

Yearbook of Local Democracy

2017

This publication is a compilation of the elections that were held in 2017 to elect mayors, councilors and other elected officials of local governments.

Compilation
of local
elections held
in 2017



Local elections 2017

Introduction

This publication is a compilation of the elections that were held in 2017 to elect mayors, councilors and other elected officials of local governments.

In this publication we will present the different institutional and electoral systems, as well as the mechanisms that are articulated to facilitate the participation of the citizens in the electoral processes. We will also present comparisons in the levels of participation in each country and the results of the elections.

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IOPD Technical Secretariat Team 2017: Adrià Duarte Griño and Andrea de la Mano

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Electoral calendar 2017:

January

February

Wednesday 15 February: Local elections in Indonesia (including Jakarta gubernatorial election (1st round))

March

April

Saturday 9 April: Finnish municipal elections, 2017

Wednesday 19 April: Indonesia, Jakarta gubernatorial election (2nd round)

May

Thursday 4 May: UK local elections

Saturday 13 May: West Bank (Palestinian territories) Local Elections

Sunday 14 May: Nepal local election (1st Phase)

June

Sunday, 4 June 2017: Cambodian communal elections, 2017 / Mexican local elections

Sunday 11 June: Italian local elections, 2017

Wednesday 14 June: local election in Nepal (2nd Phase)

Sunday 25 June: Italian local elections, 2017 (run-off vote)

July

Sunday 2 July: Tokyo prefectural election, 2017 (Japan)

August

Tuesday 8 August: County's Governors elections in Kenya



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September

Tuesday 26 September: Newfoundland and Labrador municipal elections (Canada)

October

Sunday 1 October: local elections in Portugal

Sunday 8 October: Luxembourg communal elections

Sunday 15 October: municipal elections in Estonia / First round of the first round of the Macedonian local elections

Monday 16 October: municipal elections in Alberta (Canada)

Sunday 22 October: local elections in Kosovo / Municipal elections in some provinces of Argentina

Sunday 29 October: Macedonian local elections (second round)

November

Sunday 5 November: municipal elections in Quebec (Canada)

Sunday 19 of November: Second round local elections in Kosovo

Tuesday 21 of November: Danish local elections, 2017

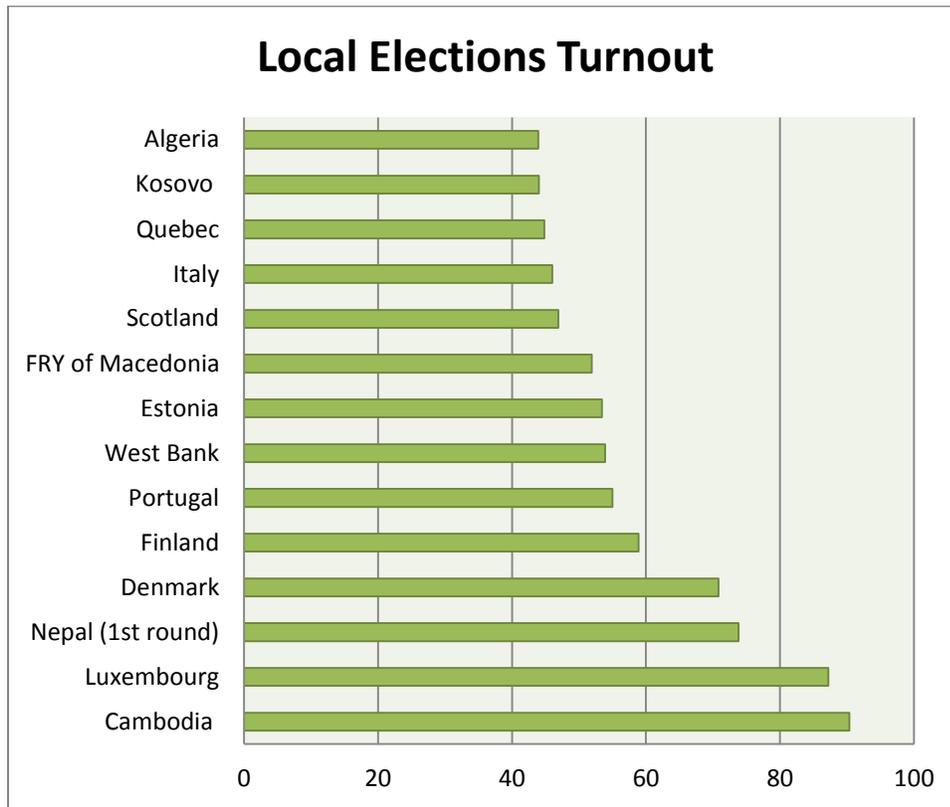
Thursday 23 of November: local elections in Algeria

December

Sunday 10 of December: Municipal election in Venezuela



Turnout



Countries with compulsory vote	Argentina, Luxembourg
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Countries that allow early voting	Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland
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2017 Local Elections:

Local elections in Algeria: November 23

Election of the communal people's Assembly and wilaya's Assembly:

The Communal People's Assemblies and wilaya's¹ Assemblies are elected for a term of five years, by proportional list.

Election of the president of the communal people's assembly:

The head of the list having obtained the majority of the votes is declared president of the communal people's Assembly.

In case of a tie, the youngest candidate is declared president.

Turnout stood at 46.93% for municipal elections and 44.96% for the provincial, slightly higher than the previous local poll in 2012. The vote was marked by several incidents², according to the press, such as the presence of candidates or activists trying to influence voters inside offices, or fights and sacks of ballot boxes following attempts or suspicions of fraud.

According to the Minister of the Interior, these incidents did not affect the outcome of the elections.

Results

The president's FLN (*Front de libération nationale*) won 30.56% of the seats of the communal popular assemblies (APC, municipal councils) and 35.48% of the seats of the 48 people's assemblies of wilayas (APW, departmental assemblies).

The FLN has won 603 of the country's 1,541 municipalities, Interior Minister Noureddine Bedoui has announced in Algiers. This result is a serious setback, with the former single party losing about 400 communes out of the thousand that it has controlled since 2012.

[Official Website for the 2017 Local elections \(in French\)](#)

¹ The wilayas are an administrative division in Algeria, like a province.

² http://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2017/11/24/le-fln-remporte-les-elections-locales-en-algerie_5220176_3212.html



Municipal Elections in Argentina: 22 October 2017

Municipal elections were held in some provinces, on the same day, legislative elections were also held at federal level.

