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## **INSIGHT - Elections to Watch and Pray for in 2024**

2024 was a year full of global elections and 2025 promises to bring its own set of surprises, particularly in Europe where there will be major political shifts. - Germany's snap Bundestag vote, Romania's presidential race, Poland's referendum on Tusk's government and the rise of populist forces in Czechia, Norway and beyond, could reshape the future of the European Union.

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## **Confirmed Election Dates in 2025**

## **January**

	12th January: Croatia, Presidential Election
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	14th January: Vanuatu, General Election
	19th January: Austria - Burgenland state election
	26th January: Belarus, Presidential Election
	29-30 January: Ireland, Seanad Election

## **February**

•	5th February: India Elections	
•	9th February: Kosovo: Parliamentary elections	



9th February: Ecuador, Ecuadorian general election, (first round) (13 April potential second round)

15th February: Abkhazian, Presidential Election

23rd February: Germany, Federal Election

#### March

2nd March: - Germany, Hamburg State Election

2nd March: Tajikistan (lower house) Parliamentary Elections

2nd March: Tajikistan, parliamentary elections

4th March: Micronesia, Parliamentary Election

8th March – 10th May: Western Australian state election, & Australian Federal Election

21st March: Curação, General Election

28th March: Tajikistan (upper house) Parliamentary Elections

#### **April**

13th April: Ecuador, (Potential) Second Round of General Election

13th April: Finland, Municipal Elections

#### May

1st May, United Kingdom: Local Elections

11th May, Albania: Albania, Parliamentary Election

12th May, Philippine general election, House of Representatives elections, Senate election, Local election

18th May Poland: Presidential election

25th May: Suriname: General Election

#### July

No later than 12th July Moldova: Parliamentary elections

No later than 27th July Japan: House of Councillors Election and Tokyo Prefectural Election

#### **August**

17th August Bolivia: Bolivia, General Election

25th August Burundi: Village-based elections

#### September

8th September Norway: Parliamentary election

12th – 14th September Russia: Elections

**16th September Malawi: General Election** 

**27th September Seychelles: General Election** 

#### **October**

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5th October Cameroon: Presidential Election, & Parliamentary Election

11th October New Zealand: Local Elections

19th October Estonia: Local Elections

20th October Canada: Canada Federal Election

**26th October Argentina: Legislative Election** 

#### **November**



4th November USA: Gubernatorial & Legislative Elections

**Before 12th November: Ireland: Presidential Election** 16th November Chile: General Election (first round)

**18th November Denmark: Local Elections** 

**Before 23rd November: Singapore General Elections** 

#### December



14th or 21st December Chilie: General Election (potential second round)

#### **Unconfirmed Election Dates in 2025**

#### **Spring 2025: - Romania: Presidential Election**

Romania will hold new presidential elections in 2025. It will be a tense presidential race after foreign meddling and the rise of anti-EU populism. The Constitutional Court annulled the first round of voting following evidence of Russian interference, particularly the artificial boost Georgescu received on social media platforms, notably TikTok. Until then, Georgescu was relatively unknown to the public, but his online support alarmed authorities. Meanwhile, the legislative elections, which were not annulled, saw a victory for the Social Democrats.

**PRAY:** For Romanians to have clear answers from the authorities with solid evidence to prove the democratic processes will be fair without interference in the future.

LINK: https://uk.news.yahoo.com/romanian-court-cancels-presidential-election-200635273.html?guccounter=1

#### **Autumn 2025 - Northern Cyprus: Presidential Election**

Unless there are extraordinary developments, the presidential election is expected to be held in the autumn of 2025. Northern Cyprus, officially the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, is an existing state that comprises the northeastern portion of the island of Cyprus. It is recognised only by Turkey, and its territory is considered by all other states to be part of the Republic of Cyprus. Northern Cyprus is not recognized as a country as the United Nations resolutions declared its independence legally invalid. There exist two Peoples on the island of Cyprus with different languages, religions and cultures.

**PRAY:** For the end to the 50 years of the Turkish v Greek divide that has caused unjust and inhuman isolation including travel, sports, trade and culture.

LINK: https://cyprusfeed.com/en/The-race-for-the-2025-Cyprus-presidential-election-has-begun/

#### **Gabon general election**

General elections are due to be held in Gabon in 2025. They will be the first elections in the country since the Bongo dynasty was overthrown in the 2023 coup after 56 years of rule. Gabon's military leaders hope to hold a general election in August 2025 following pressure from the international community to announce a timetable for the return to civilian rule. General Brice Oligui Nguema is currently the interim president for over two million people.

PRAY: For an honest peaceful transition to a new Gambian constitution that will end military rule

LINK: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-66671044

#### **Trinidad and Tobago, General election**

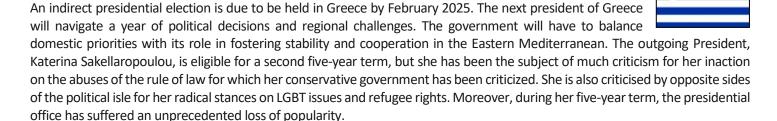
The 41 members of the House of Representatives are elected by first-past-the-post voting in single-member constituencies. If one party obtains a majority of seats, they are entitled to form the Government, with its leader as Prime Minister. If there is no single party majority, then there is a hung parliament. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> January Prime Minister Keith Rowley announced his intention to resign. Trinidad and Tobago have a history of corruption such as bribery, kickbacks, and embezzlement. There is widespread police corruption linked to the illicit drug trade, gang involvement, and excessive use of force.

The population low levels of trust in the police. Implementation and adherence to the measures in place to prevent corruption is lacking. Corruption has a negative impact on a country, including distorting markets, stifling economic growth, discouraging foreign investment and reducing the effectiveness of international aid.

PRAY: For the next elected parliament to begin to destroy the various segments of corruption in the country

LINK: https://www.google.co.uk/search?

#### **Greece Presidential Elections**



**PRAY:** For the politicians to be able to shape the nation's political and diplomatic future while navigating pivotal events.

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025 Greek presidential election

#### **Togo Presidential elections**

Indirect presidential elections are due to be held in Togo in 2025. This would be the first election since the 2024 constitutional reform, where the president went from being directly elected by Togolese citizens to being



indirectly elected by the National Assembly. However, Togolese President Faure Gnassingbe signed a controversial new constitution to eliminate presidential elections. It's a move that opponents say will allow him to extend his family's six-decadelong rule. Under the new legislation, parliament will have the power to choose the president, doing away with direct elections. The political opposition, religious leaders and civil society say the proposed new constitution makes it likely that Gnassingbe will stay on when his mandate expires in 2025. They also fear that the creation of a figure similar to a prime minister, to be selected from the ruling party, could become another avenue for Gnassingbe to extend his grip on power even beyond that new term. The government banned protests against the proposed new constitution and arrested opposition figures. The electoral commission banned the Catholic Church from deploying election observers and Togo's media regulator suspended the accreditation process for foreign journalists.

**PRAY:** For the people to establish a new fair and just constitution that will end corruption and poor governance.

LINK: https://www.africanews.com/2024/05/07/togos-presidents-signs-a-law-expected-to-extend-his-decades-long-rule/

## Before 6<sup>th</sup> April: Greenland, General Election

Greenland Prime Minister Mute Egede has emphasised his desire to pursue independence from Denmark, its former colonial ruler, marking a significant change in the rhetoric surrounding the Arctic island's future. "It is about time that we take a step and shape our future, also with regard to who we will cooperate closely with, and who our trading partners will be "he said Egode's New Year speech, same on the book Depald Trump expressing his with for "ownership and



partners will be," he said. Egede's New Year speech, came on the heels Donald Trump expressing his wish for "ownership and control" of Greenland, also expressed a desire to strengthen Greenland's cooperation with other countries. While a majority of Greenland's 57,000 inhabitants support independence, there is division over the timing and potential impact on living standards.

Greenland's government has twice rejected offers by Trump to purchase the island. Despite the wealth of mineral, oil, and natural gas resources, Greenland's economy remains fragile, heavily dependent on fishing and annual grants from Denmark. Greenland is due to hold parliamentary elections before April 6.

**PRAY:** For the government leaders to face up to their economic, social and environmental responsibilities and for Greenland's economic development to become clear to the citizens

LINK: https://www.bangkokpost.com/world/2932407/greenlands-leader-steps-up-push-for-independence.

An electoral campaign period has been planned for each of the following sections. The campaign for legislative

#### May date not confirmed Uruguay: Municipal Elections

Uruguay is a politically stable country with a strong democratic tradition and institutions. It is positioned at the top of the Democracy, Political Stability and Transparency rankings in Latin America. Uruguay's political scene is split between two parties: the conservative Blancos (Whites), headed by the second President Manuel Oribe, representing the agricultural interests of the countryside, and the liberal Colorados (Reds), led by the first President Fructuoso Rivera, representing the business interests. They have strong ties to the United Kingdom, France, and Italy, and is one of Latin America's more progressive societies, with political stability, advanced social legislation, and a relatively large middle class.

