, the Federal President is prevented from the further exercise of his office. Rejection by the referendum of the deposition works as a new election and entails the dissolution of the House of Representatives (Article 29 (1)). The Federal President's total term of office may not exceed twelve years.

Article 67 Recommendation, Countersignature

1. Save as otherwise provided by the Constitution, all official acts of the Federal President shall be based on recommendation by the Federal Government or the Federal Minister authorized by it. The law provides to what extent the Federal Government or the competent Federal Minister is herein dependent on recommendations from other quarters.
2. Save as otherwise provided by the Constitution, all official acts of the Federal President require for their validity the countersignature of the Federal Chancellor or the competent Federal Minister

Federal Law on the Election of the National Council

PART I. Section 1 par. 1.1 The National Council consists of 183 members, who are elected according to the provisions of this federal law. (2) The election shall be announced by the federal government in the Federal Law Gazette by way of regulation. This regulation shall contain the day of election, which must be set by the federal government on a Sunday or other public holiday in accordance with the main committee of the National Council. Moreover, the regulation shall determine the day to be taken as qualifying date. This day must not precede the day of the announcement of the election. The periods set in paras. 13, 14, 16 and 25 of this federal law and the preconditions of the right to vote (par. 21 alinea 1 and of the eligibility (par. 41) are determined by the qualifying date. (3) The regulation of the Federal Government on the announcement of the election shall also be publicly proclaimed in all communities.

AZERBAIJAN

Constitution

Article 84 Term of authority of a calling of the Parliament [Milli Majlis] of the Azerbaijan Republic

1. Term of authority of each calling of the Parliament [Milli Majlis] of the Azerbaijan Republic is 5 years.
2. Elections for each calling of the Parliament [Milli Majlis] of the Azerbaijan Republic take place every 5 years on a first Sunday of November.
3. The term of authority of the deputies of the Parliament [Milli Majlis] of the Azerbaijan Republic cannot go further than the calling of the Parliament [Milli Majlis] of the Azerbaijan Republic.
4. If new elections of deputies to replace retired deputies of the Parliament [Milli Majlis] of the Azerbaijan Republic are carried out, then term of authority of newly elected deputy corresponds to remaining term of authority of respective retired deputy.

Article 109 Competence of the President of the Azerbaijan Republic

The President of the Azerbaijan Republic:

1. announces elections to the Parliament [Milli Majlis] of the Azerbaijan Republic.

BELARUS

Constitution

Article 84

The President of the Republic of Belarus shall:

2. call regular and extraordinary elections to the House of Representatives, the Council of the Republic and local representative bodies;
3. dissolve the chambers of the Parliament to the order and instances determined by the Constitution.

Article 91 (...)

Elections for a new composition of the chambers of Parliament shall be set no later than four months and held no later than 30 days prior to the expire of the powers of the current

Parliament. Extraordinary elections for the chambers of the Parliament shall be held within three months since the premature expire of the powers of the chambers of the Parliament.

Article 93

The term of the Parliament shall be four years. The powers of the Parliament may be extended by law only in the event of a war. (...) The powers of the House of Representatives or the Council of the Republic may be terminated prematurely to the order as determined by the Constitution. With the termination of the powers of the House of Representatives or the Council of the Republic, the President may take the decision to terminate the powers of the House of Representatives or the Council of the Republic consequently.

Article 94

The powers of the House of Representatives may be terminated prematurely where no confidence is expressed or a non-confidence vote is expressed to the Government, or where the House fails twice to give its consent for the appointment of the Prime Minister.

The powers of the House of Representatives or the Council of the Republic may be prematurely terminated in accordance with the conclusion of the Constitutional Court due to systematic and gross violation of the Constitution by the chambers of the Parliament.

The decision to this issue shall be taken by the President after official consultations with the Chairs of the chambers.

The chambers may not be dissolved during a state of emergency or martial law, in the last six months of the term of office of the President, in the course of proceedings of both chambers on the premature removal of the President from office.

Both chambers may not be dissolved in the course of the first year since the first sittings were held.

Electoral Code

Article 22

Powers of the President of the Republic of Belarus in Organising the Preparation of Elections and a Republican Referendum. The President of the Republic of Belarus shall: 1) appoint ordinary and extraordinary elections to the Chamber of Representatives and determine organisational measures for securing their holding;[...].

Article 33

Powers of the Central Commission. The Central Commission shall: [...] 16) solve issues connected with the organisation of recall of deputies of the Chamber of Representatives and members of the Council of the Republic, appoint elections of deputies of the Chamber of Representatives instead of the deputies who have left their position and provide its holding.

Article 56

Elections to the Chamber of Representatives of a new convocation shall be appointed by the President of the Republic of Belarus not later than four months and shall be held on Sunday not later than 30 days before expiration of the term of office of the Chamber of Representatives of the current convocation. [...] In case of dissolution of the Chamber of Representatives as provided by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, the President shall simultaneously appoint elections for the Chamber of Representatives of the new convocation. Extraordinary elections of the Chamber of Representatives shall be held within three months from the day of early termination of powers of the Chamber of Representatives of the current convocation.

Article 88 (...)

In case when a deputy of the Chamber of Representatives quits (leaves his position) less than one year before expiration of the term of office of the deputies of the Chamber of Representatives, elections of a new deputy of the Chamber of Representatives instead of the one who quitted shall not be held. (VOLGORDE)

Article 88

Holding of Elections of Deputies of the Chamber of Representatives instead of those who quitted. In case of a recall of a deputy of the Chamber of Representatives or early termination of deputy powers for other reasons, new elections shall be held in the respective electoral district within a four-month period from the time of the quitting of the deputy. The Central Commission shall appoint elections not later than three months before they are to be held and shall be organised with the observance of the requirements of this Code.

BELGIQUE

Constitution

Article 46

Le Roi n'a le droit de dissoudre la Chambre des représentants que si celle-ci, à la majorité absolue de ses membres :

1. soit rejette une motion de confiance au Gouvernement fédéral et ne propose pas au Roi, dans un délai de trois jours à compter du jour du rejet de la motion, la nomination d'un successeur au Premier Ministre;
 2. soit adopte une motion de méfiance à l'égard du Gouvernement fédéral et ne propose pas simultanément au Roi la nomination d'un successeur au Premier Ministre.
- Les motions de confiance et de méfiance ne peuvent être votées qu'après un délai de quarante-huit heures suivant le dépôt de la motion.

En outre, le Roi peut, en cas de démission du Gouvernement fédéral, dissoudre la Chambre des représentants après avoir reçu son assentiment exprimé à la majorité absolue de ses membres.

La dissolution de la Chambre des représentants entraîne la dissolution du Sénat. L'acte de dissolution contient convocation des électeurs dans les quarante jours et des Chambres dans les deux mois.

Article 106

Aucun acte du Roi ne peut avoir d'effet, s'il n'est pas contresigné par un ministre qui, par cela seul, s'en rend responsable.

Article 195

Le pouvoir législatif fédéral a le droit de déclarer qu'il y a lieu à la révision de telle disposition constitutionnelle qu'il désigne.

Après cette déclaration, les deux Chambres sont dissoutes de plein droit.

Il en sera convoqué deux nouvelles, conformément à l'article 46.

(...)

Code Electoral

Article 105

La réunion ordinaire des collèges électoraux à l'effet de pourvoir au remplacement des représentants et sénateurs sortants a lieu le premier dimanche qui suit l'expiration d'un délai de quatre années prenant cours à la date à laquelle il a été procédé à la désignation des sénateurs cooptés lors de l'élection précédente. Si le dimanche visé à l'alinéa précédent coïncide avec un jour férié légal, l'élection est remise au dimanche suivant.

Article 106

En cas de dissolution des Chambres, comme en cas de vacance, lorsqu'il ne peut y être pourvu par l'installation d'un suppléant, le collège électoral est réuni dans les quarante jours de l'acte de dissolution ou de la vacance. La date de l'élection est fixée par arrêté royal.

[...] Cependant, si une vacance se produit dans les trois mois qui précèdent le renouvellement des deux Chambres, la convocation du collège électoral ne peut avoir lieu que sur la décision de la Chambre où le siège est devenu vacant. Il en est de même lorsque la vacance a pour cause la démission d'un titulaire ou le désistement de suppléants. Dans ces différents cas, la réunion éventuelle du collège électoral a lieu dans les quarante jours de la décision.

Article 107

Quinze jours au moins avant le scrutin, le Ministre de l'Intérieur fait publier au Moniteur belge un communiqué indiquant le jour où l'élection a lieu et les heures d'ouverture et de fermeture des bureaux de vote.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**Constitution****Article IV**

Parliamentary Assembly Paragraph 3 Procedures

(g) The House of Peoples may be dissolved by the Presidency or by the House itself, provided that the House's decision to dissolve is approved by a majority that includes the majority of Delegates from at least two of the Bosnian, Croat, or Serb peoples. The House of Peoples elected in the first elections after the entry into force of this Constitution may not, however, be dissolved.

Election Law**Article 1.14**

The elections at all levels of authority in Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be held on the first Sunday in October unless that date conflicts with observance of a religious holiday of one of the constituent peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina. [...]

Any election that cannot be held on the first Sunday in October because of a conflict with a religious holiday shall be scheduled by the Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the Sunday closest to the first Sunday on October, which does not conflict with a religious holidays.

BULGARIA

Constitution

Article 64

1. The National Assembly is elected for a term of four years. (...)
3. Elections for a new National Assembly shall be held within two months from the expiry of the mandate of the preceding one.

Article 98 Functions

The President of the Republic shall: 1) schedule the elections for a National Assembly and for the bodies of local self-government and shall set the date for national referendums pursuant to a resolution of the National Assembly;

Article 99 Establishing Government

5. Absent an agreement on the formation of a government, the President shall appoint a caretaker government, dissolve the National Assembly and schedule new elections within the period established by Article 64 (3). The President's act on the dissolution of the National Assembly shall also establish the date of the new general elections.

(...)