Province of Buenos Aires:

The province is divided into 135 municipalities called constitutionally “Partidos”.

[Official Results Website](#)

The elections of October 22 were developed for all the municipalities of the country where there were mid-term Deliberative Council (*Concejo Deliberante*) elections, not only in the province of Buenos Aires. Also in the communes of Santa Fe, in the municipal commissions of Jujuy, in the promotion commissions in Formosa. Four mayors were also elected in San Luis.³

There were elections for mayors and municipal councilors in the provinces of Corrientes (at different dates, because the call is municipal competence, although most did it on October 8 and three on October 22) and Santiago del Estero (October 22).

There were municipal elections in February in the municipality of Santa Rosa (Mendoza); municipal conventions in Catriel (Río Negro), in April; in Ancasti (Catamarca), in October.

Cambodian communal elections: 4 June 2017

Communal elections were held in Cambodia on Sunday, 4 June 2017⁴. The National Election Committee (NEC) announced that some 7.8 million of 9.6 million eligible Cambodians were registered to cast their ballots. 94,595 candidates from 12 political parties contested the 11,572 commune council seats in 1,646 communes of Cambodia. **Voter turnout was a record 90.37%**. There were concerns surrounding some irregularities in the polling⁵.

The result was a victory for the Cambodian People's Party, albeit with a smaller majority, and saw large gains by the Cambodia National Rescue Party.⁶

³ Information provided by the professor Daniel Cravacuore

⁴ <http://www.rfa.org/english/news/special/cambodia-commune-election2017/>

⁵ <http://sea-globe.com/cambodias-crucial-commune-elections-covering-coverage/>

⁶ <http://www.phnompenhpost.com/politics/breaking-final-nec-commune-elections-results-released>



Canada local elections in 2017

Municipal elections in Alberta: 16 October 2017

Municipal elections were held in Alberta, Canada on Monday, October 16, 2017. Mayors (reeves), councillors (aldermen), and trustees were be up for election in all cities (except Lloydminster), all towns, all villages, all specialized municipalities, all municipal districts, three of the eight improvement districts, and the advisory councils of the special areas.

[Official website of the Municipal Affairs of Alberta's Government](#)

[Municipal Election Results - Official Summary](#)

[Roles and Responsibilities of Municipal Officials](#)

Municipal elections in Newfoundland and Labrador: 26 September

[Municipal Election Results](#)

Municipal elections in Quebec: 5 November 2017

The Canadian province of Quebec held municipal elections in its municipalities on November 5, 2017.

Through these elections, Quebecers elected the mayors and councilors of each of Quebec's local municipalities, as well as the prefects of some regional county municipalities.

The itinerant and anticipatory vote was staggered from October 28 to 30, while the postal vote was completed on November 3. Finally, the vote was held on November 5th.

The **turnout in Quebec** for all municipalities whose mayor was elected was **44.8%**. This rate is lower than in 2013 when it was 47.2%. However, the participation rate in 2017 is similar to those of 2009 and 2005, respectively 44.8% and 44.5%.

In the major city of Quebec, **Montreal**, Ms. Valérie Plante defeated the outgoing Mayor Mr. Denis Coderre:



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42,5% Voter turnout for the position of mayor
473 733 Number of valid votes
11 632 Number of rejected votes for the position of mayor
1 142 946 Number of registered electors

Montréal - Montréal

Position of mayor

Candidate	Political partie or ticket	Votes	%
● Ms. Valérie PLANTE (Outgoing from another position)	Projet Montréal - Équipe Valérie Plante	243 594	51,42 %
Mr. Denis CODERRE (Outgoing from this position)	Équipe Denis Coderre pour Montréal	216 321	45,66 %
Mr. Jean FORTIER	Coalition Montréal	5 948	1,26 %
Mr. Bernard GURBERG		2 140	0,45 %
Mr. Gilbert THIBODEAU		1 669	0,35 %
Mr. Fabrice Ntompa ILUNGA		1 553	0,33 %
Mr. Philippe TESSIER		1 319	0,28 %
Mr. Tyler LEMCO		1 189	0,25 %

[Official elections results](#)

Danish local elections: 21 November 2017

The Danish local elections of 2017 were held on 21 November 2017 for Denmark's 98 municipal councils. All 2,432 seats were contested for the 2018–21 term of office. On the same day the members of the regional councils were elected.

Local and regional elections⁷

The election of members to local and regional councils must be held every four years according to the Local and Regional Elections Act. Such election is always held on the third Tuesday of November in the year of election.

Who Can Vote?

Any person who has attained the age of 18 years and is resident in the local authority area is eligible to vote in the election to local and regional councils.

⁷ <http://elections.oidp.dk/local-elections.aspx>



However, people who are not nationals of Denmark, another EU Member State, Iceland or Norway may only vote if they have resided in the Kingdom for a period of three years prior to the election.

Advance Voting

Any voter may vote in advance at any Citizen Service center in Denmark from Tuesday 6 weeks prior to election day (i.e. 10 October, 2017 re. the upcoming elections in 2017) and no later than the Friday preceding election day (i.e. Friday 17 November, 2017). Voters have to bring some ID.

Advance voting can also take place at any Danish diplomatic representation abroad (embassies and consulates) from three months prior to election day, and from three weeks prior to election day also in hospitals for hospitalised voters, at care homes and sheltered housing etc., in prisons etc. for detainees, and at home upon application for voters who on account of illness or disability are unable to turn up at a polling station on election day.

[Local and Regional Government Elections Act](#)

[The Electoral System in Denmark](#)

Results of municipal elections

The Danish ministry of economy and interior informed that voter **turnout was 70.8%**. 3,226,558 cast their votes. They voted for 2432 seats in the 98 municipal councils.