**PRAY:** For the country to continue to grow their strong democratic traditions

LINK: https://www.google.co.uk/search?

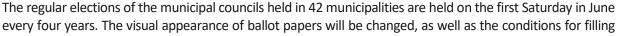
#### May - August: Burundi, Parliamentary Elections

and district elections will run from May 12 to June 2, 2025. (see 25<sup>th</sup> August below) The senatorial campaign will take place from June 30 to July 20, 2025, and the campaign for village-based elections will be held from Aug. 2-22, 2025. The National Assembly has 100 directly elected members in 18 multi-member constituencies using the closed list proportional representation system. A further three members of the Twa ethnic group are appointed, and more members are co-opted to ensure a 50-50 split between Hutus and Tutsis, and a 30% quota for female MPs. The EU and its member states have a crucial role to play in engaging the Burundian authorities up to the highest level to end the ongoing crackdown, release detained individuals and make sustained and systemic human rights progress in line with the country's long-standing, stated commitments. Amnesty International state, 'The EU and its member states must adopt an ambitious and strategic approach to engage the Burundian authorities up to the highest level to take immediate and effective action to end repression of civic space and ensure respect for the human rights of everyone in Burundi, including to: end arbitrary arrest, detention, and prosecution of human rights defenders, or any other form of reprisals. Quashing the convictions of the 12 HRDs and journalists tried and convicted in absentia following an unfair trial, and solely for peacefully exercising their human rights. Lifting the ban against Burundian human rights organizations and facilitating their return to Burundi through an effective and inclusive dialogue process; and likewise lifting the ban on Radio Publique Africaine (RPA) and Télé Renaissance. Allow civil society organizations to freely carry out their activities without any interference or reprisals. Facilitate meaningful consultations with journalists and other stakeholders on the new media law and fully decriminalize media offences. See also https://www.amnesty.eu/news/the-eu-must-champion-civic-spacein-burundi-ahead-of-next-years-elections/

**PRAY:** For the Amnesty International directives to be followed, and for peaceful voting processes and elections.

LINK: https://english.news.cn/africa/20241016/2ec4adf177284e7aaf7216deb2bc5d68/c.html

#### June date not confirmed Latvia: Municipal Elections, Riga City Council Election





them in. These changes will affect voters who wish to highlight a candidate or express negative attitudes towards a candidate on the list. This change is necessary to ensure automatic vote counting in future elections as well as in referendums. Latvian political system faces serious corruption. The influence of private interests involved in illegal political party funding undermines the efforts to combat political corruption. 68% of surveyed households consider political parties to be corrupt or extremely corrupt and rank as the most corrupt institution in Latvia. 67% of surveyed households find government efforts in the fight against corruption to be ineffective. There is a widespread perception that politicians and businesses are too closely linked and public funds are sometimes diverted to companies, individuals or groups due to corruption, and the lack of sufficient ethical behaviour of companies with public officials, politicians and other companies is a competitive disadvantage for the country. Since 2020 a Whistleblowing law has entered force to promote whistleblowing on violations in public interests, ensure the establishment and operation of whistleblowing mechanisms, and also due protection of whistleblowers.

**PRAY:** For the changed ballot papers and whistleblowing introduction to successfully crack down on political and industrial corruption

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption in Latvia

#### **August date not confirmed Gabon: General Election**

In August 2023, a general election was held and president Ali Bongo won a third term. The results were heavily controversial and disputed and four days later, the Gabonese Army and the Gabonese Republican Guard, led



by Brigadier General Brice Oligui Nguema, who was a cousin of Bongo, led a coup d'état which ousted and arrested Bongo and his government, annulled the election results, dissolved all state institutions, and gave the military control of the country with Nguema as transitional president. The military junta authorities has promised free and fair elections to be held in August 2025, two years after the coup, even though they have yet to announce the exact date. Bongo had governed since 2009, taking over the presidency from his father, Omar, who died that year after ruling the country since 1967. About 80% of Gabonese people identify as Christian, with a minority practicing Islam or animist religions. A third of its citizens live below the \$5.50/day poverty line.

**PRAY:** For God to give His people wisdom and discernment as they vote, so that Gabon becomes a democracy without poverty.

**LINK:** <a href="https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/11/16/gabon-votes-in-referendum-on-new-constitution-after-military-coup-last-year">https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/11/16/gabon-votes-in-referendum-on-new-constitution-after-military-coup-last-year</a>

#### **Before September Egypt: Parliament Election**

The Arab Republic of Egypt spans the northeast corner of Africa and the Sinai Peninsula. It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the north, the Gaza Strip to the northeast, the Red Sea to the east, Sudan to the south,



and Libya to the west. The Gulf of Aqaba in the northeast separates Egypt from Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Egypt is the 14th-most populated country in the world, and the third-most populated in Africa. In 2024, as part of its Freedom in the World report, Freedom House rated political rights in Egypt at 6 (with 40 representing the most free and 0 the least), and civil liberties at 12 (with 60 being the highest score and 0 the lowest). This gave Egypt the freedom rating of "Not Free". Egypt is an authoritarian regime. The government's ability to meet the population's basic needs is restricted by fiscal constraints. There is a need for legal aid for human rights defenders, journalists, and women facing domestic and labour violence. There are issues with poverty, addiction, and illiteracy. Egypt has borrowed extensively at home and abroad to spend on megaprojects and weapons.

**PRAY:** For Egypt's political system to meet the countries basic needs.

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025 Egyptian parliamentary election

#### September date not confirmed Italy: Local elections & Regional elections

September's local elections will challenge the stability of a government on shaky ground. An important electoral test awaits Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni when elections will be held in six regions: Puglia,



Campania, Le Marche, Tuscany, Valle d'Aosta, and Veneto in September. These elections will offer a snapshot of Italian public opinion on the relatively stable Meloni government. Last November, coalition parties were outflanked by the centre-left coalition in the regional elections in Emilia-Romagna and Umbria causing a setback for Meloni. The Veneto region will come under particular scrutiny, given its large population and long history of being governed by the populist League, a key player in the ruling coalition. In Puglia, MEP Antonio Decaro, chair of the Environment committee and the Democratic Party could run as governor. Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni is head of government and has executive authority but must receive a vote of approval from the Council of Ministers to execute most policies. The prime minister and cabinet are appointed by the president, Sergio Mattarella, and confirmed by a vote of confidence in parliament. To remain as prime minister, Giorgia Meloni must pass votes of confidence. Italian organised crime and criminal organisations have infiltrated the social and economic life of many regions in southern Italy; the most notorious is the Sicilian Mafia, which expanded into foreign countries, including the US. The 'Ndrangheta is an Italian mafia-type criminal syndicate, based in the peninsular region of Calabria. Although loosely structured, it is considered one of the most powerful organized crime groups in the world and accounts alone for 3% of Italy's GDP.

**PRAY:** For underlying needs of the population to be met through wise votes in both local and regional elections.

**LINK:** <a href="https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/12/31/from-germany-to-romania-the-elections-that-will-define-europe-in-2025">https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2024/12/31/from-germany-to-romania-the-elections-that-will-define-europe-in-2025</a>

#### **Before October Canada: Yukon General Election**

Canadian law requires that its next federal election be held by Oct. 25, 2025, but it could come far sooner following the resignation of Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland in December 2024, and Prime Minister Justin



Trudeau's resignation in January 2025. He will stay on as prime minister until a new Liberal Party leader is chosen. Trudeau asked for parliament to be suspended until 24 March to give time for the party to find a new leader. A leadership contest and reorganising of the House of Commons means that an election will happen before October. The main issues are inflation, immigration, and a housing shortage, overlaid with anxiety about the Trump administration's talk up to 25% tariffs on Canadian exports to the US. The coming election may be about the identity of Canada itself. Will the next parliament shift the country toward a conservative populism, or could another coalition government come into place, with a set of policies that please no one. See also 20th October Canada Federal Election

**PRAY:** For the next political leaders in Canada to be able to reduce high inflation while cooperatively working with the USA over export tariffs

LINK: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c17d402e5rwo

#### **Before October Czech Republic: Parliamentary Elections**

The ANO party of populist billionaire Andrej Babiš, who has clashed with the EU and is sceptical of support for Ukraine, looks set for a big comeback in autumn's parliamentary elections amid broader malaise and dissatisfaction with the current centre-right coalition of PM Petr Fiala. Babiš was prime minister from 2017-2021, and in 2023 he

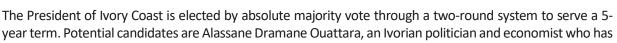


lost the presidential election by nearly 20 points to Petr Pavel, a former NATO general who strongly backs Ukraine. But with the current governing coalition in turmoil and "Ukraine fatigue" growing ahead of a possible push by US President-elect Donald Trump to end the war there, Czechs are in the mood for more change. A stunning poll showed less than half of Czechs now think life has improved since the fall of communism in 1989. ANO capitalized on that disillusionment in autumn 2024 regional and Senate ballots, ringing up big results even with abysmal turnout. In 2025, polls show ANO with 30% support against the governing coalition's 20%. If Babiš wins, he would (re)join a Central European Eurosceptic populist axis featuring Hungary's Viktor Orbán and Slovakia's populist PM Robert Fico. The Economist Intelligence Unit rated Czech Republic a "flawed democracy" in 2022. The prime minister is the head of government. The majority of executive power is given to the Cabinet, which consists of the prime minister, deputy prime ministers and ministers (usually heads of the ministries).