7. In the instances envisaged by Paragraphs (5) and (6), the President shall not dissolve the National Assembly during the last three months of his term of office. Should Parliament fail to form a government within the established period, the President shall appoint a caretaker government.

Article 102 Decrees, Addresses

1. Within the prerogatives vested in him, the President shall issue decrees, addresses, and messages.
2. The President's decrees shall be countersigned by the Prime Minister or the minister concerned. (3) No countersigning is required for decrees pertaining to: 3) dissolution of the National Assembly; 6) the scheduling of an election or referendum.

Act on Election of Members of Parliament

Article 5

1. Election shall be held on a non-working day for the whole country.
2. Elections shall be scheduled by the President of the Republic not later than 60 days prior to the election day [...]

CROATIA

Constitution

Article 73 New Elections, First Session

1. Elections for members of the Croatian Parliament shall be held not later than 60 days after the expiry of the mandate or dissolution of the Croatian Parliament.

Article 77 Dissolution

1. The Croatian Parliament may be dissolved in order to call early elections if so decided by the majority of all the members.

2. The President of the Republic may, in conformity with Article 103, dissolve the Croatian Parliament.

Article 97 Replacement

The President of the Republic shall: -- call elections for the Croatian Parliament and convene their first session; [...]

Article 103 Report about the State of the Republic

1. The President of the Republic, at the proposal of the Government and with the counter-signature of the Prime Minister, after consultations with the representatives of the clubs of parliamentary parties, dissolve the Croatian Parliament if, at the proposal of the Government, the Parliament has passed a vote of no confidence to the Government, or if it has failed to approve the state budget within 120 days from the date when it was proposed.

2. The President of the Republic may not, at the proposal of the Government, dissolve the Croatian Parliament if the impeachment proceedings against him for violation of the Constitution have been instituted.

Act on Election of representatives to the Croatian Parliament

Article 5

The President of the Republic calls the elections for representatives and Parliament for the first session. The elections day shall be determined by a resolution on election calling. The elections day is not a working day. Since the day of the calling, until the days of elections for representatives minimum 30 days must pass.

CYPRUS

Constitution

Article 65

1. The term of office of the House of Representatives shall be for a period of five years. The term of office of the first House of Representatives shall commence on the date of the coming into operation of this Constitution.

2. The outgoing House shall continue in office until the newly-elected House assumes office under paragraph I of this Article.

Article 66

1. A general election for the House of Representatives shall be held on the second Sunday of the month immediately preceding the month in which the term of office of the outgoing House expires.

2. When a vacancy occurs in the seat of a Representative such vacancy shall be filled by a by-election to be held within a period not exceeding forty five days of the occurrence of such vacancy on a date to be fixed by the House of Representatives.

3. If an election under paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article cannot take place on the date fixed by or under this Constitution owing to extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances such as earthquake, floods, general epidemic and the like, then such election shall take place on the corresponding day of the week next following.

Article 67

1. The House of Representatives may dissolve itself only by its own decision carried by an absolute majority including at least one third of the Representatives elected by the Turkish Community.

2. Any such decision shall, notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph 1 of Article 65 and paragraph I of Article 66, provide for the date of the holding of the general election, which shall not be less than thirty days and not more than forty days from the date of such decision, and also for the date of the first meeting of the newly elected House which shall not be later than fifteen days after such general election and until such date the outgoing House shall continue to be in office.

3. Notwithstanding anything in paragraph I of Article 65 contained, the term of office of the House of Representatives to be elected after dissolution shall be for the unexpired period of the term of office of the dissolved House. In case of dissolution within the last year of the five years' term of office, a general election for the House of Representatives shall take place both for the unexpired part of the term of office of the dissolved House, during which any session of the newly elected House shall be considered to be an extraordinary session, and for the subsequent five years' term of office.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Constitution

Article 17

1. Elections to both chambers shall be held during the period commencing thirty days prior to the expiration of each electoral term and ending on the day of its expiration.

2. If the Chamber of Deputies was dissolved, elections shall take place within sixty days of its dissolution.

Article 35 Dissolution

1. The President of the Republic can dissolve the Chamber of Deputies if:
a) the Chamber of Deputies passes a vote of non-confidence in a newly appointed Government whose Premier was appointed by the President of the Republic on the suggestion of the chairman of the Chamber of Deputies,

b) the Chamber of Deputies fails to decide within three months on a Government bill with the discussion of which the Government links the question of confidence,
c) a session of the Chamber of Deputies is adjourned for a longer period than admissible,
d) the Chamber of Deputies has not reached a quorum for a period longer than three months, although its session was not adjourned and although it was repeatedly called to session during this period.

2. The Chamber of Deputies cannot be dissolved three months before the expiration of its election term.

Article 62 Functions

The President of the Republic: (...) c) dissolves the Chamber of Deputies

Act on Elections to the Parliament of the Czech Republic**Article 14**

The Day of the Election:

1. the President of the Republic shall call the elections to the parliament (...) no later than ninety days before the elections are held.
2. two days shall be dedicated to the elections of the parliament.

DENMARK**Constitution****Section 13 Responsibility of Ministers**

The King shall not be answerable for his actions; his person shall be sacrosanct. The Ministers shall be responsible for the conduct of the government; their responsibility shall be determined by Statute.

Section 32

1. The members of the Parliament shall be elected for a period of four years.
2. The King may at any time issue writs for a new election with the effect that the existing seats be vacated upon a new election. Provided that writs for an election shall not be issued after the appointment of a new Ministry until the Prime Minister has presented himself to the Parliament.
3. The Prime Minister shall cause a general election to be held before the expiration of the period for which the Parliament has been elected.

Folketing (Parliamentary) Election Act**Article 6**

2. General elections are called by royal public notice, to be held on the same day throughout the realm. In the Faroe Islands and in Greenland, fixing another day for holding the election can be entrusted to the High Commissioner.

ESTONIA**Constitution****Article 60**

3. Regular Riigikogu elections shall be held on the first Sunday in March in the fourth year following the year of the preceding Riigikogu elections. NAGAAN
4. Early elections to the Parliament shall be held, in the cases prescribed by Articles [89](#), [97](#), [105](#) and [119](#), no earlier than twenty, and no later than forty days after elections have been declared.

Article 78 Functions

The President of the Republic shall: 3) declare regular Parliament elections, and early elections for the Parliament, in accordance with Articles 89, 97, 105 and 119;

Article 89

6. The Parliament shall present a candidate for Prime Minister, who shall present the composition of the Government to the President of the Republic. If, within fourteen days from the transfer of the right to present a candidate for Prime Minister to the Parliament, the composition of the Government has not been presented to the President of the Republic, the President of the Republic shall declare early elections for the Parliament.

Article 97 Vote of No-Confidence

4. In the case of no-confidence being expressed in the Government or the Prime Minister, the President of the Republic may, on proposal by the Government and within three days, declare early elections.

Article 105

4. Should the draft law which has been put to referendum not receive a majority of yes-votes, the President of the Republic shall declare early elections for the Parliament.

Article 119 Failure to Adopt a Budget

If the Parliament has not adopted the budget within two months of the beginning of the budget year, the President of the Republic shall declare early elections for the Parliament.

Riigikogu Election Act

par. 2 Time of regular elections

1. Regular Riigikogu elections shall be held on the first Sunday in March in the fourth year following the year of the preceding Riigikogu elections.

2. The President of the Republic shall, by a resolution, call regular Riigikogu elections on the basis of clause 78 3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia at least three months before the election day.

par. 3 Bases and time of extraordinary elections

1. The President of the Republic shall, by a resolution, call extraordinary Riigikogu elections on the basis of clause 78.3 of the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia: 1) within three days as of the duty to call elections arising in the cases prescribed in par. 89 and 119 of the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia; 2) within three days as of publication of the results of a referendum in the Riigi Teataja in the case prescribed in subsection 105.4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia.

2. In the case prescribed in par. 97 of the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia, the President of the Republic may, on the proposal of the Government of the Republic, call extraordinary Riigikogu elections within three days as of the date of an expression of no confidence in the Government of the Republic or the Prime Minister.

3. Extraordinary Riigikogu elections shall not be held earlier than twenty days or later than forty days after the elections are called.

4. The date for extraordinary Riigikogu elections shall be specified by the President of the Republic. Extraordinary elections shall be held on a Sunday.

FINLAND

Constitution

Section 26 Extraordinary parliamentary elections

1. The President of the Republic, in response to a reasoned proposal by the Prime Minister, and after having heard the parliamentary groups, and while the Parliament is in session, may order that extraordinary parliamentary elections shall be held. Thereafter, the Parliament shall decide the time when it concludes its work before the elections.
2. After extraordinary parliamentary elections, the Parliament shall convene in session on the first day of the calendar month that begins ninety days after the election order, unless the Parliament has decided on an earlier date of convocation.

Section 58 Decisions of the President

1. The President of the Republic makes decisions in Government on the basis of proposals for decisions put forward by the Government.
2. If the President does not make the decision in accordance with the proposal for a decision put forward by the Government, the matter is returned to the Government for preparation. Thereafter, the decision to submit or to withdraw a government proposal shall be made in accordance with the Government's new proposal for a decision.
3. Notwithstanding the provision in paragraph (1), the President makes decisions on the following matters without a proposal for a decision from the Government:
 2. The issuance of an order concerning extraordinary parliamentary elections;

Election Act

Part II, Chapter 9, Section 107

The date of the election in Parliamentary elections is the third Sunday in March
If the President has ordered new Parliamentary elections, the date of the new election is, following the order of the President, not earlier than the first Sunday after 50 days and not later than the first Sunday after 75 days from the time when the order to hold new elections was made public. [...]

FRANCE

Constitution

Article 12

1. Le Président de la République peut, après consultation du Premier Ministre et des Présidents des assemblées, prononcer la dissolution de l'Assemblée Nationale. Les élections générales ont lieu vingt jours au moins et quarante jours au plus après la dissolution.
2. L'Assemblée Nationale se réunit de plein droit le deuxième jeudi qui suit son élection. Si cette réunion a lieu en dehors "de la période prévue pour la session ordinaire", une session est ouverte de droit pour une durée de quinze jours.
3. Il ne peut être procédé à une nouvelle dissolution dans l'année qui suit ces élections.