Number of councillors and political parties in the Municipal Councils:

Results nationwide				
Party	Share of vote		Councillors	
	Percent	Change	Number	Change
Social Democrats	32.45%	+ 2.94%	842	+ 69
Venstre	23.06%	-3,56%	688	-78
Conservative People's Party	8.78%	+0.23%	225	+ 20
Danish People's Party	8.75%	-1.37%	223	-32
Socialist People's Party	5.7%	+0.1%	126	+ 10
Red-Green Alliance	5.96%	-0.98%	102	-17
Danish Social Liberal Party	4.6%	-0.2%	80	+18



Liberal Alliance	2.6%	-0.3%	29	-4
The Alternative	3.0%	<i>New</i>	20	<i>New</i>
Schleswig Party	0.3%	=	10	+1
Christian Democrats	0.5%	=	9	+3
The New Right	0.9%	<i>New</i>	1	<i>New</i>
Others	3.2%	-0.6%	78	-21

Mayors in the municipalities:

The mayors (Danish:*Borgmester*; plural:*Borgmestre*) of the 98 municipalities heads the council meetings and they are the chairman of the finance committee in each of their respective municipalities. Only in Copenhagen, this mayor - the head of the finance committee and council meetings - is called the Lord Mayor (Danish:*Overborgmester*). The final decision on who will be mayor must be made by the municipal councils no later than 15 December after local elections every four years.

Mayors after the election		
Party	Number	Change
 Social Democrats	47	+14
 Venstre	37	-11
 Conservative People's Party	8	-5
 Danish People's Party	1	+1
 Socialist People's Party	1	-
 Danish Social Liberal Party	1	-
 Guldborgsundlisten	1	-
 NewGribskov	1	+1
 Fanø Local List	1	+1
 New Stevns	0	-1

[More information](#)



Estonian Municipal Elections: 15 October 2017

Election Day for the Local Government Council Elections was October 15th. Advance Voting and Internet Voting took place from October 5th to October 11th. **Turnout was 53.4%** at national level.

In 2017 local elections, **advance voting** started on Oct. 5 and ended on Oct. 11 when **E-voting or internet voting** also ended as a part of advance voting, attracting 306,508 voters, up from 265,208 in last local elections in 2013.

Among them, there were 120,474 voters in voting districts, down from 131,400 in 2013, and 186,034 E-voters, up from 133,808 in 2013 to make a new record since the first-ever pan-national internet voting in October 2005, official statistics showed.

Voters in advance voting accounted for 27.8 percent of the total registered voters in 2017, against the 24.4 percent in 2013.

The 2017 local council election is **the first time in Estonian election history 16-17 years old young people can vote**, with more than 24,000 new voters.

[More information](#)

[Official elections website](#)

Finnish municipal elections, 2017: 9 April 2017

Municipal elections were held in Finland on Sunday, 9 April 2017. In the elections, municipal councilors and deputy councilors are elected for the next four-year term. The total number of councilors who were elected in the entire country was 8,999.

Under the Constitution, Finland is divided into municipalities whose administration is based on self-government. Municipalities make decisions on many issues that concern their residents. The highest decision-making body in a municipality is a council elected by residents. The council members, or councilors, are elected for four years at a time in a municipal election.

Voting dates



Municipal elections were held in Finland on 9 April 2017 with **advance voting** between 29 March and 4 April. At certain advance polling stations, the voting time is shorter than this.

The following function as advance polling stations:

-in Finland, advance polling stations designated by each municipality, for example municipal agencies or post offices

-a number of Finnish missions abroad

-certain institutions, such as hospitals, units of social welfare services and prisons. Only persons who are patients or inmates at these institutions may vote at these polling stations.

-Finnish ships that are abroad during the advance voting period. Only the crew members may cast their votes onboard. This right does not apply to the passengers.

Turnout

Whole country: **58.9%**

	Men	Women	Voters in all
Voting in advance	24.5%	28.7%	26.6%
Election Day	32.4%	32.1%	32.2%
Voter in all	56.9%	60.7%	58.9%

[More information](#)

[Statistics](#)⁸

⁸ Official Statistics of Finland (OSF): Municipal elections [e-publication].

ISSN=2323-1114. Background Analysis Of Candidates And Elected Persons 2017. Helsinki: Statistics Finland [referred: 23.11.2017].

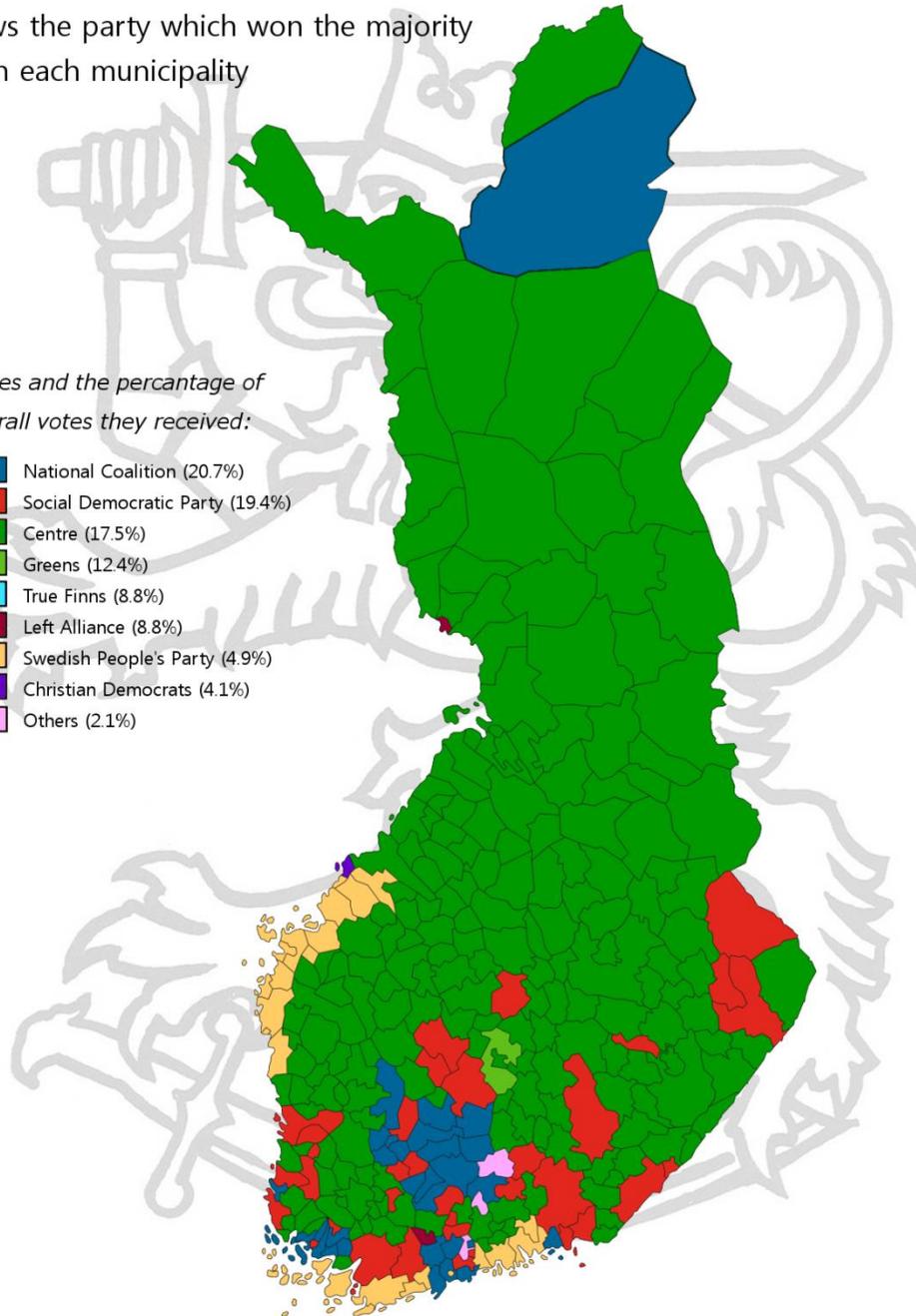
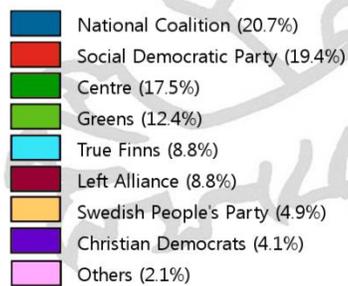
Access method: http://www.stat.fi/til/kvaa/2017/05/kvaa_2017_05_2017-05-05_tie_001_en.html