**PRAY:** for the next Prime Minister to wisely organize and preside over the Cabinet work, particularly setting agendas for foreign and domestic policies.

LINK: https://www.gzeromedia.com/news/analysis/10-elections-to-watch-in-2025

#### October date not confirmed Ivory Coast: Presidential Election





been President of Ivory Coast since 2010. An economist by profession, he worked for the International Monetary Fund and the Central Bank of West African States. And Tidjane Thiam, an Ivorian and French businessman, the executive chairman of Freedom Acquisition Corp. He was the chief executive officer of Swiss bank Credit Suisse from March 2015 to February 2020. and the chief financial officer of British banking group Prudential from 2007 to 2009, and then its CEO until 2015. The Ivory Coast's main source of income is agriculture, including cocoa, coffee, palm oil, and cashew nut. A third of middle-class households are vulnerable to poverty. Challenges include food insecurity, malnutrition, and gender inequality. The government's 2024–2028 social protection strategy aims to reduce the poverty rate to just under 29%. The strategy includes establishing a mandatory health insurance scheme for all citizens. Visitors to the Ivory Coast are advised to exercise a high degree of caution in Côte d'Ivoire due to the threat of violent crime and the risk of civil unrest.

**PRAY:** For the president to successfully work with his government to reduce poverty and avoid the periodic political unrest of the past.

LINK: <a href="https://www.google.co.uk/search?">https://www.google.co.uk/search?</a>

#### October date not confirmed Tanzania: General Election

President Samia Suluhu Hassan is expected to win re-election under the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM), which has held power for six decades. She will likely face veteran politician Tundu Lissu, the current chairners on of Chadema. Tanzania's main apposition party. Hassan's political reforms include reversing some of Chadema.



chairperson of Chadema, Tanzania's main opposition party. Hassan's political reforms include reversing some of the authoritarian policies of her predecessor, who banned political rallies, censored the media, and clamped down on political opposition. However a shadow of the old ways persists were seen when two Chadema politicianswere abducted and tortured, and one of them was murdered. Three more killed in connection with local elections in November. China is watching this election and has funded several megaprojects, including a railway revitalization with Zambia. The CCP has a close relationship with Tanzania's ruling party, and China runs a leadership school that counsels African politicians on how to replicate China's authoritarian model and cement one-party rule - like the CCM's 60-year reign - in their countries. Behind the school's closed doors, economics takes a back seat to political training. Teachers sent from Beijing train African leaders that the ruling party should sit above the government and the courts and that fierce discipline within the party can ensure adherence to party ideology

**PRAY:** For Tanzania's economic and social development to improve as their next political cabinet consists of effective leaders working together to alleviate poverty without outside interference.

LINK: https://www.axios.com/2023/08/21/chinese-communist-party-training-school-africa

#### October date not confirmed Georgia: Local Elections

In October last year the four major opposition coalitions and President Salome Zourabichvili stated that the elections were carried out with vote-buying, ballot-box stuffing, intimidation and pressure on voters. They



accused the Georgian Dream party of "stealing the election", with President Zourabichvili refusing to recognize the official results, which she called illegitimate. The opposition announced that it was going to boycott the new parliament. Observers organised by the International Republican Institute (IRI) stated that "Georgia's parliamentary elections were fundamentally flawed" and the IRI president stated that "only new elections can restore the Georgian people's confidence in their government's legitimacy." This constitutional crisis prompted the Government to postpone EU accession talks until 2028, which prevented serious internal unrest across Georgia. The country is the site of a struggle for influence between Russia and the West, while Russian troops have occupied 20% of Georgian territory since 2008. 29 December marked the end of pro-European President Salome Zurabishvili's term in office. He was replaced by pro-Russian Mikheil Kavelashvili. As the stranglehold on pro-European forces intensifies, demonstrators have faced a heavy-handed response by the authorities.

PRAY: For the 2025 elections to be honest and fair, without Russian or EU hindering Georgia's economic growth

LINK: <a href="https://www.iiss.org/">https://www.iiss.org/</a>

#### November date not confirmed Saint Vincent & The Grenadines: General Election

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, sometimes known simply as Saint Vincent or SVG, is an island country in the eastern Caribbean. The 15 elected members of the House of Assembly are elected in single-member constituencies using the first past the post system. A further six members are appointed, four by the government of the state of the system.



constituencies using the first-past-the-post system. A further six members are appointed - four by the government and two by the opposition. St Vincent and the Grenadines is an independent Nation but has King Charles III as their king and head of state with a Governor General as his representative, just like Canada or Australia. SVG has a higher poverty rate than average for the Eastern Caribbean, mostly concentrated in rural areas. The country's small size and vulnerability to natural disasters, including hurricanes, pose economic challenges. SVG is also a Small Island Developing State which means it faces certain unique social and economic challenges. The economy is driven by agriculture, tourism, and services. The economy should grow due to a strong performance in tourism, recovery in agriculture, and Implementation of large-scale infrastructure projects.

**PRAY:** For the newly elected House of Assembly members to successfully repair the infrastructure and help the agriculture and tourism industries to flourish

LINK: https://www.google.co.uk/search?

#### **December date not confirmed Central African Republic: General Election**

Since gaining independence in 1960, CAR has experienced decades of violence and instability, including six coups. Despite repeated efforts to attain peace and disarmament, an insurgency led by Seleka forces - a coalition of armed Muslim groups - seized the capital of Bangui and ousted the government in 2013. In respon



coalition of armed Muslim groups - seized the capital of Bangui and ousted the government in 2013. In response Seleka brutality a coalition of Christian fighters, the anti-balaka, launched violent attacks on Seleka fighters and Muslim civilians. The renewed conflict has killed and displaced thousands. There have been seven attempts at peace agreements but Seleka and anti-balaka militias have only increased their activity, terrorized civilians and clashing over control of mineral resources and migration routes.

Due to the scale of the crisis, the UN Security Council established a peacekeeping force in April 2014 that incorporated African Union and French forces that had previously deployed to CAR. Meanwhile, the humanitarian crisis in CAR continues to worsen, with 70% of the population living in extreme poverty and 3.4 million people in need of assistance. Spillover from neighbouring Sudan's civil war has also exacerbated the conflict, with reports of air raids and the recruitment of CAR fighters by Sudanese forces contributing to ongoing violence and instability. The Russian Wagner Group maintains around one thousand mercenaries in the country supporting government forces in exchange for access to gold and diamond mines. The UN says Wagner intimidates locals and has committed human rights violations.

**PRAY:** For the UN to successfully bring the humanitarian crisis to an end and initiate effective armed group dissolutions and demobilizations, and for CAR's political agreements to contribute towards social improvement

LINK: https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/violence-central-african-republic

#### **Confirmed Election Dates in 2025**

## **January**

#### 12th January: Croatia, Presidential Election



Croatia's incumbent President Zoran Milanović won the most votes in December's first round presidential election but fell short of an outright win so must face a runoff against Dragan Primorac, of the ruling

conservative HDZ party to secure another five-year term. Left-leaning Milanović is an outspoken critic of Western military support for Ukraine in its war against Russia. He is often compared to Donald Trump for his combative style of communication with political opponents. Milanović will lead Croatia East, Plenkovic will lead them West. The most popular politician in Croatia, 58-year-old Milanović has served as prime minister in the past. Populist in style, he has been a fierce critic of current Prime Minister Andrej Plenković and continuous sparring between the two has marked Croatia's political scene. Plenković portrays the vote to be about Croatia's future in the EU and NATO and labelled Milanović "pro-Russian" and a threat to Croatia's international standing. Milanović was marred by a high-level corruption case that landed Croatia's health minister in jail last month. Though the presidency is largely ceremonial in Croatia, an elected president holds political authority and acts as the supreme military commander.

**PRAY:** For God to raise a government that will be free of the recent corruption that has forced 30 ministers to leave in recent years.

LINK: https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/12/30/croatias-milanovic-to-face-rival-in-election-run-off-next-month

## 12<sup>th</sup> January: Comoros, Parliamentary Election



Opposition parties have said they will boycott the poll. The Indian Ocean archipelago last had parliamentary polls in January 2020 when President Azali Assoumani was re-elected for another five-year term, but the

opposition rejected the results, alleging ballot stuffing and voting being ended before the official closing time. Assoumani has ruled Comoros since 1999 when he came to power through a coup. He has since won three elections. Assoumani's opponents accuse him of authoritarian excesses and suspect him of wanting to prepare his eldest son, Nour El-fath, to replace him in 2029 when this current term ends. The government denies all claims. Salim Issa Abdillah, leader of the opposition JUWA party, who stood against Assoumani in the last election, said, "We are not ready to take part in legislative elections until we know what is going to happen. We will boycott the elections" People do not trust Azali Assoumani. They believe, "no matter what commitments he makes, he will not respect them."