Article 25

1. Une loi organique (Ordonnance n°58-998 du 24 octobre 1958 et ordonnance n°58-1097 du 15 novembre 1958) fixe la durée des pouvoirs de chaque assemblée, le nombre de ses membres, leur indemnité, les conditions d'éligibilité, le régime des inéligibilités et des incompatibilités. (2) Elle fixe également les conditions dans lesquelles sont élues les personnes appelées à assurer, en cas de vacance du siège, le remplacement des députés ou des sénateurs jusqu'au renouvellement général ou partiel de l'assemblée à laquelle ils appartenaient.

Code électoral

Article L55 II

Le scrutin a lieu un dimanche.

Article LO 121

Les pouvoirs de l'Assemblée nationale expirent le troisième mardi de juin de la cinquième année qui suit son élection.

Article LO 122

Sauf le cas de dissolution, les élections générales ont lieu dans les soixante jours qui précèdent l'expiration des pouvoirs de l'Assemblée nationale.

Art. LO 278

L'élection des sénateurs a lieu dans les soixante jours qui précèdent la date du début de leur mandat.

Article L173

Les élections ont lieu le septième dimanche qui suit la publication du décret convoquant les électeurs.

Article L311

Les élections des sénateurs ont lieu au plus tôt le septième dimanche qui suit la publication du décret convoquant les électeurs sénatoriaux.

GEORGIA

Constitution

Article 50 Election

3. The regular parliamentary elections shall be held at least fifteen days before the expiration of its term. If the date of holding the elections coincides with a state of emergency or martial law, the elections shall be held not later than 60 days after the cancellation of the state. The President of Georgia shall schedule the elections not later than 60 days before the elections. In case of dissolution of the Parliament the President shall schedule extraordinary elections, which shall be held not earlier than 45 days and not later than 60 days before the enforcement of an order on the dissolution of the Parliament.

Article 51

1. [Dissolution] The Parliament shall be dissolved by the President only in cases determined by the Constitution, save for: a) within six months from the holding of the elections of the Parliament; b) discharging of an authority determined by Article 63 of the Constitution by the Parliament; c) in time of a state of emergency or martial law; d) within the last 6 months of the term of office of the President of Georgia.

Article 73

1. The president of Georgia shall ... o) dissolve the Parliament in accordance with a procedure and in cases established by the Constitution.
2. The president shall schedule the date of elections of the Parliament and representative bodies in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law.

Article 80

5. In case a composition of the Government and the program of the Government thereof do not gain the confidence of the Parliament for three times the President of Georgia shall nominate a new candidate of the Prime Minister within a term of 5 days or appoint the Prime Minister without consent of the Parliament, whereas the Prime Minister shall appoint the Ministers by the consent of the President of Georgia within a term of 5 days as well. In such a case the President of Georgia shall dissolve the Parliament and schedule extraordinary elections.

Article 81

1. The Parliament shall be entitled to declare non-confidence to the Government by the majority of the total number. Not less than one third of the total number of the members of the Parliament shall be entitled to raise a question of declaration of non-confidence. After the declaration of non-confidence to the Government the President of Georgia shall dismiss the Government or not approve the decision of the Parliament. In case the Parliament declares non-confidence to the Government again not earlier than 90 days and not later than 100 days, the President of Georgia shall dismiss the Government or dissolve the Parliament and schedule extraordinary elections. (...)

4. The Prime Minister shall be entitled to put the question of confidence of the Government on the draft laws on the State Budget, Tax Code and a procedure of the structure, authority and activity of the Government considering at the Parliament. The Parliament shall declare the confidence to the Government by the majority of the total number. In case the Parliament does not declare the confidence to the Government, the President of Georgia shall dismiss the Government or dissolve the Parliament within a week and schedule extraordinary elections.

The organic law of Georgia unified election code of Georgia**Article 90**

1. Elections for the parliament of Georgia are held no later than 15 days before the expiration of its authority.
2. The date of elections is appointed by the president of Georgia, no later than 60 days prior to the elections.
3. If the time for elections coincides with martial law or wartime, elections are held no later than 60 days after the abolition of the state of emergency or wartime.

GERMANY

Constitution

Article 39.1

The Bundestag is elected for a four-year term. Its legislative term ends with the assembly of a new Bundestag. The new election for the Bundestag shall be held forty-five months at the earliest, and forty-seven months at the latest after the beginning of the legislative term. Where the Bundestag is dissolved, the new election shall be held within sixty days.

Article 58 Countersignature

Orders and directions of the President require, for their validity, the countersignature of the Chancellor or the appropriate Minister. This does not apply to the appointment and dismissal of the Chancellor, the dissolution of the House of Representatives under Article 63 and a request made under Article 69.3.

Article 63 Election and appointment of the Chancellor

4. Where no candidate has been elected within this period, a new ballot takes place without delay in which the person obtaining the largest number of votes is elected. Where the person elected has obtained the votes of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, the President appoints him within seven days of the election. Where the person elected did not obtain such a majority, the President, within seven days, either appoints him or dissolves the House of Representatives.

Article 68 Vote of confidence, dissolution of the House of Representatives

1. Where a motion of the Chancellor for a vote of confidence is not carried by the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, the President may, upon the proposal of the Chancellor, dissolve the House of Representatives within twenty-one days. The right of dissolution shall lapse as soon as the House of Representatives elects another Chancellor with the majority of its members.
2. Forty-eight hours must elapse between the motion and the vote thereon.

Article 155.h.3

The dissolution of the House of Representatives is impossible during a state of defence.

Federal Electoral Law

Article 16

The Federal President shall determine the day of the general election. The election day must be a Sunday or a statutory public holiday.

Article 44.3

In the case of repeat election for the whole electoral area, the date of the repeat election shall be set up by the Federal President.

GREECE

Constitution

Article 32

3. The person who shall receive a two-thirds majority of the total number of members of Parliament shall be elected President. In the event that such majority is not achieved, voting shall be repeated after five days, and if again the said majority is not attained, voting shall be repeated once more five days after the day of the second vote, and the person who shall receive three-fifths of the total number of votes shall be elected President of the Republic.

4. If the said increased majority is not attained in the final vote, Parliament shall be dissolved within ten days from the said vote and elections for a new Parliament shall be proclaimed. The relevant decree shall be signed by the incumbent President of the Republic, and if this is not possible by the Speaker who shall replace him. The Parliament returned by the new elections shall proceed immediately after it has been constituted as a body with the election by open and nominal ballot of the President of the Republic with a three-fifths majority of the total number of deputies. If the said majority is not attained, the vote shall be repeated within five days and the person who shall receive the absolute majority of the total number of deputies shall be elected President. If even this majority be not attained, the vote shall be repeated once again and after five days between the two candidates who received the greater number of votes, and the one who shall receive the greater number of votes this time shall be deemed elected President of the Republic.

Article 35 Countersignature

2. By exception, the counter-signature shall not be required only in the following cases: c) The dissolution of Parliament in accordance to Articles 32 (4) and 41 (1), if the Prime Minister does not countersign, as well as the dissolution in accordance to the Article 53 (1), if the Cabinet does not countersign.

Article 37

3. If the formation of government is not thus attained, the President of the Republic shall give the leader of the second party an exploratory mandate. If even this mandate is without results, he shall give the leader of the third party an exploratory mandate. Every mandate is given for a period of three days. If all mandates fail, the President of the Republic shall convene the leaders of all parties and, if the impossibility of formation of government enjoying the confidence of Parliament is reconfirmed, then he shall try to achieve the formation of a Government that shall proceed to elections. Should this fail, he shall give to the President of the Council of the State or of the Supreme Court or of the Council of Comptrollers the mandate of formation of a Government, enjoying the widest possible acceptance, in order to dissolve the Parliament and proceed to elections.

Article 41 Dissolution of Parliament

1. The President of the Republic may dissolve Parliament, if two Governments have resigned or defeated in the Parliament and its composition cannot achieve stability of government. The elections shall be organized by the Government enjoying the confidence of the dissolved Parliament. In every other case, the provisions of the last phrase of Article 37.3 shall apply.

2. The President of the Republic shall dissolve the Parliament at the suggestion of a Government which has been given a vote of confidence, with a view to renewing its mandate in

order to deal with a problem of extraordinary importance for the nation. The dissolution of the new Parliament for the same reason is prohibited.

3. The dissolution Decree countersigned, in the case of the foregoing paragraph, by the Cabinet must at the same time comprise the proclamation of new elections within thirty days and the convocation of the new Parliament within another thirty days from the election.

4. A Parliament elected following the dissolution of the previous one may not be dissolved before the expiry of one year from the commencement of its work, save in the case of Article 37.3 and of the Paragraph 1 of the present Article.

5. The dissolution of Parliament is obligatory in the case of Article 32.4.

Article 53

1. The Members of Parliament shall be elected for a term of four consecutive years, commencing on the day of the general elections. Upon expiration of the parliamentary term, there shall be proclaimed by presidential decree countersigned by the Cabinet, general parliamentary elections to be held within thirty days and the convocation of the new Parliament in regular session within another thirty days.

2. A parliamentary seat that has become vacant during the last year of a parliamentary term shall not be filled by a by-election, where such is required by law, as long as the number of vacant seats does not exceed one-fifth of the total number of the Members of Parliament.

3. In case of war, the parliamentary term shall be extended for the entire duration thereof. If Parliament has been dissolved, elections shall be postponed until the termination of the war and the Parliament dissolved shall be recalled ipso jure until that time.

HUNGARY

Constitution

Article 20

Constitution states that "Parliamentary elections shall be held in April of May of the fourth year following the previous parliamentary elections".

Article 28

2. Parliament may proclaim its dissolution even before the expiry of its mandate.

3. The President may dissolve Parliament simultaneously with setting the dates for the new election if:

a) Parliament at least four times within twelve months during its own mandate withdraw its confidence from the Government, or

b) In case the mandate of the Government had ended, Parliament failed to elect within forty days after the date of the first nomination, the candidate prime-minister put up for the office by the President of the Republic.