Municipal elections of Finland, 2017

Map shows the party which won the majority of votes in each municipality

Parties and the percentage of overall votes they received:



Source: Statistics Finland



Municipal elections in Indonesia: 15 February and 19 April 2017

Jakarta gubernatorial election, 2017

Two rounds of a gubernatorial election were held in Jakarta on 15 February and 19 April 2017 to elect the Governor of Jakarta to a five-year term. Jakarta is administratively equal to a province with special status as the capital of Indonesia. Executive head of Jakarta is a Governor, instead of a Mayor. The Governor of Jakarta is an elected politician who, along with Deputy Governor and 106 members of People's regional representative council (DPRD), is accountable for the strategic government of Jakarta.

Results:

Candidates	Parties	1 st round		2 nd round	
		Votes	%	Votes	%
Basuki Tjahaja Purnama	Indonesian Democratic Party PDI -P	2,357,587	42.91%	2,351,245	42.05%
Anies Baswedan	Gerindra	2,200,636	40.05%	3,240,332	57.95%
Agus Harimurti Yudhoyono	Demokrat - PD	936,609	17.05%		

Turnout 1st round: 77.1% / Source: Electoral Commission of Jakarta⁹

Italian local elections, 2017: 11 June and 25 June

The 2017 Italian local elections were held on Sunday 11 June. If necessary, a run-off vote was held on Sunday 25 June. The term of mayors and councils will last five years, unless an early election is triggered.

Voting system

Every *Comune* (municipality) with **more than 15,000 inhabitants** elects its mayor and city council with the same system.

Voters express a direct choice for the mayor or an indirect choice voting for one of the parties of the candidate's coalition. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, the top two candidates go to a second

⁹ https://pilkada2017.kpu.go.id/hasil/t1/dki_jakarta



round two weeks later. The coalition of the elected mayor is guaranteed a majority of seats in the council with the attribution of extra seats. If the Mayor resigns, dies, lose a motion of confidence, or a majority of the municipal councillors step down at the same time, an early election (for the Mayor and for all municipal councillors) is called.

The City Council is elected at the same time as the mayor. Voters can vote for a list of candidates and can express up to two preferences for candidates of said list, provided they are selecting candidates of both genders. Seats are then attributed to parties proportionally, and for each party the candidates with the highest number of preferences are elected.

Comuni with a population of **less than 15,000** elect their mayors with a plurality system. A mayoral candidate can be supported by only one list, and the list of the elected mayor gets a two-thirds majority of seats. Voters can express up to two preferences for candidates of the chosen list, provided they are selecting candidates of both genders. Seats are then attributed to the candidates with the highest number of preferences.

Results

At 46 percent, turnout was very low by Italian standards.

Italy's centre-right parties trounced their centre-left rivals in mayoral elections, official results have showed – putting pressure on the ruling Democratic party (PD) ahead of a national vote due in less than a year. An alliance of Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia party and the anti-immigrant Northern League won 55% of the votes in Genoa, the northern port city that was a leftwing stronghold but which the right will now govern for the first time in more than 50 years.¹⁰

Mayoral results ¹¹

¹⁰ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jun/26/italys-centre-right-wins-big-in-mayoral-elections-after-left-crumbles>

¹¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_local_elections,_2017



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Cities ↕	Population ↕	Incumbent mayor ↕	Party ↕	Elected mayor ↕	Party ↕
L'Aquila	69,627	Massimo Cialente	Centre-left	Pierluigi Biondi	Centre-right
Catanzaro	90,612	Sergio Abramo	Centre-right	Sergio Abramo	Centre-right
Parma	194,001	Federico Pizzarotti	Civic	Federico Pizzarotti	Civic
Piacenza	102,191	Paolo Dosi	Centre-left	Patrizia Barbieri	Centre-right
Gorizia	34,844	Ettore Romoli	Centre-right	Rodolfo Ziberna	Centre-right
Frosinone	46,323	Nicola Ottaviani	Centre-right	Nicola Ottaviani	Centre-right
Rieti	47,698	Simone Petrangeli	Centre-left	Antonio Cicchetti	Centre-right
Genoa	585,407	Marco Doria	Centre-left	Marco Bucci	Centre-right
La Spezia	116,456	Massimo Federici	Centre-left	Pierluigi Peracchini	Centre-right
Como	84,495	Mario Lucini	Centre-left	Mario Landriscina	Centre-right
Lodi	44,945	Mariano Savastano ^[15]	none	Sara Casanova	Centre-right
Monza	122,849	Roberto Scanagatti	Centre-left	Dario Allevi	Centre-right
Alessandria	93,894	Maria Rita Rossa	Centre-left	Gianfranco Cuttica	Centre-right
Asti	76,048	Fabrizio Brignolo	Centre-left	Maurizio Rasero	Centre-right
Cuneo	56,051	Federico Borgna	Centre-left	Federico Borgna	Centre-left
Lecce	94,916	Paolo Perrone	Centre-right	Carlo Salvemini	Centre-left
Taranto	200,461	Ippazio Stefàno	Centre-left	Rinaldo Melucci	Centre-left
Oristano	31,630	Guido Tendas	Centre-left	Andrea Lutz	Centre-right
Palermo	671,696	Leoluca Orlando	Centre-left	Leoluca Orlando	Centre-left
Trapani	68,759	Vito Damiano	Centre-right	<i>Special Commissioner</i> ^[16]	none
Lucca	89,781	Alessandro Tambelini	Centre-left	Alessandro Tambelini	Centre-left
Pistoia	90,315	Samuele Bertinelli	Centre-left	Alessandro Tomasi	Centre-right
Belluno	35,870	Jacopo Massaro	Civic	Jacopo Massaro	Civic
Padova	211,215	Paolo De Biagi ^[17]	none	Sergio Giordani	Centre-left
Verona	258,274	Flavio Tosi	Civic	Federico Sboarina	Centre-right