**PRAY:** For God to fill the 33 seats in the Assembly of the Union with people who can be trusted to serve the people and not themselves.

LINK: https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/comoros-hold-parliamentary-elections-jan-12-2024-10-13/

#### 14th January: Vanuatu, General Election

Vanuatu will hold a snap parliamentary election on 14 January 2025 after the President acted on a decision by the Council of Ministers to dissolve Parliament following a Motion of No Confidence. The Electoral



Commission also announced the by-election of the Port Vila Municipal Council seat for the Northern Ward to be held on the same day. Vanuatu's PM is struggling for political survival amid a U.S.-China cold war. Washington and Beijing are competing over small islands playing outsized logistical nodes in any future conflict - including Vanuatu and its 320,000 citizens. Both Washington and Beijing are looking to get a presence on the ground in Vanuatu. Apart from a possible US embassy, America wants to open new regional missions in the Pacific. China, meanwhile, has sent security experts to the archipelago anticipating a new administration that might sign a deal with Beijing akin to a controversial police deal in the Solomon Islands. Christianity is widely practiced in Vanuatu. 93% of the population identify as Christian.

**PRAY:** For God to lead His church to make wise choices as they go to the polls on the 14<sup>th</sup>

LINK: https://foreignpolicy.com/2023/08/28/vanuatu-us-china-competition-pacific-security/

## 19th January: Austria - Burgenland state election

Burgenland is the easternmost and least populous state of Austria, consisting of two statutory cities and seven rural districts, with a total of 171 municipalities. It is 103 miles long from north to south but much



narrower from west to east (3.1 miles). People from Burgenland are often the butt of a joke from people from other regions of Austria, portraying them as dumb or slow on the uptake. The region is part of the Centrope Project. Burgenland's provincial assembly (Landtag) has 36 seats. At the election held on 26 January 2020, the Social Democratic Party (SPÖ) won an absolute majority of 19 seats, the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) won 11 seats, the Freedom Party (FPÖ) won 4 seats and the Green Party won 2 seats. The voting age for regional elections in Burgenland is 16 years. Currently SPÖ is leading the election poll for the Parliamentary Election in Burgenland with 47%, followed by FPÖ with 25% and OVP with 21%. In the current election trend, 3 parties could enter parliament. Politics in Austria reflects the dynamics of competition among multiple political parties, which led to the formation of a Conservative-Green coalition government for the first time in January 2020. Burgenland' has the highest proportion of Christians in Austria, (80.3%).

**PRAY:** For God to raise up leaders from the winning parties that can work together with the wisdom to bring about God's purposes

LINK: https://schauvorbei.at/en/hans-peter-doskozil-umsetzen-statt-versprechen/

## 26<sup>th</sup> January: Belarus, Presidential Election

The election will be neither free nor fair. The country's opposition warns that the election "will be an exercise in 'self-reappointment' of Aleksander Lukashenko and a staged attempt to legitimize his continued rule without genuine competition." Since the fraudulent 2020 elections, the human rights situation in Belaru



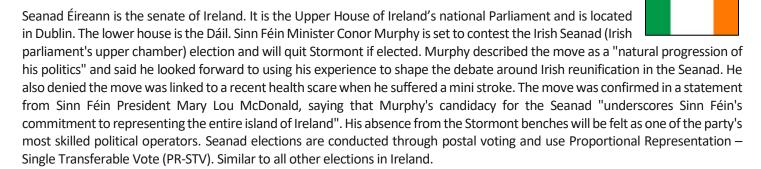
without genuine competition." Since the fraudulent 2020 elections, the human rights situation in Belarus has deteriorated substantially. Tens of thousands peaceful protesters have been arrested and nearly 1300 political prisoners, including opposition political figures, are still kept in Belarusian detention facilities. Tens of thousands have also been forced to leave the country. The UN Human Rights Commissioner said, "We strongly condemn the systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations

committed in Belarus, including torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and punishment against political prisoners, which may amount to crimes against humanity."

**PRAY:** For the members of the European Parliament to successfully and powerfully stand against a sham presidential election, for Belarusians living abroad to exercise their right to vote and stand as a candidate in the election, for a transparent system for counting votes and with the participation of international observers to instigate a fair and free election.

LINK: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/

#### 29-30 January: Ireland, Seanad Election



**PRAY:** For the outcome of this election to produce mature, inclusive dialogue across the island and in Britain and for the future of Ireland to reflect a dedication to achieving reunification and a peaceful, prosperous, and shared future for everyone.

LINK: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/czen27jx34xo

## **February**

## 5<sup>th</sup> February: India Elections

With the term of the Delhi state assembly coming to an end on 23 February 2025, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar announced the Delhi elections vote will be on February 5 and counting of votes



will take place on February 8. It is a single-phase election and the polling is on a Wednesday so that more people come out to vote. Executive power is exerted through the chief minister of Delhi, who is elected by 70 members of the Delhi Legislative Assembly. The AAP is currently the governing party in the state of Punjab and the union territory of Delhi. New Delhi, Delhi Congress chief Devender Yadav on Tuesday said that the formation of a "people-friendly" Congress government after February 8 will pave the way for Delhi's development and end 11 years of corruption and destruction by the BJP and A governments. In January the formation of Cog government in Delhi is expected to end 11 yrs of corruption, destruction. Delhi Congress chief Devender Yadav said, 'The formation of a people-friendly government of Congress when Delhi will become pollution free, garbage-free, the national capital will be free from crime and Yamuna river will be cleaned.' He also said that the Congress government will open the "Sheesh Mahal" to the public, where a poor family will be allowed to stay every day.

**PRAY:** For a successful end to 11 years of corruption and destruction by the BJP and the next government will restore law and order.

**LINK:** <a href="https://indianexpress.com/elections/delhi-assembly-elections-2025-full-schedule-constituency-list-key-candidates-and-all-you-need-to-know-9764252/">https://indianexpress.com/elections/delhi-assembly-elections-2025-full-schedule-constituency-list-key-candidates-and-all-you-need-to-know-9764252/</a>

#### 9th February: Kosovo: Parliamentary elections

In Kosovo, the Self-Determination Movement (Vetëvendosje), Prime Minister Albin Kurti's party, hopes to win again in February. Since his landslide supermajority victory in 2021, the opposition has lacked leaders capable of shallonging Kurti. But many helious it won't have a convide for Albin Kurti as Donald Trump's setura gould



of challenging Kurti. But many believe it won't be an easy ride for Albin Kurti as Donald Trump's return could see US pressure on Kosovo to 'deliver' on agreements with Serbia grow. The question will be whether his party will secure a majority or will it have to include representatives of the Serbian community in the government. Srpska Lista, the Serbian ethnic party, has close ties with Serbia which does not recognise Kosovo's independence, declared in 2008, and is backed by key Western powers. After being refused the right to run for Parliamentary seats by the electoral commission, Srpska Lista was finally granted the right to compete by an appeals body on 25 December. The majority of the people (92%) support Kosovo's EU accession. The EU's vision for the Western Balkans is in the EU.

PRAY: For Kosovo to move forward peacefully to a position that favours the population's economy

LINK: https://balkaninsight.com/2025/01/08/kosovo-in-2025-hard-fought-campaign-lies-ahead-as-kurti-pushes-for-re-election/

## **9**<sup>th</sup> **February: Ecuador, Ecuadorian general election, (first round)** (13 April potential second round)



General elections will be held in Ecuador on 9 February 2025. If necessary, a second round will be held on 13 April 2025. Incumbent President Daniel Noboa is running for re-election, having been elected in 2023. The

election will also elect members of the National Assembly to a full four-year term. The presidential candidate is required to get over 50% of the vote, or over 40% of the vote and be 10 points ahead of their nearest rival, to be elected in the first round. The president is limited to two consecutive four-year terms. The country has experienced considerable social, political, and economic tumult in recent years, including a sharp rise in violence fuelled by organized crime and growing criminal involvement in international drug trafficking. In January 2024, President Noboa declared an "internal armed conflict" to "neutralize" more than 20 organized criminal groups following the escape of a gang leader from prison, multiple prison riots, and an armed attack on a television station. The Noboa government has also responded to the crisis with a series of states of emergency, which have been criticized by civil society groups for facilitating human rights abuses, including due process violations and extra-legal state violence. Ecuador's next president will also have to address concerns about the country's economy which has entered a recession. Over the past year, they have faced an unprecedented electricity crisis driven by poorly maintained power plants and a drought that depleted hydroelectric power generation capacity. In October 2024, the government announced that scheduled power cuts would reach 14 hours per day, a duration that has continued to **fluctuate** in the weeks since.