5. Before dissolving Parliament, the president of the Republic is bound to consult with the Prime Minister, the Speaker of Parliament and with the heads of the factions of the parties that have representatives in Parliament.

(6) A new Parliament shall be elected within a period of three months following the declaration of the Parliament's dissolution or the Parliament having been dissolved.

(7) The Parliament shall continue to operate until the inaugural sitting of the new Parliament.

Article 28.A

1. During the period of an emergency, Parliament may not declare its dissolution and may not be dissolved.
2. If the term of Parliament expires during an emergency, its mandate is automatically extended until the end of the peril.
3. A Parliament that has dissolved or been dissolved may be reconvened by the President of the Republic in case of a state of war, the threat of war, or any other emergency situation. In that case, Parliament itself decides on the extension of its mandate.

Article 30.A

1. The President of the Republic shall (...) d) announce general parliamentary and local government elections, mayoral elections as well as the dates of the European parliamentary elections and national referenda;
2. The counter-signature of the Prime Minister or responsible Minister is required for all of the measures and actions of the President of the Republic listed in Paragraph 1, with the exception of the items specified in Points a), d), e), f) and g).

Article 44.2

With the exception of by-elections, members of local representative bodies and Mayors shall be elected in October of the fourth year following the previous general elections.

Law on the Electoral Procedure (Law No 100 of 1997)

Article 4

Elections must be set 72 days before Election day by the President of the Republic.

ICELAND

Constitution

Article 11

(...)

The President may be removed from office before his term expires if approved by a majority in a plebiscite called pursuant to a resolution adopted by three-fourths of the Members of Althingi. This plebiscite shall be held within two months from the date of adoption by Althingi of the resolution. The President shall not perform his duties from the time the resolution is adopted by Althingi until the results of the plebiscite are known. If the resolution by Althingi is not approved in the plebiscite, Althingi shall be immediately dissolved and new elections called.

Article 19

The signature of the President validates a legislative act or government measure when countersigned by a Minister.

Article 24

The President of the Republic may dissolve Althingi. A new election must take place before 45 days have elapsed since the dissolution was announced. Althingi shall convene not later than ten weeks after its dissolution. Members of Althingi shall keep their mandate until election day.

Article 45

Regular elections to Althingi (Parliament) shall take place not later than the end of the electoral term. The beginning and end of the electoral term is on the same day of the week in a month, counting from the beginning of the month.

Article 79

Proposals to amend or supplement this Constitution may be introduced at regular as well as extraordinary sessions of Althingi. If the proposal is adopted, Althingi shall immediately be dissolved and a general election held. If Althingi then passes the resolution unchanged, it shall be confirmed by the President of the Republic and come into force as constitutional law. If Althingi passes an amendment to the status of the Church under Article 62, it shall be submitted to a vote for approval or rejection by secret ballot of all those eligible to vote.

IRELAND

Constitution

Article 13 Functions

2.1 The House of Representatives (Dáil Éireann) shall be summoned and dissolved by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.

2.2 The President may in his absolute discretion refuse to dissolve the House of Representatives on the advice of a Prime Minister who has ceased to retain the support of a majority in the House of Representatives.

Article 16.3.2

A general election for members of Dail Eireann (lower House of Parliament) shall take place not later than thirty days after a dissolution of Dáil Éireann.

Article 18.8

A general election to the Seanad (Upper House of Parliament) shall take place not later than 90 days after the dissolution of the Dáil (Lower House).

Article 28.10

The Prime Minister shall resign from office upon his ceasing to retain the support of a majority in the House of Representatives unless on his advice the President dissolves the House of Representatives and on the reassembly of the House of Representatives after the dissolution the Prime Minister secures the support of a majority in the House of Representatives.

Electoral Act 1992 (with Amendments 2005)

Article 96.1

A poll at a Dáil election shall be taken on such day as shall be appointed by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government by order, being a day which (disregarding any excluded day) is not earlier than the seventeenth day or later than the twenty-fifth day next following the day on which the writ or writs for the election is or are issued.

ITALY

Constitution

Article 61

1. The reelection of new chambers must take place within seventy days from the dissolution of the previous ones.

Article 87

3. He (the President of the Republic) calls parliamentary elections and sets the date of their first meeting.

Article 88 Dissolution of the Chambers

1. The president may dissolve one or both chambers after having consulted their speakers.
2. He may not exercise this power during the last six months of his term, provided this period does not coincide partly or entirely with the last six months of the term of chambers.

Article 89 Countersignature

1. Acts of the president are void unless countersigned by the ministers who are responsible for and submitting it.
2. Acts with the force of law and other acts as defined by law also need to be countersigned by the prime minister.

KYRGYZSTAN

Constitution

Article 46.6.6

The President of the Kyrgyz Republic shall have power:

3. to call elections to the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic, to dissolve the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic in the cases provided for by this Constitution;

Article 51.2

2. A decision of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic to bring in a charge against the President of the Kyrgyz Republic in order to remove him from office may be initiated by a majority vote of the whole number of its deputies, and it shall be adopted if no less than two thirds of the whole number of the deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic concur provided that there shall have been obtained findings of a special commission constituted by the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic.

3. Should the Constitutional Court of the Kyrgyz Republic hand down an unfavorable opinion on a charge brought in by the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic, it shall entail the dissolution of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Article 63

1. The Legislative Assembly and the Assembly of People's Representatives may be dissolved early by a decision adopted by a majority vote of no fewer than two-thirds of the total number of deputies of the respective houses.
2. The Legislative Assembly or the Assembly of People's Representatives, or both houses of the Jogorku Kenesh simultaneously, may be dissolved early by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic: as the result of a referendum; in the event of three-time refusal to approve the appointment of a Prime Minister, or in the event of another crisis caused by insurmountable differences between the houses of the Jogorku Kenesh or between one or both houses of the Jogorku Kenesh and other branches of state power.
3. In the case envisaged in Point 3 of Article 51 of the present Constitution, the Legislative Assembly shall be considered dissolved from the moment of the pronouncement of sentence by the Constitutional Court of the Kyrgyz Republic.
4. The houses of the Jogorku Kenesh may not be dissolved: in time of a state of emergency or war; during consideration by the houses of the Jogorku Kenesh of the question of dismissing the President of the Kyrgyz Republic from office; or when there are fewer than six months remaining until the end of the term of office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic.
5. In the event of dissolution of the Legislative Assembly, the Assembly of People's Representatives, or both houses of the Jogorku Kenesh, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic shall appoint the date of elections of deputies of the given house, so that the newly elected house or houses convenes for its first sitting no later than six months after the moment of dissolution.

Article 71.4

After three refusals by the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic of nominees for Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic appoints a Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic and dissolves the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Article 72

6. If the Jogorku Kenesh expresses vote of no confidence to the Pravitel'stvo of the Kyrgyz Republic, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic may either announce the resignation of the Pravitel'stvo of the Kyrgyz Republic or disagree with the decision of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic.
7. If within three months, the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic makes another decision to express the vote of no confidence to the Pravitel'stvo of the Kyrgyz Republic, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic either announces the resignation of the Pravitel'stvo of the Kyrgyz Republic or disbands the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Code of the Kyrgyz Republic on Elections in the Kyrgyz Republic

Article 69

Elections of Deputies to the Legislative Assembly and to the Assembly of People's Representatives

3. Elections of deputies to the Legislative Assembly Zhogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic shall be appointed by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic no later than three months prior to the day of elections. The day of elections shall be the first Sunday prior to the expiration of the constitutional term for which the previous Legislative Assembly and the Assembly of People's Representatives to the Zhogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic were elected.4. If the Legislative Assembly, or the Assembly of People's Representatives, or both chambers of the Zhogorku Kenesh are dissolved, in cases and according to the procedure foreseen by the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic shall at the same time

appoint the date of elections of deputies to the Legislative Assembly, or the Assembly of People's Representatives, or both chambers of the Zhogorku Kenesh, so that the new elected Assembly or both Assemblies could gather on their sessions not later than 6 months since their dissolution.

LATVIA

Constitution

Article 11

The Saeima (Parliament) elections shall take place on the first Sunday in October and on the preceding Saturday.

Article 13

Should elections for the Saeima, by reason of the dissolution of the previous Saeima, be held at another time of the year, the Saeima so elected shall convene not later than one month after its election, and its mandate shall expire upon the convening of the new Saeima on the first Tuesday in November following the elapse of three years after such election.

Article 48

The President shall be entitled to propose the dissolution of the *Saeima*. Following this proposal, a national referendum shall be held. If in the referendum more than half of the votes are cast in favour of dissolution, the *Saeima* shall be considered dissolved, new elections called, and such elections held no later than two months after the date of the dissolution of the *Saeima*.

Article 50

If in the referendum more than half of the votes are cast against the dissolution of the *Saeima*, then the President shall be deemed to be removed from office, and the *Saeima* shall elect a new President to serve for the remaining term of office of the President so removed.

Article 53

Political responsibility for the fulfilment of presidential duties shall not be borne by the President. All orders of the President shall be jointly signed by the Prime Minister or by the appropriate Minister, who shall thereby assume full responsibility for such orders except in the cases specified in Articles forty-eight and fifty-six.

The Saeima Election Law

Article 17

Elections shall be held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. local time on the first Sunday of October and the Saturday before it. If the Saeima elections are to be held in another time of year upon the dissolution of the Saeima, the elections days shall be determined by the Central Election Commission.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Constitution

Article 47

The term of office in Parliament shall be four years, with the provision that the regular elections to Parliament shall be held in February or March of the calendar year in which the fourth year ends. Re-election shall be permissible.

Article 48

1. The Reigning Prince shall have the right, subject to the exception laid down in the following paragraph, to convene Parliament, to prorogue it, and, on significant grounds to be communicated each time to the assembly, to adjourn it for three months or to dissolve it. Adjournment, prorogation or dissolution may only be proclaimed before the assembled Parliament.