Elections in Japan: 2 July 2017

Tokyo prefectural election, 2017

Prefectural elections for the **Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly** were held on 2 July 2017. The 127 members were elected in forty-two electoral districts, seven returning single members elected by first-past-the-



post, and thirty-five returning multiple members under single non-transferable vote. Four districts had their magnitude adjusted in this election to match population changes.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly is the prefectural parliament of Tokyo. The assembly is responsible for enacting and amending prefectural ordinances, approving the budget (5.7 billion yen in fiscal 2007) and voting on important administrative appointments made by the governor including the vice governors.

Results: Supporters of Yuriko Koike, the incumbent Governor, won 79 seats in total: 49 by Tomin First no Kai, 23 by Kōmeitō, 1 by the Seikatsusha Net, and 6 by independents endorsed by Tomin;

County's Governors elections in Kenya: 8 August 2017

On August 8, 2017 took place in Kenya the elections of all the County Governors. Counties are equivalent to regions or provinces, and are the most decentralized level in the country, as there are no municipal governments or mayors.

[Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission](#)

[A complete list of the 47 newly elected Governors in Kenya 2017](#)

2017 Kosovo Local Elections: 22 October 2017

Kosovo has held the October 22 an election to choose mayors and councilors in 38 municipalities, in another step in the young republic's effort to solidify its democratic credentials.

The polling stations closed at 7 p.m. local time and the Central Election Commission (CEC) said the **turnout was around 44 percent.**



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International observers said that the voting process took place without any major irregularities. "Procedures are respected. We were informed only about technical problems," said Alojz Peterle, chief observer of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) to Kosovo.

Some 1.89 million people have been registered to vote at 2,505 polling stations in 38 municipalities, with the mayor's race in Pristina likely to be the most closely watched.

A run-off was celebrated on Sunday 19th November to elect the mayor on 19 municipalities.

[More information](#)

Luxembourg communal elections, 2017

The 2017 Luxembourg communal elections were held on 8 October to elect the communal councils of the 102 municipalities of Luxembourg.

Every municipality in Luxembourg is led by a **municipal council**, which comprises the mayor, aldermen and municipal councillors. They are **directly elected for a six-year-term** by the inhabitants of the



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municipality who are entitled to vote. The number of members of the municipal councils varies [according to the municipality's population](#), but it is always uneven.

Municipal elections are held, in accordance with law, on the **second Sunday in October** preceding the expiry of the mandate of the municipal council. As the last municipal elections were held on 9 October 2011, the next elections to be held are scheduled for 8 October 2017.

In accordance with the **electoral law**, elections are either based on the system of the relative majority – in municipalities with a population of less than 3,000 – or according to the proportional representation system in municipalities with a population exceeding 3,000. In the first case, candidates appear individually on the ballot. In the second case, candidates are grouped on electoral lists. The maximum number of candidates per list is equal to the number of members of the municipal council which is being elected.

Each municipality forms a constituency. Each voter has as many votes as there are councilors to be elected to the municipal council. He may award two votes to each of the candidates up to the total of the votes he has at his disposal.

Voting is compulsory for all those registered on the electoral roll.

Non-Luxembourgers who have been residing in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for at least five years at the time of the application for registration on the electoral roll have the right to vote in municipal elections. The law on municipal elections also allows foreigners to run for municipal mandates, including for the positions of mayor or alderman. Candidates must have resided in Luxembourg for at least 5 years and have lived in the municipality for 6 months.





As we see in this figure of a total of 285 319 registered people (250 979 with Luxembourg nationality and 34 340 residents of another nationality), 248,885 ballots were cast. That is, **87.23% of electoral participation**.

The [official website of the elections in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg](#) provides detailed information.

[Luxembourg Times](#)

Macedonian local elections 2017

The 2017 Macedonian local elections were held on October 15 and 29, 2017 in the Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia to elect mayors and members of municipality councils of the 80 municipalities in Macedonia. These were the sixth local elections since the independence of Macedonia.

Voter **turnout was announced at 51.92 per cent in the second round**¹².

Macedonia's ruling Social Democrats, SDSM, and their junior coalition partners, the Albanian Democratic Union for Integration, DUI, sealed their local election victory on Sunday after a second round of voting. The opposition alleged the results were fraudulent¹³.

[OSCE election observation mission reports](#)

Local elections in Mexico

On June 4, local elections were held in some states of Mexico:

Ordinary elections:

State of Coahuila

On July 4, there were elections for the City Councils in the 38 municipalities of the state, as well as elections for governor and other political positions in the State.¹⁴

State of Nayarit

¹² <http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/fyrom/353276?download=true>

¹³ <http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/article/ruling-parties-seal-local-election-victory-in-macedonia-10-29-2017>

¹⁴ <http://www.ine.mx/voto-y-elecciones/elecciones-2017/coahuila-eleccion-2017/>



On July 4, there were elections for the City Councils in the 20 municipalities of the state, as well as elections for governor and other political positions in the state.¹⁵

State of Veracruz

In Veracruz there were only local elections that day, to choose the governments of the 212 municipalities of the state.¹⁶

Extraordinary elections:

- On December 3, 2017 in San Blas, Nayarit to elect 1 councilor
- On June 4, 2017 in Santa María Xadani, Oaxaca to elect 1 councilor

All the information about the elections in Mexico can be found on the [website](#) of the National Electoral Institute.