**PRAY:** For God to remove the political dysfunction that has hampered the country in recent years.

LINK: https://freedomhouse.org/country/ecuador/about-project-election-watch/2025

## 15<sup>th</sup> February: Abkhazian, Presidential Election

Presidential elections will be held in the Republic of Abkhazia on 15 February 2025 following the 2024 Abkhazian protests that resulted in the resignation of Aslan Bzhania as president due to protests against an

agreement allowing wealthy Russians to purchase property in Abkhazia. He was replaced on an acting basis by his vice president, Badra Gunba and the People's Assembly of Abkhazia announced new presidential elections would be held on 15 February 2025, with the winner to be inaugurated within 30 days of the results being declared. Assembly speaker Lasha Ashuba has estimated that the election would cost up to 25 million roubles. The ruling party candidate and opposition leader compete for Kremlin loyalty plus three "dark horses." There is no clear favourite among them who could win the election and given the level of protest

sentiment in Abkhazian society and the unpredictability of the situation overall, it is possible that one of these "outsiders" could eliminate one of the initial favourites in the first round.

PRAY: For the election result to be free of Russian connections

LINK: https://www.democracyresearch.org/eng/1562/

#### 23<sup>rd</sup> February: Germany, Federal Election

On Nov. 6, deep ideological differences over economic reform broke up Chancellor Olaf Scholz's three-party coalition government, a development that allowed Germany, a country in economic crisis, to move elections



from September 2025 to February. A key question is whether the vote will produce a winner with a strong enough mandate to make the tough political choices needed to restore vitality to Europe's largest economy. But the thorny subject of immigration hangs over the scene after a Saudi Arabian national carried out a deadly terror attack on a Christmas market in Magdeburg. The far-right Alternative for Germany has surged in recent years with an anti-immigration platform, and is now nearly 20%, ahead of Scholz's Social Democrats, and second only to the conservative Christian Democratic Union. Anti-immigration sentiment is won over by the AfD. CDU/CSU are more economically liberal, are committed to a more integrated Europe, criticises Europe's heavy dependence on the United States, and want Taurus Cruise missiles to be sent to Ukraine. Scholz will lead a caretaker government until the Bundestag, Germany's parliament, elects a new chancellor in April or May. If the CDU maintains its lead, party chief Friedrich Merz will probably be the next chancellor.

**PRAY:** For God to give the voting public reasonable and wise choices for Germany's future regardless of the loud extreme voices getting the most attention.

LINK: https://www.politico.eu/article/elon-musk-afd-versus-germany-olaf-scholz-new-year-election-speech/

#### March

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> March: - Germany, Hamburg State Election

Hamburg Parliament is situated in the city hall and is part of the Government of Hamburg. As of 2020 there are 123 sitting members, representing 17 electoral districts. The parliament is among other things responsible



for the law, the election of the First Mayor for the election period and the control of the Senate (cabinet). All state authority is derived from the people. Inflation in Hamburg has been rising rapidly since 2021. Some factors contributing to this inflation include: The European Central Bank has raised interest rates due to monetary depreciation, causing lenders to raise interest rates on construction loans. The costs of building materials and energy are high. Rents in Hamburg have doubled in 20 years. Prime reletting rents rose by 101 percent, over the same period. Prices for condominiums have quadrupled. The incumbent mayor of Hamburg, Peter Tschentscher, is once again the SPD's lead candidate in the Hamburg 2025 parliamentary elections.

PRAY: For the renewed parliament to be led by God to put a block on un-necessary inflation

**LINK: Click here** 

#### 2nd March: Tajikistan (lower house) Parliamentary Elections

<u>.i.</u>:

Lower House Parliamentary elections are set to be held on 2nd and 28th March 2025. A first round will be held to elect the Assembly of Representatives, and a second to elect the National Assembly of Tajikistan.

Voter turnout must be at least 50% for the election to be valid. However, human rights in Tajikistan are an international concern. Citizens face limited access to basic rights and have limited ability to change the government. Prisoners face torture, threats, and abuse by security forces and have limited access to basic human rights while facing harsh conditions including overcrowding, malnutrition, and tuberculosis. Those accused of crimes are often denied the right to a fair trial, with pre-trial detention often longer than necessary. Public criticism of the regime is not tolerated, and direct protests are suppressed. Local media does not cover direct protests. Religious matters are banned for those under 18, and unregistered mosques are shut down as the government monitors religious institutions to prevent them from becoming political or "extremist". In the 2020 Democracy Index, Tajikistan was ranked 160th, after Saudi Arabia, and was described as an "authoritarian regime".

**PRAY:** For the media to honestly and fairly report on the elections, without government interference.

**LINK:** <a href="https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/europe-and-central-asia/eastern-europe-and-central-asia/tajikistan/report-tajikistan/">https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/europe-and-central-asia/eastern-europe-and-central-asia/tajikistan/report-tajikistan/</a>

And

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Tajikistan, parliamentary elections

parliamentary elections, and in accordance with its mandate, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights undertook a Needs Assessment Mission in December 2024 to assess the pre-election environment and the preparations for the elections. Based on this assessment, they decide whether to deploy an activity for the forthcoming elections, and what type of activity best meets the identified needs. Meetings were held with officials from state institutions and the election administration, as well as with representatives of political parties, media, civil society and the resident international community.

PRAY: For the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to ensure elections are free and fair

In anticipation of an invitation from the authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan to observe the 2 March 2025

LINK: https://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/tajikistan/584347

## 4<sup>th</sup> March: Micronesia, Parliamentary Election

General elections will be held in the Federated States of Micronesia on 4 March to elect ten of the fourteen seats of the Congress of Micronesia for a two-year term. There are no political parties and all candidates stand



as independents in a first-past-the-post voting in single-member constituencies. Four senators (representing each of the four states, Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae) are elected every four years. Micronesia faces a number of health issues, including tuberculosis and leprosy, with leprosy being among the highest in the Pacific. Dengue fever and Zika virus. Micronesia is a tropical island nation that faces poverty with Chuuk having the highest rate at 45.5% and Kosrae having the lowest at 21.0%. Poverty affects households with more children, female heads, and lower education levels. Other factors include a lack of access to electricity and malnutrition. Micronesia's economy is struggling, the gap between rich and poor is growing with few natural resources to export while the fishing industry has become limited. Corruption in government institutions erodes economic freedom and reduce public trust. Christianity is the predominant religion in Micronesia and represents an integral part of the nation's identity.

PRAY: For God to raise up Christian leaders who will work towards relieving poverty and ending government corruption

**LINK:** <a href="https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/europe-and-central-asia/eastern-europe-and-central-asia/tajikistan/report-tajikistan/">https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/europe-and-central-asia/eastern-europe-and-central-asia/tajikistan/report-tajikistan/</a>

## 8<sup>th</sup> March – 10<sup>th</sup> May: Western Australian state election, & Australian Federal Election

This year, Australians will go to the polls for the first time since 2022, when the Labor Party ended nine years of dominance by the conservative Liberal Party. While in power, Labor has passed major climate legislation,



deftly walked the line of preserving Australia's deep economic ties to China while pushing back on Beijing's regional assertiveness, and imposed a landmark, and popular, social media ban for minors. But none of that is the main issue for Australians, which is the economy. And here the Labor Party has struggled, earning terrible marks for rising housing costs, a top concern for more than 90% of voters, according to one industry poll. A flurry of housing legislation in recent months has been too little, too late. The bad vibes extend to wage growth too, even though salaries have grown faster than inflation for the past year. Neither Prime Minister Anthony Albanese nor his main opponent, Liberal Party leader Peter Dutton, is well-liked, meaning Australians are choosing between unpopular options. Whoever wins could easily wind up with a minority government, leaving Australians with a weak government that may be challenged to address big problems. **Australian federal election date** could be April 12 or May 3 or May 10. A recent economic forecast has revealed the cost-of-living crisis will remain until at least 2030. Whatever is decided the Australian federal election must be held on or before May 17, 2025. **Western Australia's State Election** will be held on Saturday 8 March 2025. Voting is compulsory. https://www.elections.wa.gov.au/2025-wa-state-election-0

PRAY: For God to put his hand on Australia and enable the politicians and industry leaders to turn around the failing economy

LINK: https://www.gzeromedia.com/news/analysis/10-elections-to-watch-in-2025

#### 21st March: Curação, General Election

The 21 members of the Parliament of Curação are elected using proportional representation. Poverty affects many aspects of life, including income, education, health, and living standards. Before COVID 31.7% of households lived in poverty. The pandemic made the situation worse. The household debt ratio is above 60%. I



households lived in poverty. The pandemic made the situation worse. The household debt ratio is above 60%. There is inadequate housing and limited job opportunities. The education system has shortcomings, and the young population face high unemployment, educational dropout, and domestic violence. The government and community-based organizations are working to improve urban infrastructure, adapting laws and government frameworks, enhancing the education system, facilitating decent job creation, strengthening welfare and care systems and improving housing

**PRAY:** For the many proposed innovations to improve the lives of Curacao citizens achieve their objectives through the 21 members of the new parliament.