2. Pursuant to a substantiated written request by at least 1,000 Liechtenstein citizens eligible to vote or pursuant to a resolution adopted by the municipal assemblies of at least three municipalities, Parliament shall be convened.

3. Subject to the same conditions as in the preceding paragraph, 1,500 Liechtenstein citizens eligible to vote or four municipalities, by means of resolutions of their municipal assemblies, may demand a popular vote on the dissolution of Parliament

Article 50

Should Parliament be dissolved, new elections must be ordered within six weeks. The newly elected Members of Parliament shall then be convened within 14 days.

Article 51

1. In the case of succession to the throne, Parliament shall be convened to an extraordinary meeting within 30 days to receive the declaration of the Reigning Prince as provided for in article 13 and to take the oath of allegiance.

2. If Parliament has just been dissolved, new elections shall be expedited so that Parliament may be convened at the latest on the fortieth day after the succession to the throne has taken place.

LITHUANIA

Constitution

Article 57

Regular elections to the Seimas (Parliament) shall be held no earlier than 2 months, and no later than 1 month, prior to the expiration of the powers of the Seimas' members.

Article 58

1. Pre-term elections to the Seima may be held on the decision of the Seima's adopted by three-fifths majority vote of all the Seimas members. The day of elections of the new Seima shall be specified in the resolution of the Seima.
2. The President of the Republic of Lithuania may also announce pre-term elections to the Parliament: 1) if the Parliament fails to adopt a decision on the new program of the Government within 30 days of its presentation, or if the Parliament twice in succession disapproves of the Government program within 60 days of its initial presentation; or 2) on the proposal of the Government, if the Parliament expresses direct non-confidence in the Government.
3. The President of the Republic may not announce pre-term elections to the Parliament if the term of office of the President of the Republic expires within less than six months, or if six months have not passed since the pre-term elections to the Parliament.
4. The day of elections to the new Parliament shall be specified in the resolution of the Parliament or in the decree of the President of the Republic concerning the pre-term elections to the Parliament. The election to the new Parliament must be organized within three months from the adoption of the decision on the pre-term elections.

Article 84

The President of the Republic shall:

20. Announce regular elections to the Parliament, and, in cases set forth in Article [58 \(2\)](#), announce pre-term elections to the Parliament;

Article 85

The President of the Republic, implementing the powers vested in him or her, shall issue acts-decrees. Decrees of the President, specified in Article [84 nr. 3 & 15 & 17 & 21](#), shall be valid only if they bear the signature of the Prime Minister or an appropriate Minister.

Responsibility for such decrees shall lie with the Prime Minister or the Minister who signed it."

Article 87

1. "When, in cases specified in Article [58 \(2\)](#), the President of the Republic announces pre-term elections to the Parliament, the newly-elected Parliament may, by three-fifths majority vote of all the Parliament members and within 30 days of the first sitting, announce a pre-term election of the President of the Republic."

Law on the Amendment of the Law on Elections to the Seimas

Article 6

1. The President of the Republic shall announce regular elections to the Seimas.
2. Regular elections to the Seimas shall be announced not later than six months prior to the expiration of the powers of the Seimas' members.
3. If regular elections must be held in time of war, the Seimas or the President of the Republic shall adopt a decision to prolong the powers of the Seimas. In this event, elections must be called not later than within three months after the end of the war.
4. The President of the Republic may announce pre-term election to the Seima. The day of election shall be specified in the decree of the President of the Republic.

Article 92

2. Run-off elections shall be held not later than within half a year, and after the run-off elections which have not been held-not later than within a year.

4. Run-off elections shall not be held if the election date planned to be announced falls within the period when less than a year remains before the date of the next election to the Seimas, as counted in compliance with the Constitution.

LUXEMBOURG

Constitution

Article 74

Le Grand-Duc peut dissoudre la Chambre. Il est procédé à de nouvelles élections dans les trois mois au plus tard de la dissolution.

Article 78

Les membres du Gouvernement sont responsables. (TEKST NAGAAN)

Article 114

1. Le pouvoir législatif a le droit de déclarer qu'il y a lieu de procéder à la révision de telle disposition constitutionnelle qu'il désigne.
2. Après cette déclaration, la Chambre est dissoute de plein droit.
3. Il en sera convoqué une nouvelle, conformément à l'art. 74 de la présente Constitution.
- 4 Cette Chambre statue, de commun accord avec le Grand-Duc, sur les points soumis à la révision. - Dans ce cas, la Chambre ne pourra délibérer, si trois quarts au moins des membres qui la composent ne sont présents, et nul changement ne sera adopté, s'il ne réunit au moins les deux tiers des suffrages.

Loi électorale

Article 134

Les élections pour pourvoir au remplacement des députés sortants ont lieu, de plein droit, de cinq en cinq ans, le premier dimanche du mois de juin, conformément aux articles 121 et suivants de la présente loi. Si cette date coïncide avec le dimanche de Pentecôte, les élections ont lieu le dernier dimanche du mois de mai." Troisième alinéa: "En cas de dissolution de la Chambre, il est procédé à de nouvelles élections dans les trois mois au plus tard de la dissolution.

MALTA

Constitution

Article 76 Dissolution

1. The President may at any time by proclamation prorogue or dissolve Parliament. (...)
5. In the exercise of his powers under this section the President shall act in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister: Provided that:
 - a) if the House of Representatives passes a resolution, supported by the votes of a majority of all the members thereof, that it has no confidence in the Government, and the Prime Minister

does not within three days either resign from his office or advise a dissolution, the President may dissolve Parliament;

b) if the office of Prime Minister is vacant and the President considers that there is no prospect of his being able within a reasonable time to appoint to that office a person who can command the support of a majority of the members of the House of Representatives, the President may dissolve Parliament; and

(c) if the Prime Minister recommends a dissolution and the President considers that the Government of Malta can be earned on without a dissolution and that a dissolution would not be in the interests of Malta, the President may refuse to dissolve Parliament.

Article 77

A general election of members of the House of Representatives shall be held at such time within three months after every dissolution of Parliament, as the President acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, shall by proclamation appoint.

MOLDOVA

Constitution

Article 61

The election of Parliament's members will be held not later than 3 months from the end of the previous mandate or from the dissolution of the previous Parliament.

Article 85 Dissolution of Parliament

1. In cases where an impossibility has been reached to form the Government or a situation has been encountered whereby the passing of new legislation has been deadlocked for 3 consecutive months, the President of the Republic of Moldova, on consultation with parliamentary groups, may dissolve Parliament.

2. If within 45 days from a first presidential request for a vote of confidence to form a new government a second such request has also been rejected by Parliament the President may dissolve the Parliament.

3. The Parliament may be dissolved only once in the course of a year.

4. The Parliament may not be dissolved either during the President's last 6 months of office – except in the case stipulated in Article 78 (5)* -, or during a state of emergency martial law or war.

Elections Code

Article 76

1. The election of deputies shall be held within three months of the expiration of Parliament's mandate.

2. The day of elections to parliament shall be scheduled by a resolution of Parliament no later than 60 days before election day.

Article 94

If after repeated ballot the elections were declared null or invalid, the Central Election Commission shall fix the date of the new elections, which shall occur at least after 60 days since the last elections had been declared null or invalid.

MONACO

Constitution

Article 46

Sont dispensées de la délibération en Conseil de gouvernement et de la présentation par le Ministre d'État, les ordonnances souveraines : [...] - portant dissolution du Conseil National.

Article 74

Le Prince peut, après avoir pris l'avis du Conseil de la Couronne, prononcer la dissolution du Conseil national. Dans ce cas, il est procédé à de nouvelles élections dans le délai de trois mois.

Article 77

Le Conseil de la Couronne peut être consulté par le Prince sur les questions touchant aux intérêts supérieurs de l'État. Il peut présenter au Prince des suggestions. Il est obligatoirement consulté sur les objets suivants : traités internationaux, dissolution du Conseil national, demandes de naturalisation et de réintégration, grâce et amnistie.

Loi n°839 du 23 février 1968 sur les élections nationales et communales

Article 23.1

Si par l'effet de vacances le conseil national se trouve privé de quatre de ses membres, au moins, il est procédé, dans les trois mois à dater de la dernière vacance, à des élections complémentaires pour le temps qui reste à courir avant le renouvellement de l'assemblée.

[...] Dans les six mois qui précèdent ce renouvellement, les élections complémentaires ne sont obligatoires que si l'assemblée est réduite de plus de la moitié de ses membres".

Article 34

1. Les élections au conseil national ont lieu le dimanche correspondant ou succédant au onzième jour précédant l'expiration du mandat du conseil en exercice.
4. Lorsque les élections nationales et communales ont lieu la même année, le délai entre les deux scrutins ne peut être inférieur à vingt et un jours".

MONTENEGRO

Constitution

Article 78

Term of office of the Assembly shall be four years. In cases of the state of war the term of office of the Assembly shall be extended for as long as peace is not established. At the proposal of not less than 25 deputies, Government or the President of the Republic, the Assembly may decide to shorten the term of office.

Article 84

Dissolution of the assembly The Assembly shall be dissolved if it should fail to elect the Government within 60 days from the date when the President of the Republic proposes candidates for the Prime Minister. The Assembly may not be dissolved during the state of war, in case of an imminent danger of war or a state of emergency. If the Assembly should cease to perform its duties as prescribed by the Constitution for a considerable period of time, the Government may, after hearing the opinion of the president of the Assembly and of the presidents of the groups of deputies of the Assembly, dissolve the Assembly. The Government shall not be entitled to dissolve the Assembly if a procedure has been instigated for the vote of no-confidence to the Government. Dissolution of the Assembly shall be prescribed by the decree of the President of the Republic and a date shall be set for the election of the new Assembly.

Article 88 Competences

The President of the Republic shall: 3) call elections for the Assembly;

Article 119 Significant amendments and a new Constitution

If the proposal to amend the Constitution shall pertain to the provisions regulating the status of the country and the form of rule, if it restricts freedoms and right or if the adoption of a new constitution is proposed, with the day of adoption of the amendment to that effect the Assembly shall be dissolved and a new Assembly convened within 90 days from the day such an amendment was adopted.