Local elections in Nepal 2017

After two decades, the Nepalese have finally been able to vote in the local elections of 481 village councils, 246 municipalities and 17 metropolitan cities. In the two-phase elections of May 14 and June 14, citizens has casted their votes for the first time under the new Constitution, for representatives in the new local structures. On September 18 there was a third day of elections for those municipalities where voting had to be canceled previously.

Background

Local elections were held in 53 municipalities in February 2006 under King Gyanendra but were boycotted by the major political parties and saw low voter turnout. Prior to 2006, the previous elections was held in 1997 with a mandate of five years. Elections were supposed to be held on 2002 but were delayed due to the then ongoing Nepal Civil War.

With the promulgation of the new constitution in 2015, a three-tier governance system was introduced, with national, provincial and local levels of governance. A Local Body Restructuring Commission was established as required by the constitution under the chairmanship of Balananda Paudel. The

¹⁵ <http://www.ine.mx/voto-y-elecciones/elecciones-2017/nayarit-2017/>

¹⁶ <http://www.ine.mx/voto-y-elecciones/elecciones-2017/veracruz-2017/>



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commission proposed 719 local structures which were revised to 753 by the government. The new local levels were formed by changing the existing cities and village development council and came into existence on 10 March 2017.¹⁷



RED LETTER DAYS



Electoral system

Local levels will have a Chairman/Mayor and a Deputy chairman/mayor. Local levels are further subdivided into wards which will have a ward chairman and 4 members. Out of the 4 members 2 must be female. All terms are for a total of 5 years. The elections are direct in nature and with the First-past-the-post voting system.¹⁸

Local Level Type	Choice
Metropolitan City	One Mayor, One Deputy Mayor, One Ward Chairman, 4 Ward members
Sub Metropolitan City	One Mayor, One Deputy Mayor, One Ward Chairman, 4 Ward members
Municipality	One Mayor, One Deputy Mayor, One Ward Chairman, 4 Ward members
Rural Municipality	One Head, One Deputy Head, One Ward Chairman, 4 Ward members

¹⁷ <https://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/new-local-level-structure-comes-effect-today/>

¹⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nepalese_local_elections,_2017



Results

The turnout was 73.81% (first round), 73.38% (second round) and 77% (third round).

Parties	Mayor/Chairman	Deputy Mayor/Chairman	Ward Chairman	Ward Member
Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist)	294	331	2,560	10,912
Nepali Congress	266	223	2,286	8,679
Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist Centre)	106	111	1,102	4,123
Federal Socialist Forum, Nepal	34	32	262	1,111
Rastriya Janata Party Nepal	25	30	195	862
Nepal Loktantrik Forum	9	8	88	356
Independents	6	5	91	131
Rastriya Prajatantra Party	5	7	59	214
Rastriya Janamorcha	3	4	33	146
Naya Shakti Party, Nepal	2	1	22	91
Nepali Janata Dal	2	0	7	30
Nepal Workers' and Peasants' Party	1	1	22	75
Bahujan Shakti Party	0	0	8	34
Rastriya Janamukti Party	0	0	3	17
Rastriya Prajatantra Party (Democratic)	0	0	2	5
Federal Democratic National Forum	0	0	1	6
Communist Party of Nepal (Marxist-Leninist)	0	0	1	3
Nepal Pariwar Dal	0	0	0	1
Total	753	753	6,742	26,790

[More information](#)

[Local Election Results \(in Nepali\)](#)

Portuguese local elections: 1 October 2017

The elections consisted of three separate elections in the 308 Portuguese municipalities, the election for the Municipal Chambers (*Câmara Municipal*), whose winner was elected mayor, another election for the Municipal Assembly (*Assembleia Municipal*), as well an election for the lower-level Parish Assembly (*Assembleia de Freguesia*), whose winner was elected parish president.

Example of Voting Bulletins:



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Electoral system¹⁹

All 308 municipalities are allocated a certain number of councilors to elect corresponding to the number of registered voters in a given municipality. Each party or coalition must present a list of candidates. The lists are closed and the seats in each municipality are apportioned according to the *D'Hondt method*²⁰. Unlike in national legislative elections, independent lists are allowed to run.

Council seats and Parish assembly seats are distributed as follows:

Councilors		Parish Assembly	
Seats	Voters	Seats	Voters
17	only Lisbon	21	+ 40,000
13	only Porto	19	Btw 20,000 & 40,000
11	+ 100,000	13	Btw 5,000 & 20,000
9	Btw 50,000 & 100,000	9	Btw 1,000 & 5,000
7	Btw 10,000 & 50,000	7	1,000 voters or less
5	10,000 voters or less		

Results

The Socialist Party (PS) was the big winner of the elections consolidating their position as the largest local party in Portugal. The PS won 160 mayors, 10 more than in 2013, and more than 38% of the votes. The Socialists maintained control in cities like Lisbon, although here they lost their majority, Funchal and Coimbra, at the same time they gained some strong PSD bastions like Chaves or Mirandela. Nonetheless, the PS lost one of their bastions, Vila do Conde, to an independent.

Electoral census	9,411,442
Voters	5,173,063

The turnout was **54.97%** at national level for the Municipal Chambers elections.