LINK: https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=curacao+poverty

## 28<sup>th</sup> March: Tajikistan (upper house) Parliamentary Elections

The first round of parliamentary elections was held in Tajikistan on 2<sup>nd</sup> March to elect the Assembly of Representatives, and on 28 March 2025 a second to round elect the National Assembly of Tajikistan. However



human rights in Tajikistan are an international concern. Citizens face limited access to basic rights and the citizens have limited ability to change the government. See 2<sup>nd</sup> March above for depth of illegal challenges to a fair and just parliament.

**PRAY:** For the media to honestly and fairly report on the elections, without government interference.

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025\_Tajik\_parliamentary\_election

## **April**

#### 13th April: Ecuador, (Potential) Second Round of General Election

General elections were held in Ecuador on 9 February 2025. If necessary, the second round will be held on 13 April 2025. Incumbent President Daniel Noboa is running for re-election, having been elected in



2023. The election will also elect members of the National Assembly to a full four-year term. The presidential candidate is required to get over 50% of the vote, or over 40% of the vote and be 10 points ahead of their nearest rival, to be elected in the first round. The president is limited to two consecutive four-year terms. The country has experienced considerable social, political, and economic tumult in recent years, including a sharp rise in violence fuelled by organized crime and growing criminal involvement in international drug trafficking.

PRAY: For the second round of votes to result in God's chosen people to lead the country

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025 Ecuadorian general election#Opinion polling

#### 13th April: Finland, Municipal Elections

County elections and municipal elections will be held simultaneously to decide on important matters that affect the everyday lives of the population for the next four years. In the county elections, voters will elect



representatives who decide on the organisation and provision of health and social services and rescue services in wellbeing services counties. In the municipal elections, voters will elect representatives who decide on the activities and finances of municipalities.

**PRAY:** For God to raise up leaders who work together for the benefit of the people and the countries growth.

LINK: <a href="https://vaalit.fi/en/county-elections-and-municipal-elections">https://vaalit.fi/en/county-elections-and-municipal-elections</a>

## May

## 1<sup>st</sup> May, United Kingdom: Local Elections

Local Elections will be held to appoint 2,240 councillors across 1,968 wards in 32 Councils, including all 21 County Councils, 10 Unitary Authorities, and 1 Metropolitan Borough. 21 of these councils are currently



controlled by the Conservative with just 2 for Labour, 9 councils are under no overall control. Of these 9, five are run by Conservative minority administrations, two by Liberal Democrats, and two by Independents. Additionally, 4 combined authority mayoral elections are due to take place. At the time of writing (3/1/25) the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee will hold the first public evidence session to review the administration, process and conduct of the most recent national election. A report highlighted 'a number of significant improvements necessary to support participation and trust in future elections', and references issues with postal voting, overseas voting, and intimidation of candidates and campaigners. The Committee are likely to explore the scale and context of these issues. They may also consider the Commission's earlier report on the requirement for voter ID to be shown for the first time at a UK general election. The Committee is also likely to build on previous committees work and consider the overall state of the UK's electoral law and administration. Consequently some councils could postpone May's local elections to explores local government reform.

**PRAY:** For local elections to be fair and free in the interests of local democracy

**LINK:** <a href="https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/327/public-administration-and-constitutional-affairs-committee/news/204549/mps-to-question-the-electoral-commission-as-inquiry-into-uk-election-kicks-off/">https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/327/public-administration-and-constitutional-affairs-committee/news/204549/mps-to-question-the-electoral-commission-as-inquiry-into-uk-election-kicks-off/">https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/327/public-administration-and-constitutional-affairs-committee/news/204549/mps-to-question-the-electoral-commission-as-inquiry-into-uk-election-kicks-off/">https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/327/public-administration-and-constitutional-affairs-committee/news/204549/mps-to-question-the-electoral-commission-as-inquiry-into-uk-election-kicks-off/</a>

#### 11th May, Albania: Albania, Parliamentary Election

Albania's parliamentary elections will elect the next 140 members of their parliament. In 2021 Edi Rama was re-elected as Prime Minister but faced widespread allegations of violating the constitution, particularly in his



intervention in the electoral process. The parliament initiated impeachment proceedings against Meta, accusing him of undermining the neutrality of the presidency. However, the constitutional court ruled, 'Meta's actions did not constitute a violation of the constitution'. Many expect the ruling Socialist Party to win this year's parliamentary elections and are placing their hopes in anti-corruption bodies to bring some genuine change by battling high-level dishonesty. In 2021 Sali Berisha, another important person in the Democratic Party, was sanctioned by the US State Department for "involvement in significant corruption". The country has been in the throes of a serious political crisis for several years, the political debate being highly polarised between the DP and the socialists, heir to the communist regime and Enver Hoxha's Party of Labour. The opposition has accused the government of sending opposition figures to prison for political reasons. This lack of political plurality coupled with domestic resistance to fighting corruption makes EU accession talks challenging, with the negotiations for EU membership having officially started in 2022.

PRAY: For anti-corruption bodies to bring genuine change by battling corruption in Albania's politicians

**LINK:** <a href="https://balkaninsight.com/2025/01/01/albania-in-2025-parliamentary-elections-approach-but-no-real-alternatives-appear/">https://balkaninsight.com/2025/01/01/albania-in-2025-parliamentary-elections-approach-but-no-real-alternatives-appear/</a>

## 12<sup>th</sup> May, Philippine general election, House of Representatives elections, Senate election, Local elections

The last two years have seen a radical redirection of foreign policy as President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. - the son of the strongman by the same name who ruled from 1965-1986, moves away from China toward the US. But



this shift has caused a major rift with Marcos' predecessor, Rodrigo Duterte, and it's making the upcoming midterm election becoming a dynastic fight. Duterte's daughter, is Marcos' vice president, and relations between the two are frosty. During a November speech she said, "This country is going to hell because we are led by a person who doesn't know how to be a president and who is a liar." She alleged threats to her life by seeming to suggest that she'd arrange retaliatory assassinations of her own. She's denied that her comments represent a threat, but she now faces three impeachment complaints over the threats, alleged misuse of funds, and violating the constitution. Meanwhile Rodrigo Duterte is running for mayor of Davao City, the largest metropolis in the south, where he held office for 20+ years. It's no coincidence. His son is the sitting mayor there, and the hope is that having his name on the ballot will help turn out his base to fill the open senate and house seats with Duterte loyalists. That would allow the clan to check Marcos' actions in the second half of his term and set Sara up for a run at the top job in 2028. Marcos will be term-limited by then. (it's rumoured that his cousin, the house speaker, will succeed him). Corruption risks are rampant throughout the state's judicial system, police service, public services, land administration, and natural resources. The Corruption Perceptions Index scored the Philippines at 115th among the 180 countries in the Index. Over 90% of the population identify as Christian.

**PRAY:** For God to raise up Christian politicians who will end illegitimate private gain, bribery, cronyism, nepotism, influence peddling, and embezzlement.

LINK: https://thediplomat.com/2024/10/whats-old-and-new-in-the-midterm-philippine-elections/

#### **18th May Poland: Presidential election**

The first round of the presidential election will be held on 18 May 2025 and, if necessary, the second round will be held on 1 June 2025. The right-wing party, which controlled Polish politics between 2015 and 2023 with a majority in the parliament, a loyal president, and public media on standby, is once again fielding an underdog candidate to take on a strong favourite the presidential election. Historian Karol Nawrocki was nominated to be PiS's candidate even though he's not a member of the party. In January he was trailing in all polls behind Warsaw Mayor Rafał Trzaskowski, the candidate of Civic Platform. The presidential elections feel like a referendum on the government led by Prime Minister Donald Tusk, in power since December 2023, which unites parties from the left to the centre-right. Tusk (Civic Platform) holds significant sway over day-to-day governance while the President still plays a crucial role. Current President Andrzej Duda from the Law and Justice party has held the position for eight years and has used his veto power to block many of the government's policies. Meanwhile in 2023 the number of people living in extreme poverty rose to 2.5 million and continues to rise (it was even higher among children). People

PRAY: For the next era of politicians to work together successfully to reduce poverty levels

LINK: https://www.politico.eu/article/polands-pis-hopes-its-underdog-presidential-candidate-defeats-the-odds/

living in "relative poverty" is defined as 50% of the average spending of households and is also increasing.

#### 25<sup>th</sup> May: Suriname: General Election

Suriname is a small, resource-rich country with a population of 600,000. The current president, Chan Santokhi, seeks re-election. Owing to limited polling data, the outcome remains uncertain. But these elections



will be pivotal for the country's economic reform agenda and oil prospects and thus its economic future. Corrupt governments have historically undermined the rule of law and economic policymaking, but the current reformist administration is breaking with Suriname's past and has ambitious economic reforms of debt restructuring and enhancing social protections which have driven growth and lowered inflation. However, these reforms have been "politically challenging" with the removal of fuel, electricity, and water subsidies resulting in political costs. Suriname is classified as a net carbon sink, with 93% of its landmass covered by forests. Paradoxically, they recently discovered numerous significant oil and gas reserves off the coast. The country is on the verge of an oil boom. Given Suriname's projected oil wealth, there will be increased global interest in the country.