The new Assembly shall decide by a two-thirds majority of votes of all the deputies only on those amendments to the Constitution which are contained in the adopted amendment, i.e. the adopted amendment for the promulgation of the new constitution.

Law on election of Councillors and Representatives**Article 13**

1. The election of councillors and MPs is called for by the President of the Republic of Montenegro. 2. The Decision on calling for the election shall define the time-limits for the election procedures prescribed by this Law, as well as the date for the polling day.

Article 14

1. The election of councillors and representatives shall be held no less than 15 days prior to the termination of the term of office of councillors and representatives whose term of office is still valid.
2. No less than 60 days and no more than 100 days shall pass between the day of calling for the election and the polling day.

Article 15

1. In the event of dissolution of the Parliament of the Republic or passing a decision on shortening the mandate of the Republican Parliament, the President of the Republic shall call for elections on the day following the day of its dissolution i.e. the day following the day of coming into effect of the decision of shortening its term of office

NETHERLANDS

Constitution

Article 64

1. Each of the Houses may be dissolved by Royal Decree.
2. A decree for dissolution shall also order new elections to be held for the House which has been dissolved and the newly elected House to meet within three months.
3. The dissolution shall take effect on the day on which the newly elected House meets.
4. The duration of a Lower House that meets following a dissolution shall be determined by Act of Parliament; the term may not exceed five years. The duration of a Upper House that meets following a dissolution shall end at the time at which the duration of the dissolved House would have ended.

Article 137

1. An Act of Parliament shall be passed stating that an amendment to the Constitution in the form proposed shall be considered.
2. The Lower House may divide a Bill presented for this purpose into a number of separate Bills, either upon a proposal presented by or on behalf of the King or at its own motion.
3. The Lower House shall be dissolved after the Bill referred to in the first paragraph has been published.
4. After the new Lower House has assembled, the two Houses of the States General shall consider, at second reading, the Bill referred to in the first paragraph. The Bill shall be passed only if at least two thirds of the votes cast are in favour.
(...)

Elections Act

Section C.1 Members of the Lower House shall be elected for a term of four years.

Section F.1 within forty days of the date of the royal decree of dissolution for extraordinary ones,

Section F.2 For the Upper House, it is on the Tuesday between 19 and 25 April, Section Q4.

Section J.1 Voting shall take place on the forty-third day after the nomination day.

Section Q.2.1 The members of the Upper House shall be elected for a term of four years.

Section T.1 Voting shall take place on the thirty-fourth day after the nomination day. The nomination day for the Lower House is in principle the Tuesday between 18 and 24 January,

NORWAY

Constitution

Article 54

The elections shall be held every fourth year. They shall be concluded by the end of September.

Representation of the People Act

Chapter 9. Time of elections. Voting at election proceedings

Par. 9-1. Time of the elections (1) Parliamentary elections shall be held in all municipal authority areas on one and the same day in the month of September in the final year of the electoral term of each Storting.

Par. 9-2. Fixing Election Day (1) Before each election the King fixes Election Day on a Monday [...]

POLAND

Constitution

Article 98

1. The Sejm and the Senate shall be chosen each for a 4-year term of office. The term of office of the Sejm and Senate shall begin on the day on which the Sejm assembles for its first sitting and shall continue until the day preceding the assembly of the Sejm of the succeeding term of office.

2. Elections to the Sejm and the Senate shall be ordered by the President of the Republic no later than 90 days before the expiry of the 4 year period beginning with the commencement of the Sejm's and Senate's term of office, and he shall order such elections to be held on a non-working day which shall be within the 30 day period before the expiry of the 4 year period beginning from the commencement of the Sejm's and Senate's term of office.

3. The Sejm may shorten its term of office by a resolution passed by a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes of the statutory number of Deputies. Any shortening of the term of office of the Sejm shall simultaneously mean a shortening of the term of office of the Senate. The provisions of par. 5 above shall apply as appropriate.

4. The President of the Republic, after seeking the opinion of the Marshal of the Sejm and the Marshal of the Senate, may, in those instances specified in the Constitution, order shortening of the Sejm's term of office. Whenever the term of office of the Sejm has been so shortened, then the term of office of the Senate shall also be shortened.

5. The President of the Republic, when ordering the shortening of the Sejm's term of office, shall simultaneously order elections to the Sejm and the Senate, and shall order them to be held on a day falling no later than within the 45 day period from the day of the official announcement of Presidential order on the shortening of the Sejm's term of office. The President of the Republic shall summon the first sitting of the newly elected Sejm no later than the 15th day after the day on which the elections were held.

6. In the event of shortening of the Sejm's term of office, the provisions of par. 1 above shall apply as appropriate.

Article 144

2. Official Acts of the President shall require, for their validity, the signature of the Prime Minister who, by such signature, accepts responsibility therefor to the Sejm.

3. The provisions of par. 2 above shall not relate to: 1) proclaiming elections to the Sejm and to the Senate; (...) 3) shortening of the term of office of the Sejm in the instances specified in the Constitution;

Article 155

1. In the event that a Council of Ministers has not been appointed pursuant to the provisions of Article 154, par. 3, the President of the Republic shall, within a period of 14 days, appoint a Prime Minister and, on his application, other members of the Council of Ministers. The Sejm, within 14 days following the appointment of the Council of Ministers by the President

of the Republic, shall hold, in the presence of at least half of the statutory number of Deputies, a vote of confidence thereto.

2. In the event that a vote of confidence has not been granted to the Council of Ministers pursuant to paragraph 1, the President of the Republic shall shorten the term of office of the Sejm and order elections to be held.

Article 225

If, after 4 months from the day of submission of a draft Budget to the Sejm, it has not been adopted or presented to the President of the Republic for signature, the President of the Republic may, within the following of 14 days, order the shortening of the Sejm's term of office.

Parliamentary Election Law

Article 3

The elections to the Sejm and to the Senate shall be conducted jointly, on a non-working day.

Article 9.1

The elections shall be ordered by the President of the Republic of Poland by order, issued no later than 90 days prior to expiry of 4 years from the beginning of the term of office of the Sejm, and shall assign the date of elections to a non-working day, within 30 days prior to the expiry of the 4 years term of duration mentioned above. The order of the President shall be published and announced in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland (Dziennik Ustaw) no later than the 5th day after the proclamation of the elections.

Article 10

1. Where the term of office of the Sejm is shortened as the consequence of a resolution taken by the Sejm itself, or if it is dissolved by the President of the Republic in a proclamation— the President shall order elections to be held and shall assign their date to a day within 45 days, beginning on the day of the coming into force of the Sejm's resolution shortening its duration, or the publication of the proclamation by the President of the Republic shortening the term of the Sejm. The proclamation of the President of the Republic of an election to be conducted shall be published and announced in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland (Dziennik Ustaw) no later than the 5th day after the proclamation of the elections.

The provisions of Article 9, paragraph 2, above shall be applied respectively

PORTUGAL

Constitution

Article 113

6. Any act which dissolves a collegiate body that is based on direct suffrage shall also set the date of a new election thereto. Such elections shall be held within the following sixty days and in accordance with the electoral law that is in force at the time of the dissolution, failing which they shall be legally invalid.

Article 133 Responsibilities in relation to other bodies

In relation to other bodies the President of the Republic shall be responsible for:

e) Subject to the provisions of Article 172 and after first consulting both the parties with seats in the Assembly and the Council of State, dissolving the Assembly of the Republic;

Article 140 Ministerial counter-signature

1. Acts that the President of the Republic undertakes under the terms of Articles 133h, j, l, m and p, 134b, d and f) and 135a, b and c shall require counter-signature by the Government.
2. In the event that the Government does not counter-sign any such act, the said act shall be legally invalid.

Article 171 Legislatures

1. Each legislature shall last for four legislative sessions.

Article 172 Dissolution

1. The Assembly of the Republic shall not be dissolved during the six months following its election, during the last six months of the President of the Republic's term of office, or during a state of siege or a state of emergency.
2. Failure to comply with the provisions of the previous paragraph shall render the dissolution decree nugatory.
3. Dissolution of the Assembly shall not prejudice the continuation of its Members' term of office, or the responsibilities of the Standing Committee, until the first sitting of the Assembly following the subsequent election.

Parliament Electoral Law

Article 19

1. The President of the Republic will schedule the election date for Members of Parliament at least 60 days in advance, or, in the event of dissolution, at least 55 days in advance.
2. Elections for the new legislature will be held between 14 September and 14 October of the year corresponding to the end of legislature. Parliament Electoral Law, Article 20. The elections date is the same in all the constituencies, which will be a Sunday or a national holiday.

ROMANIA

Constitution

Article 63

1. The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate shall be elected for a term of office of 4 years, which may be extended de jure in the event of a mobilization, war, siege, or emergency, until such event has ceased to exist.
2. Elections to the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate shall be held within three months at the most of the expiry of the term of office or the Parliament dissolution.

Article 89

1. After consultation with the presidents of both Chambers and the leaders of the parliamentary groups, the President of Romania may dissolve Parliament, if no vote of confidence has been obtained to form a government within 60 days after the first request was made, and only after rejection of at least two requests for investiture.

2. During the same year, Parliament can be dissolved only once.
3. The Parliament cannot be dissolved during the last six months of the term of office of the President of Romania, or during a state of mobilization, war, siege, or emergency.

Law No 68/1992 on the Election to the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate

Article 6

1. The date of elections shall be settled, and publicly announced by the Government, at least sixty days before the election day, and up to the passage of five days since the date when the terms provided under Article 60 par. (2) of the Constitution start to be counted.
2. Elections shall take place in a single day, which shall be only Sunday.
3. The sequential number of the ballot on the voter's card shall be established and announced publicly by the Government at the same time as the date of elections [...]