[Official Results Website / More information](#)

¹⁹ http://www.cne.pt/sites/default/files/dl/legis_leoal_anotada_2014_0.pdf

²⁰ <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/~ucahwhi/dhondt.pdf>



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Local elections in the United Kingdom: 4 May 2017

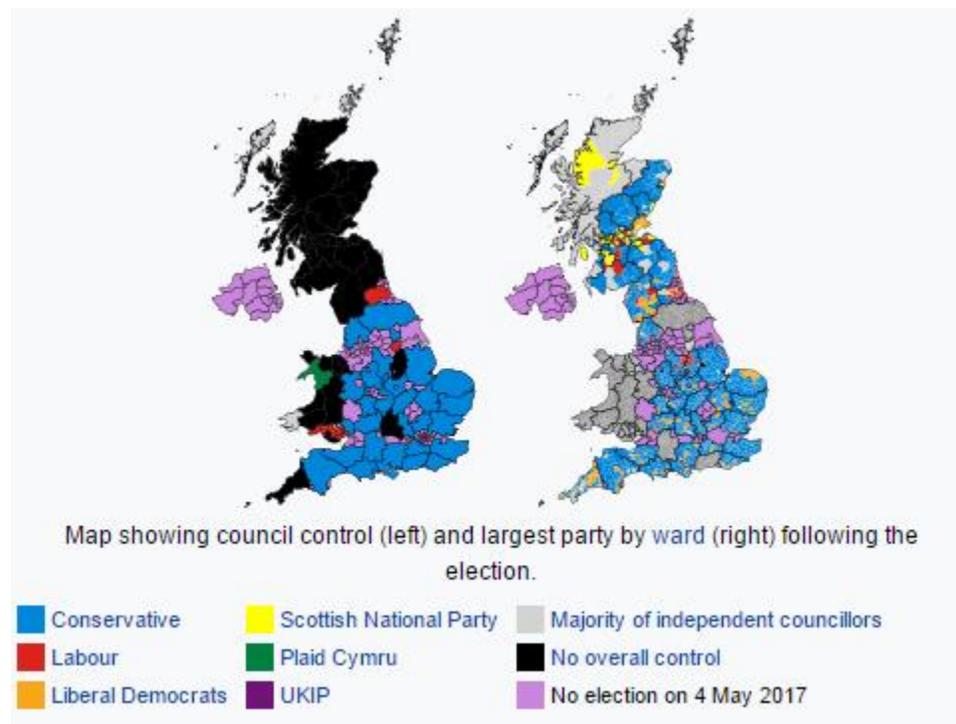
The 2017 United Kingdom local elections were held on Thursday 4 May 2017. Local elections were held across Great Britain, with elections to 35 English local authorities and all councils in Scotland and Wales.

Eligibility to vote

All registered electors (British, Irish, Commonwealth and European Union citizens) who were aged 18 or over (or aged 16 or over in Scotland) on polling day were entitled to vote in the local elections. A person who had two homes (such as a university student having a term-time address and living at home during holidays) could register to vote at both addresses as long as they were not in the same electoral area, and could vote in the local elections for the two different local councils.

Individuals had to be registered to vote by midnight twelve working days before polling day (13 April 2017 in England and Wales; 17 April 2017 in Scotland). Anyone qualifying as an anonymous elector had until midnight on 25 April 2017 to register.

Results: Tories win four new mayors²¹



²¹ <http://www.bbc.com/news/election-2017-39817224>



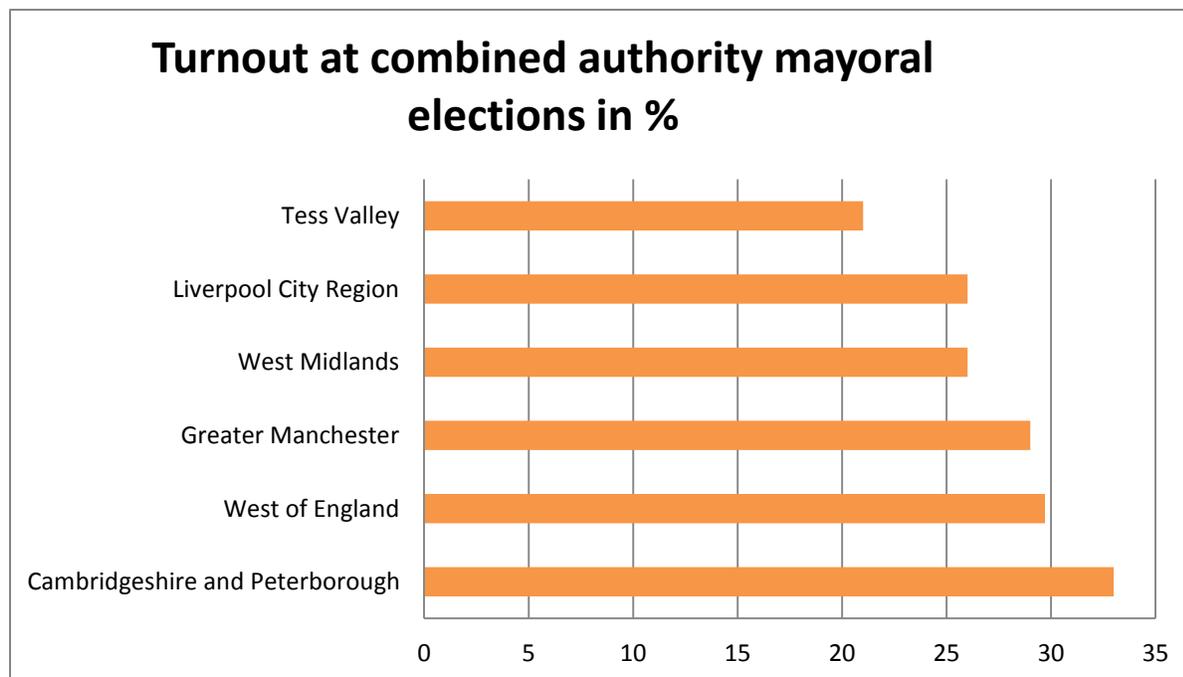
Local elections in England:

Newly-created combined authority mayors were directly elected in six areas of England: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, Greater Manchester, the Liverpool City Region, Tees Valley, the West Midlands, and the West of England. In addition, Doncaster and North Tyneside re-elected local authority mayors. Local by-elections for 107 council seats also took place on 4 May.

English Local authorities²²:

Party	Votes	Vote Share	Vote +/-	Seats	Seat +/-
Conservative	3,036,709	46.5	12.2	1,430	275
Labour	1,299,846	19.9	-1.6	416	-134
Liberal Democrat	1,164,779	17.8	4.2	308	-39
UKIP	302,368	4.6	-15.6	1	-129
Green	284,735	4.4	0.8	20	0
Other	438,985	6.7	-0.2	199	-6

There were concerns at the low turnout recorded: less than a third of eligible voters picked a candidate:



²² <http://britainelects.com/results/locals/le2017/>



Scottish local elections, 2017

The 2017 Scottish local elections were held on Thursday 4 May, in all 32 local authorities. The SNP retained its position as the largest party in terms of votes and councillors, despite suffering minor losses. The Conservatives made gains and displaced Labour as the second largest party, while the Liberal Democrats suffered a net loss of councillors despite increasing their share of the vote.²³ Minor parties and independents polled well; and independent councillors retained majority control over the 3 island councils. For the first time since the local government reforms in the 1995, all councils fell under no overall control.