PRAY: For the next government to be wise as they accommodate the country's anticipated economic surge

LINK: https://jstribune.com/runde-surinames-hinge-election/

## July

## No later than 12<sup>th</sup> July Moldova: Parliamentary elections

There is projected a 'pro-Russian ambush' in Moldovia's parliamentary elections. As a buffer state to Ukraine, Moldavia is facing Russian interference with a disinformation campaign. The referendum on accession to the



European Union in autumn 2024 only passed by 50.35%. For the 2025 legislative elections, the President's party (PAS) will find that if it fails to win a majority, it will have to contend with other political forces, not all of which supported the "Yes" vote in the referendum. These elections will be "a final battle" in Moldova's road to EU membership. Pro-Russian political opposition remains strong. Any threat to jobs and tax revenues in the already weak and Kremlin-reliant economy could undermine the local authorities' hands, potentially affecting pro-Russian candidates' image in the 2025 elections. Moldova's prime minister said that the Kremlin wants to see a pro-Russian government in the future, which would enable it to strengthen its military presence in Transnistria (a landlocked breakaway state internationally recognized as part of Moldova). Moscow has around 1,500 soldiers in

the region bordering Ukraine, acting as 'peacekeepers'. Brussels is closely monitoring the situation, as Moldova is a candidate for EU membership, and the EU is Moldova's main financial backer.

PRAY: For the Moldovans to have wisdom and discernment when observing pro-Russian political nominees

LINK: https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2025/01/07/moldova-accuses-russia-of-provoking-crisis-in-transnistria

## No later than 27<sup>th</sup> July Japan: House of Councillors Election and Tokyo Prefectural Election



Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba called on his fellow ruling party lawmakers to unite toward this summer's key election as the Liberal Democratic Party aims to retain majority control of the House of Councillors with its

coalition partner the Komeito party. The upper house election will be critical for Ishiba, who heads the LDP, after the ruling coalition lost its majority in the more powerful House of Representatives in a general election last year. As an advanced economy with a shrinking population, Japan prospects for trade growth are inevitably limited. Elections in 2024 highlighted social media's influence, with underdog candidates surprisingly winning after positive portrayals and convincing narratives boosted their popularity online. As more people acquire information from social media rather than traditional news outlets such as TV, what circulates online should no longer be a "black box," and political parties must promote a balanced digital space. A recent telephone survey revealed 85.5% of respondents expressed concern about the spread of unverified information on social media during election campaigns and frequent exposure to such content affectis how people vote.

**PRAY:** For journalists to improve how social media is used during elections and prevent distorted information from being exploited by people attempting to benefit from the trend,.

LINK: https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20241230/p2g/00m/0na/023000c

## **August**

## 17<sup>th</sup> August Bolivia: Bolivia, General Election



Things have been tense in the landlocked Andean state after a poorly organized coup attempt against sitting President Luis Arce, and allegations of an assassination attempt on his mentor-turned-arch-rival former

President Evo Morales. Their rivalry is compounding an uncertain economic future in South America's poorest country. Although Bolivia once had a thriving natural gas industry, citizens are now demonstrating against unaffordable fuel and energy prices and getting little help from the authorities, who are busy weaponizing the justice system against political rivals and manoeuvring to control the left-wing Movement for Socialism party, currently dominating Bolivian politics. Former President Evo Morales wants to run as the candidate for the ruling Mas party in 2025's presidential elections, but the constitutional court ruled he is ineligible to run. Morales was declared the winner of the 2019 election, but resigned weeks later after protests and reports of irregularities in the vote count. He went into exile. However, Bolivia's court system is deeply politicized, and Morales could find a way back onto the ballot and run as vice president with Senate leader Andrónico Rodríguez at the top of the ticket.

**PRAY:** For independent election observers to oversee the Election, as they did in 2005, to ensure all conduct and controls are fair and within the constitution.

LINK: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cx24ed766lpo

## 25<sup>th</sup> August Burundi: Village-based elections

Since 2015, Burundi has faced major socio-political and economic challenges, including internal divisions within major political parties, high poverty rates, severe currency devaluation, and worsening living



conditions. The current systems for managing power have not yet succeeded in addressing the key issues needed to improve the well-being of the people. It is hoped village based elections could help find solutions or at least bring some relief to desperate citizens and ease current political tensions. They offer an important opportunity to strengthen democratic institutions and practices; make needed electoral reforms; and ensure that diverse voices and groups are represented in the political process.

**PRAY:** That the these and other scheduled elections (legislative, local government, and presidential) will provide a chance for Burundians to once more place their trust in political leaders to tackle the country's challenges and work towards a better future.

LINK: https://nimd.org/laying-the-groundwork-for-inclusive-and-peaceful-elections-in-burundi/

## September

#### 8<sup>th</sup> September Norway: Parliamentary election

On 8 September, Norway will hold parliamentary elections to decide the makeup of the 169-seat Storting and indicate who might become the next prime minister. Jonas Gahr Støre, leader of the centre-left Labour Party,



currently holds the position. The Nordic countries are among the richest in the world and significantly above the EU average. Norway is top of that Nordic ranking. As seen across Europe, polls suggest a shift towards right-wing parties. The far-right Progress Party is expected to come out on top in Norway followed by the centre-right Conservative Party. Some are asking, 'Will the EU's rightward shift reach Norway?'

**PRAY:** For the political landscape after the election to support the needs of Norway's people

**LINK:** https://www.google.co.uk/search?

## 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> September Russia: Elections

The 2025 Russian elections will be held mostly on Sunday, 14 September 2025 (single election day), with several regions likely to allow voting on 12 and 13 September. Voters will be casting their ballot for the Duma



by-elections to fill vacant seats in the lower house of parliament, as well as for governors in 18 regions, regional parliaments in 11 regions, and local government representatives across various areas. However, there are growing concerns regarding the fairness of these elections. Media freedom remains severely restricted, and political opponents continue to face harsh repression, personified by the death of opposition leader Alexei Navalny. These issues cast a long shadow over the integrity of the electoral process.

**PRAY:** For the Russian elections not to be a foregone conclusion

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2025 Russian elections

## 16<sup>th</sup> September Malawi: General Election

84-year-old former president, Peter Mutharika, will lead the main opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) into the presidential election. After governing Malawi for six years he suggested he would not run for

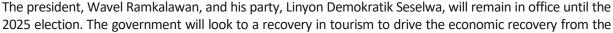


office again. He surprised many with a change of heart, saying his supporters want him to save the country from being ruined by President Lazarus Chakwera. Mr Mutharika lost to Mr Chakwera in 2020, in a re-run that was ordered after it annulled the previous year's election. Judges ruled there was widespread tampering in the 2019 vote, including the use of Tipp-Ex correction fluid on ballot papers, and Mr Mutharika's declared victory in that poll was void. Following a period of internal squabbling, the DPP expelled several members including those who wanted to challenge Mr Mutharika for the party presidency, paving the way for him to be re-elected party leader unopposed.

**PRAY:** For the judiciary to bar a second-rate election and for the administration to create a system that prevents corruption from flourishing.

LINK: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c78l44xvy1mo

#### 27<sup>th</sup> September Seychelles: General Election





recent recession caused by the coronavirus. Sadly, as a holiday destination Trip Adviser warned, when talking to locals about the government only corruption and scam stories come up despite the country being ranked internationally as having low corruption. The government are not helping to fight local drug addiction. Heroin abuse is the highest in the world. Although the World Bank has designated Seychelles as a "high income" country, its wealth is not evenly distributed. There is a high level of income inequality and poverty with many living on low incomes, or being unemployed, or living in large households. Plus 10% of the population is dependent on heroin in what is now an epidemic.

PRAY: For the next president and government to recognise the people's needs and the levels of corruption to be addressed.