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Constitution

Article 109

1. The State Duma may be dissolved by the President of the Russian Federation in cases stipulated in Articles 111 and 117 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation.
2. In the event of the dissolution of the State Duma, the President of the Russian Federation shall determine the date of elections so that the newly-elected State Duma shall convene not later than four months since the time of dissolution.
3. The State Duma may not be dissolved on grounds provided for by Article 117 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation within one year after its election.
4. The State Duma may not be dissolved since the time it has brought accusations against the President of the Russian Federation and until a corresponding decision has been taken by the Federation Council.
5. The State Duma may not be dissolved during the period of the state of emergency or martial law throughout the territory of the Russian Federation, as well as within six months of the expiry of the term of office of the President of the Russian Federation.

Article 111

4. After the House of Representatives [State Duma] thrice rejects candidates for Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation nominated by the President of the Russian Federation, the President of the Russian Federation appoints Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation, dissolves the House of Representatives [State Duma] and call a new election. Constitution

Article 117

3. The State Duma may express no-confidence to the Government of the Russian Federation. A no-confidence resolution shall be adopted by a majority of votes of the total number of the deputies of the State Duma. After the State Duma expresses no-confidence to the Government of the Russian Federation, the President of the Russian Federation shall be free to announce the resignation of the Government or to reject the decision of the State Duma. In case the State Duma again expresses no-confidence to the Government of the Russian Federation during three months, the President of the Russian Federation shall announce the resignation of the Government or dissolve the State Duma.

4. The Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation may raise before the State Duma the issue of no-confidence to the Government of the Russian Federation. If the State Duma votes no-confidence, the President shall adopt in seven days a decision on the resignation of the Government of the Russian Federation or dissolve the State Duma and announce new elections.

Federal Law on election of the deputies of the State Duma

Article 6

<...>

2. The election of deputies of the State Duma of a new convocation shall be called by the President of the Russian Federation. The decision to call the election shall be taken not earlier than 110 days and no later than 90 days before the voting day. Voting day at the election of deputies shall be the first Sunday of the month in which the constitutional term of the State Duma of the previous convocation expires. The day of the election of the State Duma shall be the day of voting as a result of which it was elected as a competent body.

3. If the President of the Russian Federation does not call the election of deputies of the State Duma within the period indicated in Clause 2 of this article, the election of deputies shall be called and conducted by the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation on the first Sunday of the month which follows the month in which the constitutional term of the State Duma of the previous convocation expires.

4. When dissolving the State Duma the President shall simultaneously call an early election of deputies of the State Duma of a new convocation. In this case voting day shall be the last Sunday before the day on which three months expire from the day of the dissolution of the Duma.

5. If the President of the Russian Federation does not call the election of deputies of a new convocation after the dissolution of the State Duma, the election of deputies shall be called and conducted by the Central Election Commission on the last Sunday before the day on which three days expire from the day of the dissolution of the State Duma.

7. If the Sunday on which the election is to be held coincides with a day preceding a holiday, or a holiday, or a day following a holiday or if this Sunday has been declared a working day in the established procedure, the election shall be held on the next Sunday.

SERBIA

Constitution

Dissolution of the National Assembly

Article 109

The President of the Republic may dissolve the National Assembly, upon the elaborated proposal of the Government.

The Government may not propose dissolution of the National Assembly, if a proposal has been submitted for the vote of no confidence in the Government or if the issue of its confidence has been raised.

The National Assembly shall be dissolved if it fails to elect the Government within 90 days from the day of its constitution.

The National Assembly may not be dissolved during the state of war and emergency. The President of the Republic shall be obliged to dissolve the National Assembly upon his/her decree, in cases stipulated by the Constitution.

Simultaneously with the dissolution of the National Assembly, the President of the Republic shall schedule elections for deputies, so that elections finish not later than 60 days from the day of their announcement.

The National Assembly, which has been dissolved, shall only perform current or urgent tasks, stipulated by the Law. In case of declaration of the state of war or emergency, its full competence shall be reestablished and last until the end of the state of war, that is, emergency.

Article 130.4

If the National Assembly passes a vote of no confidence in the Government, the President of the Republic shall be obliged to initiate proceedings for election of the new Government. If the National Assembly fails to elect the new Government within 30 days from the passing of a vote of no confidence, the President of the Republic shall be obliged to dissolve the National Assembly and schedule elections.

Article 131.4

If the National Assembly fails to pass a vote of confidence in the Government, the term of office of the Government ends and the President of the Republic shall be obliged to initiate proceedings for election of the new Government. If the National Assembly fails to elect the new Government within 30 days from the day of passing of vote of no confidence, the President of the Republic shall be obliged to dissolve the National Assembly and schedule elections.

Article 132.5

After the National Assembly confirms the resignation of the Prime Minister, the President of the Republic shall be obliged to initiate the proceedings for election of the new Government. If the National Assembly fails to elect the new Government within 30 days from the day of confirmation of the resignation of the Prime Minister, the President of the Republic shall be obliged to dissolve the National Assembly and schedule elections.

The Law on the Election of Members of Parliament

Article 25

The election of Members of Parliament shall be called for by the President of the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia. The decision on calling for the election shall specify the polling day as well as the date on which the election administration activities shall commence.

Article 26

Not fewer than 45 or more than 90 days shall pass from the date of calling for the election and the polling day.

Article 27

The election of Members of Parliament shall be held not later than 30 days prior the termination of the term of office of Members of Parliament whose term of office is expiring

SLOVAKIA

Constitution

Article 102

1. The President (...) e) may dissolve the National Council of the Slovak Republic if the National Council of the Slovak Republic, within a period of six months from the nomination of a Government of the Slovak Republic, has not passed its Programme Proclamation, if the National Council of the Slovak Republic has not passed within three months of the formation of a Government a draft law with which the Government has combined a vote of confidence, if the National Council of the Slovak Republic has not managed to hold a session for longer than three months although its sitting has not been adjourned and it has during this time been repeatedly called for a meeting, or if a session of the National Council of the Slovak Republic has been adjourned for a longer time than is allowed by the Constitution. This right may not be applied during the last six months of his or her term of office, during war, a war state or exceptional state. The President shall dissolve the National Council of the Slovak Republic in the case that after a plebiscite on the recall of the President, the President has not been recalled.

Act on elections to the Slovak National Council

Section 25 Declaration of elections and period for conducting them

1. The elections shall be held in the whole territory of the Slovak Republic on one day, a Saturday.
2. The elections shall be declared by the Chairperson of the National Council of the Slovak Republic; he or she shall declare the elections and announce the polling day not later than one hundred and ten days before polling day. The declaration of elections shall be promulgated in the Collection of Laws of the Slovak Republic and on the web site of the Ministry.
3. The elections shall be conducted from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. If local conditions so require, a mayor may bring forward the start of polling by not more than two hours.

Section 46 New elections

If the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic declares the elections to be invalid, or if it annuls the election result, then the Chairperson of the National Council of the Slovak Republic shall declare new elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic. New elections shall be declared not later than thirty days after such a ruling of the Constitutional Court has been published in the Collection of Laws of the Slovak Republic.

SLOVENIA

Constitution

Article 81 Term of the National Assembly

1. The National Assembly is elected for four years.
2. If the term of the National Assembly expires during a war or state of emergency, its term shall expire six months after the end of the war or state of emergency, or earlier if the National Assembly itself so decides
3. Elections to the National Assembly are called by the President of the Republic. A new National Assembly shall be elected no sooner than two months and no later than fifteen days before the expiry of four years from the date of the first session of the previous National Assembly. If the National Assembly is dissolved, a new National Assembly shall be elected no later than two months after the dissolution of the previous one. The term of the previous National Assembly shall end on the first session of the new National Assembly, which shall be

called by the President of the Republic no later than twenty days after the election of the new National Assembly

Article 107 Powers of the President of the Republic

1. The President of the Republic: (...) calls elections to the National Assembly;

Article 111 Election of the President of the Government

1. After consultation with the leaders of parliamentary groups the President of the Republic proposes to the National Assembly a candidate for President of the Government.

4. If no candidate is elected, the President of the Republic dissolves the National Assembly and calls new elections, unless within eighty-four hours the National Assembly decides by a majority of votes cast by those deputies present to hold new elections for President of the Government, whereby a majority of votes cast by those deputies present is sufficient for the election of the candidate. In such new elections a vote is taken on candidates individually in order of the number of votes received in the earlier voting and then on the new candidates proposed prior to the new vote, wherein any candidate proposed by the President of the Republic takes precedence. (5) If in such elections no candidate receives the necessary number of votes, the President of the Republic dissolves the National Assembly and calls new elections.

National Assembly Elections Act

Article 13

Regular elections shall be held not earlier than two months and not later than 15 days before four years have passed since the first session of the outgoing National Assembly. In the event of a prolonged term, the due term shall be deemed to be the day on which the prolonged term expires. Early elections shall be held not later than two months after the dissolution of the National Assembly.

Article 14

The President of the Republic shall call general elections. Early elections shall be called by the President with the Dissolution of the National Assembly Act.

Article 15

The calling of Elections Act shall determine the day on which elections are called and the Election day. The election day shall be a Sunday or any other holiday.

Article 19

The President shall call by- elections not more than fifteen days after the National Assembly has ascertained the termination of a deputy's term of office.

Article 99

Special elections must be held within 30 days of the day determined for voting on general elections, if the voting was not carried out in a constituency or at an individual polling station on the day determined as Election Day.

Article 100

Repeat elections shall be called by the constituency electoral commission, unless the voting was nullified by the republic electoral commission, in which case the elections shall be called by the republic electoral commission. The Election Day for repeat elections shall be determined in the Calling of Elections Act. Repeat elections on the basis of existing candidacies shall be held within 15 days of the day elections are called. Repeat elections on the basis of new candidacies shall be held not later than two months after the day the elections are called.

SPAIN

Constitution

Article 56

3. The person of the King is inviolable and is not subject to responsibility. His acts shall always be in the manner established in Article [64](#) and shall lack validity without that countersignature, except as provided for by Article [65 \(2\)](#).

Article 62

It is incumbent upon the King [...] b) to summon and dissolve the Cortes Generales and to call elections under the terms provided in the Constitution.