All registered electors (British, Irish, Commonwealth and European Union citizens) who were aged 16 or over on polling day were entitled to vote in the local elections.

Turnout in the whole of Scotland was 46.9%, 7.3% more than in the previous local elections in 2012.

Scottish Local authorities²⁴:

Party	Votes	Vote Share	Vote +/-	Seats	Seat +/-
Scottish National	607,747	32.3	0.0	431	6
Conservative	477,124	25.4	12.1	276	161
Labour	376,124	20.0	-11.4	262	-132
Liberal Democrat	130,018	6.9	0.3	67	-4
Green	75,669	4.0	1.7	19	5
UKIP	2,869	0.2	-0.1	0	0
Other	209,131	11.1	-2.6	173	-31

[Elections summary of results](#) / [Results by Council](#)

Welsh local elections, 2017

Local elections were held in Wales on Thursday 4 May 2017 to elect members of all 22 local authorities. The last elections were in 2012. Normally these elections take place every four years, but the 2017 elections were postponed for a year in order to avoid clashing with the 2016 Welsh Assembly election, which itself was postponed by a year to avoid clashing with the previous year's general election.

²³ <http://www.bbc.com/news/live/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-39792157>

²⁴ <http://britainelects.com/results/locals/le2017/>



Results:

Labour has suffered losses in Wales during the council elections but the Tories have failed to make as many gains as expected. Labour was hit with three major blows after losing control of Blaenau Gwent and Bridgend, as well as its council leader in Merthyr Tydfil. But it held seven councils including Cardiff, Swansea and Newport. Many of the losses were to independent candidates. In Monmouthshire, however, the Conservatives won control outright.²⁵

Party	Councils		Seats	
	Total	+/-	Total	+/-
Labour	7	-3	472	-107
Independent	3	+1	322	+13
Plaid Cymru	1	-	202	+33
Conservative	1	+1	184	+80
Liberal Democrat	0	-	62	-11
Llais Gwynedd	0	-	6	-7
Green	0	-	1	+1
No overall Control	10	+1	-	-

Venezuela municipal elections: 10 December 2017

Municipal elections were held in Venezuela on 10 December 2017 to elect mayors throughout Venezuela. In the previous local elections the councilors were also elected in the same elections.

Some opposition parties decided to boycott the elections assuring that there would be fraud.²⁶

The official results presented by the National Electoral Council (CNE) attributed a clear victory to the PSUV and a participation of 47.32%.²⁷

The opposition insisted on the electoral fraud and declared that the participation would have been lower to the one announced by the electoral power (CNE).²⁸

²⁵ <http://www.bbc.com/news/live/uk-wales-politics-39721454>

²⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/dec/08/venezuela-opposition-boycott-mayoral-elections>

²⁷ http://www.cne.gob.ve/web/normativa_electoral/elecciones/2017/municipales/index_principal.php

²⁸ <http://efectococuyo.com/politica/abstencion-sobre-70-en-elecciones-municipales-estima-red-de-observacion-electoral>



West Bank local elections: 13 May 2017

A Palestinian cabinet decision was issued on 31 January 2017 calling for local elections to be held on 13 May 2017 in all localities of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. However, **local elections were held only in 326 localities of the West Bank out of 391 localities**. The Cabinet issued a subsequent decision by which complementary elections were held on 29 July 2017 in 32 West Bank localities.²⁹

Local elections took place in 159 localities according to the system of full proportional representation and local council elections law No. 10 of 2005 and its further amendments including those pertaining to the competent court.

Elections were conducted smoothly, without serious challenges or violations that could have affected elections results. Local and international observation bodies commended the integrity and professionalism of the electoral process. The CEC (Palestinian Central Elections Commission) announced the preliminary elections results in less than 24 hours after the closing of ballot boxes, in conjunction with the publication of the detailed elections results on its webpage, allowing for the submission of appeals in accordance with the law.

Of particular interest in the 2017 local elections are the following:

- **The percentage of participation in the 2017 elections reached 53.9%**, which is very close to the percentage of the 2012 elections of 53.8%.
- A decrease in the number of localities which won by acclamation (199), due to having only a single nominated list in each, constituting 51% of the total localities compared with 61% in 2012. The consensus on a single list is contrary to elections. The lower the rate of acclamation percentage, the higher the index of democracy is.
- The issue of electoral campaigning and obliging candidates and lists to abide by campaigning regulations was one of the biggest challenges faced by the CEC, especially campaigning through social media such as facebook, twitter and YouTube. The CEC was unable to control and monitor the election campaign properly due to lacking of proper tools.
- The CEC introduced online registration of voters, through its webpage for the first time in Palestine in 2016. The system was adopted during the phases of registration, exhibition and challenge in the 2017 local elections. The system allowed citizens to add their names to the voter registry, in parallel with the

²⁹ <http://www.elections.ps/tabid/1291/language/en-US/Default.aspx>



traditional paper registration method. The CEC aimed from this service to facilitate the registration process and decrease registration time, effort and cost.

- For the first time, the CEC provided facilitations and set special procedures for persons with disabilities to facilitate their elections participation as voters, candidates, observers and journalists. The CEC offered facilitations in terms of recruitment of staff and services to observers, provision of publications and awareness material in Braille and sign languages and rehabilitation of polling centers.

Summary of Local Elections 13/5/2017

	Local Authorities			Eligible Voters	No. of Seats	No. of Centers	No. of Stations
	Municipal Council	Village Council	Total				
Jerusalem	5	1	6	25.694	66	15	38
Jenin	12	11	23	90.174	241	51	130
Tulkarm	10	7	17	83.211	179	46	125
Tubas	3	1	4	22.777	48	15	37
Nablus	4	10	14	97.211	140	53	144
Qalqiliya	5	7	12	43.428	122	28	67
Salfit	8	4	12	32.015	128	20	47
Ramallah & Al Bireh	9	13	22	77.596	230	50	117
Jericho	2	1	3	14.700	35	9	21
Bethlehem	7	1	8	51.410	94	35	77
Hebron	17	7	24	249.170	278	139	372
Total	82	63	145	787.386	1.561	461	1.175