Article 64

1. The actions of the King shall be countersigned by the President of the Government and, when appropriate, by the competent ministers. The nomination and appointment of the President of the Government and the dissolution provided for in Article [93](#) shall be countersigned by the President of the House of Representatives.
2. The persons who countersign the acts of the King shall be responsible for them.

Article 68.6

Elections shall take place between thirty and sixty days after the end of the previous term of office. The Congress so elected must be convened within twenty-five days following the holding of elections.

Article 99 Election

1. After each renewal of the House of Representatives and in the other cases provided for by the Constitution, the King shall, after consultation with the representatives designated by the political groups represented in parliament, and through the President of the House of Representatives, propose a candidate for the Presidency of the Government.
2. The proposed candidate, in conformity with the provisions of the foregoing paragraph, shall submit to the House of Representatives the political program of the Government he intends to form and shall seek the confidence of the Chamber.
3. If the House of Representatives, by an absolute majority of its members, grants its confidence to said candidate, the King will appoint him President. If said majority is not obtained, the same proposal shall be submitted to a new vote 98 hours after the former, and confidence shall be understood to have been granted if a simple majority is obtained.
4. If after the aforementioned votes are cast, confidence is not granted for investiture, successive proposals will be made in the manner foreseen in the foregoing paragraphs.

5. If within two months from the first voting for investiture no candidate has obtained the confidence of the House of Representatives, the King shall dissolve both Chambers and call for new elections with the concurrence of the President of the House of Representatives.

Article 115 Dissolution of Parliament

1. The President of the Government, after deliberation of the Council of Ministers, and on his exclusive responsibility, may propose the dissolution of the House of Representatives, the Senate, and the Parliament, which shall be decreed by the King. The dissolution decree shall establish the date of the elections.

2. The proposal for dissolution may not be presented when a motion of censure is in process.

3. No new dissolution may take place before a year has passed since the previous one, except as provided for in Article 99 (5).

Article 168 Revision

1. When a total revision of the Constitution is proposed, or a partial revision thereof, affecting the Preliminary Title, Chapter II, Section 1 of Title I, or Title II, the principle shall be approved by a two-thirds majority of the members of each Chamber, and the Parliament shall immediately be dissolved.

SUISSE

Constitution

Article 193 Révision totale

1. La révision totale de la Constitution peut être proposée par le peuple ou par l'un des deux conseils, ou décrétée par l'Assemblée fédérale.

2. Si l'initiative émane du peuple ou en cas de désaccord entre les deux conseils, le peuple décide si la révision totale doit être entreprise. Si le peuple accepte le principe d'une révision totale, les deux conseils sont renouvelés.

Loi fédérale sur les droits politiques du 17 décembre 1976 (Etat le 14 octobre 2003)

Article 10 Date et exécution

1. Le Conseil fédéral arrête les règles qui permettent de déterminer les jours des votations. Ce faisant, il tient compte des besoins des électeurs, du Parlement, des cantons, des partis politiques et des organisations chargées de remettre le matériel de vote et évite les collisions pouvant résulter des différences entre l'année civile et l'année religieuse.

Article 19 Date de l'élection

1. Les élections ordinaires pour le renouvellement intégral du Conseil national ont lieu l'avant-dernier dimanche du mois d'octobre.

Le gouvernement cantonal fixe le plus tôt possible la date des élections de remplacement et des élections complémentaires.

2. Le Conseil fédéral fixe la date des élections en cas de renouvellement intégral extraordinaire du conseil, au sens de l'article 193, al. 3, de la constitution fédérale.

SWEDEN**Constitution****Chapter 3 Article 3**

Ordinary elections for the Parliament shall be held every fourth year.

Chapter Article 4

1. The Government may order an extra election to be held between ordinary elections. Extra elections shall be held within three months of the issue of such an order.
2. After an election for the Parliament has been held, the Government is debarred from issuing an order for an extra election until three months have elapsed from the first meeting of the newly-elected Parliament. Nor may the Government issue an order for an extra election while ministers retain their posts, after having all been formally discharged, pending the assumption of office by a new Government.
3. Provisions concerning an extra election in a particular case are set forth in Chapter 6, Article [3](#).

Chapter 6 Article 3

If the Parliament rejects the Speaker's proposal the procedure laid down in Article 2 shall be resumed. If the Parliament rejects the Speaker's proposal four times in succession, the procedure for appointing a Prime Minister is discontinued and resumed only after an election for the Parliament has been held. Unless ordinary elections must in any case be held within three months, an extra election shall be held within that same period.

“THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA”**Constitution****Article 63**

1. The Representatives for the Assembly are elected for a term of four years. The mandate of Representatives is verified by the Assembly.
5. The Assembly is dissolved when more than half of the total number of Representatives vote for dissolution.

Electoral Code of the Republic of Macedonia**Article 15**

Par. 1 Elections for Members of the Parliament are held every fourth year, in the last 90 days of the term of the previous composition of the Parliament, or within 60 days from the day of dissolution of the Parliament.

Par. 2: Early elections for Members of the Parliament shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Code, and all deadlines for electoral activities shall be shortened by 5 days, except the deadline for electoral campaign.

According to Article 12, paragraph 1 of the Electoral Code, the Election Announcement Act shall be passed by the President of the Parliament and it shall specify the date from which all deadlines for performing electoral activities shall start to run, as well as the election date. According to paragraph 2 of this Article, The Election Announcement Act shall be submitted to the State Election Commission and the Ministry of Justice, and shall be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia.

From the day announcing the elections, until the day of holding the election, a period of not more than 90 days, nor less than 70 days may pass (Article 12, paragraph 4).

TURKEY

Constitution

Article 77 Election Term of the Turkish Grand National Assembly

1. Elections for the Turkish Grand National Assembly shall be held every five years.
2. The Assembly may decide to hold new elections before the termination of this period, and new elections may also be decided upon according to a decision, taken in accordance with the conditions set forth in the Constitution, by the President of the Republic. A deputy whose term of office expires may be eligible for re-election.
3. In the event of a decision to hold new elections, the powers of the Assembly shall continue until the election of a new Assembly.

Article 78 Deferment of Elections to the Turkish Grand National Assembly, and By-elections

1. If the holding of new elections is found impossible because of war, the Turkish Grand National Assembly may decide to defer elections for a year.
2. If the grounds for deferment do not disappear this measure may be repeated under the procedure for deferment.
3. By-elections shall be held when vacancies arise in the membership of the Turkish Grand National Assembly. By-elections shall be held once in every election term and cannot be held until 30 months have elapsed from the date of the previous general elections. However, in cases where the number of vacant seats reaches five percent of the total number of seats, by-elections shall be held within three months.
4. By-elections shall not be held within one year before general elections.

Article 116 Calling for Elections for the Turkish Grand National Assembly by the President of the Republic

1. In cases where the Council of Ministers fails to receive a vote of confidence under Article 110 or is compelled to resign by a vote of no-confidence under Article 99 or 111, and if a new Council of Ministers cannot be formed within forty-five days or the new Council of Ministers fails to receive a vote of confidence, the President of the Republic, in consultation with the President of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, may call for new elections.
2. If a new Council of Ministers cannot be formed within forty-five days of the resignation of the Prime Minister without being defeated by a vote of confidence or also within forty-five days of elections for the Bureau of the President of the Turkish Grand National Assembly of the newly elected Turkish Grand National Assembly, the President of the Republic may likewise, in consultation with the President of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, call for new elections.
3. The decision to call for new elections shall be published in the Official Gazette and the election shall be held thereafter.

Law No 2839 on Parliamentary elections**Article 6**

Elections for the Grand National Assembly of Turkey shall be held once every five years. The beginning date of the elections shall be July 3rd of the last meeting year of each elections period and votes shall be cast on the second Sunday of October. In the event it is not possible to hold elections due to war, the Grand National Assembly of Turkey shall be entitled to postpone the elections for one year. If the reason for the postponement persists, this procedure may be repeated in accordance with the procedure determined in the initial decision of postponement.

Article 7 Mid-term Election

[...] However, if the number of vacant seats reaches five percent of the regular total number of deputies, the Grand National Assembly of Turkey shall decide to hold mid-term elections within three months. No mid-term elections can be held later than one year prior to the general elections.

Article 8 Renewal of Election

If the Grand National Assembly of Turkey or the President of the Republic decides that elections should be renewed before the expiration of the elections period, the Cabinet shall announce such decision within 48 hours.(Amended: paragraph 2: 3403 - 10.9.1987) If the renewal decision has been taken by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, then the Assembly shall also determine the date of the elections. If the renewal decision has been taken by the President of the Republic, then votes shall be cast on the first Sunday following the ninetieth day after the decision.

Article 9

In event of a renewal of elections or mid-term elections, the Supreme Board of Elections may shorten the periods determined by the present Statute or by Statute no. 298 on the Basic Provisions Governing Elections and the Voters' Registers and Statute no. 2820 on Political Parties.

UKRAINE**Constitution****Article 77**

Regular elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine take place on the last Sunday of the last month of the fifth year of the duration of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Special elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine are designated by the President of Ukraine and are held within sixty days from the day of the publication of the decision on the pre-term termination of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The procedure for conducting elections of National Deputies of Ukraine is established by law.

The procedure for conducting elections of National Deputies of Ukraine is established by law.

Article 90

Powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall terminate on the date when the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of a new convocation opens its first meeting

The President of Ukraine may order the early termination of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine where:

1. there is a failure to form within one month a coalition of parliamentary factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as provided for in Article 83 of this Constitution;
2. there is a failure, within sixty days following the resignation of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, to appoint members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;
3. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine fails, within thirty days of a single regular session, to commence its plenary meetings.

The early termination of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be decided by the President of Ukraine following relevant consultations with the Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and with Chairpersons of Verkhovna Rada parliamentary factions.

Powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, which convenes following special elections conducted after the pre-term termination by the President of Ukraine of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the previous convocation, shall not terminate within one year from the day of its election.

The pre-term termination of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine may not be caused during the last six months of its term or of the term of the President of Ukraine.

The Law on Elections of People's Deputies of Ukraine

Article 16

1. Regular elections shall take place on the last Sunday of March of the last year of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.