LINK: <a href="http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/">http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/</a>

#### **October**

## 5<sup>th</sup> October Cameroon: Presidential Election, & Parliamentary Election

The previous presidential elections in 2018 saw incumbent president 92 year old Paul Biya, who has ruled Cameroon for over four decades, elected for another seven-year term after constitutional amendments that



removed term limits. Other candidates are Maurice Kamto, aged 71, a retired academic and lawyer, representing the Movement for the Renaissance of Cameroon (MRC). Kamto is also supported by the Alliance For Change and the Front for Change in Cameroon. Eric Essono Tsimi is a 43-year-old candidate, an academic based in New York and a writer. He announced his "civil and civic" candidacy on Naja TV and his campaign is being carried out under the platform We Are the Change. Tsimi has also been engaged in negotiations with various other political parties. The candidate with the most votes is declared the winner with no requirement to achieve a majority. Parliamentary elections are also due to be held in 2025. The 180 members are elected from 58 single- and multi-member constituencies based on the departments. Meanwhile, journalists say attacks on reporters have surged as the country prepares for elections. President. Rights groups say journalists have been assaulted by gunmen, while several reporters and a radio station have been ordered to stop broadcasting. See https://www.voanews.com/a/cameroon-media-denounce-surge-in-attacks-as-2025-election-nears/7763874.html

PRAY: For journalists to be protected, for the public to choose men and women who will put the public first and not their prestige, positions or egos

LINK: http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/

#### 11th October New Zealand: Local Elections

The 2025 New Zealand local elections will be held on 11 October 2025. Local government in New Zealand has triennial elections to elect city and district mayors and councillors, regional councillors, and members of local



boards. Most city and district councils will also hold a local referendum on Māori wards. There are six parliamentary parties in the 54th Parliament. The coalition government said policies should be provided on the basis of need, not race and its policy shifts are designed to remedy inequities for Māori. When it took office last year, the change in approach sparked a fire in Kapa-Kingi, prompting the inception of the Toitū te Tiriti movement. Kapa-Kingi has become the most recognised face of the Toitū te Tiriti movement. He mobilised the largest protest in support of Māori rights in New Zealand's history. By the time it reached parliament 42,000 people had flooded the streets. Many fear the proposed policy would threaten Māori rights and erode the Māori relationship with ruling authorities. Many believe the bill has prompted anger and is creating division between central and local authorities. Under a new law, councils that established a Māori ward from 2020 without a referendum had to either scrap the ward or hold a binding public poll during the 2025 local elections. The fate of those wards will be left in the hands of voters when a referendum is held during local elections in 2025. By January 2025 Mayors and councillors across the country spoke about the rising tide of threats, abuse and racism.

PRAY: For equal rights and opportunities for indigenous people across all of New Zealand

LINK: https://www.theguardian.com/world/new-zealand-politics

#### 19th October Estonia: Local Elections

During 2024 and early 2025 Estonian political parties have been recruiting new members, many of whom will run for office in October and also for the next Riigikogu elections are scheduled for 2027. The Centre Party's current chair Mihhail Kõlvart, said that businesses, teachers and people in the cultural field have joined the party and could participate in the local elections. "We are working toward winning the local elections. But we understand very well that we will only be able to change Estonian politics for the better in 2027," said an Isamaa Party member. Other parties include the Social Democratic Party and the Reform Party. While Estonia is generally safe and peaceful, it still has one of the highest intentional homicide rates in the EU. There are reports of law enforcement officials using excessive force when arresting suspects. Some prison inmates reportedly have inadequate access to health care. There are NATO forces in Estonia, including the UK-led Forward Land Forces' battlegroup with UK and French forces, and the rotational presence of over 600 U.S. troops, who demonstrate the allied commitment to defence in the Baltic region and a deterrent against potential aggression.

PRAY: For Estonia's politicians to unite in developing a country with less violence and avoid becoming entangled in Russia/Ukraine unrest

LINK: https://www.britannica.com/place/Estonia

#### 20th October Canada: Canada Federal Election

Canada's federal election is scheduled to take place on October 20, in a fixed-date provision which requires federal elections to be held on the third Monday in October in the fourth calendar year after the polling day of the previous election. The 'first past the post' system means the candidate with more votes than any other candidate wins a

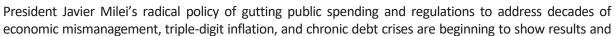


seat in the House of Commons and represents that riding as its MP. The party that wins the most seats in the House of Commons forms government, with that party's leader becoming prime minister. Among the challenges for the next government is the violent crime rate (murder, robbery, assault with a weapon, etc.) that has increased by 44% compared to 5% in the U.S. Also human trafficking has become a significant legal and political issue in the country, and Canadian legislators have been criticized for having failed to deal with the problem in a more systematic way. Indigenous peoples are often cut off from resources and traditions that are vital to their identity, wellbeing, and survival, they have experienced abuse of their land rights, - members of the Wet'suwet'en Nation were charged with criminal contempt for defying a court injunction to stay away from a pipeline construction site on their ancestral territory, - first nations fishermen have been arrested and harassed by federal fisheries officers for fishing in treaty-protected areas.

**PRAY:** For God to give the next government the wisdom and discernment that will enable them to curtail the tangle of challenges facing the nation.

LINK: https://www.google.co.uk/search?

#### 26<sup>th</sup> October Argentina: Legislative Election





Milei has proven many of his haters wrong. The economy, Latin America's third largest, emerged from recession in late 2024. Inflation has fallen from 25% per month to less than 3%. Economists expect the economy to grow as much as 5% in 2025. But, at the same time, the number of Argentines living in poverty has soared to 53%, since he took office. There have been large protests against his spending cuts. And he has yet to take some big, and potentially painful, steps which could stoke inflation again. Milei's small, libertarian party, "Liberty Advances", currently lacks a majority in both houses, but he hopes to change that and is pleading for voters to make a "big rumble in the elections." At the time of writing La Libertad Avanza is the front-runner in polls, with 46% saying they were ready to cast a ballot for Milei's party, compared to 14% for the traditional left-wing Peronist party and 7% for the establishment right.

PRAY: For the next government to successfully and positively transform Argentina's financial position.

LINK: https://gfmag.com/economics-policy-regulation/argentina-milei-administration-eliminates-deficit/

#### **November**

## 4<sup>th</sup> November USA: Gubernatorial & Legislative Elections

United States gubernatorial elections (election of a state governor) will be held in New Jersey and Virginia. These elections will be held as part of the 2025 United States elections. The last gubernatorial elections for

New Jersey and Virginia were in 2021. Both incumbents are ineligible to run for re-election due to term limits. More states may hold elections due to a gubernatorial vacancy (depending on a state's constitution) or recall of a governor. There are 27 Republican governors and 23 Democratic governors in the United States. Governors are responsible for implementing state laws and overseeing the operation of the state executive branch. As state leaders, governors advance and pursue new and revised policies and programs using executive orders, executive budgets, legislative proposals and legislative vetoes.

**PRAY:** For the new governors to wisely control their government budgeting, appointing judges and commute or pardon criminal sentences in their four-year term of office.

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/

Michael D. Higgins' 14 years in office.

#### Before 12th November: Ireland: Presidential Election

The President of Ireland serves as Ireland's Head of State for seven years and can serve two terms in total. Their constitutional roles include: Appointment of the Taoiseach (The Taoiseach may advise the President to dismiss cabinet ministers from office; which the President does not have discretion on), Appointment of members of the Government, judges and other officials; Summoning and dissolving the Dáil and convening the Oireachtas. (The Dáil and Oireachtas are part of the law-making branch of the Irish State); Signing legislation into law and/or referring Bills to the Supreme Court. The most important issues facing Ireland at the moment are rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living and immigration. In 2020 the leader of the Fianna Fáil party became the new Taoiseach head of government), forming a historic three-party coalition of Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael and the Green Party. It was the first time in history that Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael were in the same government. No official date has been set yet, but it must be before November 2025 to elect a new president, ending the popular

**PRAY:** For Ireland to continue to be a stable democracy in which political rights and civil liberties are respected and defended without societal discrimination.

LINK: https://www.breakingnews.ie/explained/2025-presidential-election-how-does-it-work-who-could-run-1711472.html

#### **16th November Chile: General Election (**first round**)**

Chile's presidential election will take place on the 16th November and a runoff will likely take place in December. That will be between the top two candidates.



The incumbent president, Gabriel Boric, is barred from running for a second consecutive term. Elected in 2021 at the age of 35 — making him Chile's youngest-ever president — Boric has had great difficulty enacting the program of his Broad Front, a left-wing coalition with a platform of sweeping political, social and economic changes. This is in large part due to the coalition's lack of a parliamentary majority. In fact, Chile under Boric has the dubious distinction of being the only country to have rejected not one but two different constitutional texts submitted to the electorate — one for being too left-wing, the other for being too right-wing — placing Chile in a constitutional cul-de-sac. Yet, after several years of upheaval that started in 2019 with the most serious social uprising in Chile's two centuries of independence history. The country has now regained a modicum of political and economic normalcy with foreign investment up, but so is crime, which has become a major concern to voters. Chileans are eager for a serious attempt to tackle growing drug crime and violence, which have surged in part due to the arrival of organized crime gangs from Venezuela. Chile initially welcomed Venezuelan refugees and migrants, more so than other immigrant groups, but the five-fold growth of the Venezuelan population has led to major changes in policy and increasingly negative public attitudes. Also, Chile's government registered 21,126 homeless people recently. Social workers put the real count around 40,000. Over the last four years, the rate of homelessness in one of South America's richest economies has jumped more than 30%, transforming the streets of a country that prides itself on its prosperity.

**PRAY:** For the next government to successfully work together to end the rise in crime, illegal immigration, and drug gangs.

LINK: https://www.american.edu/sis/news/20250102-five-elections-to-watch-in-2025.cfm

#### 18<sup>th</sup> November Denmark: Local Elections

The politics of Denmark take place within the framework of a parliamentary representative democracy, a constitutional monarchy and a decentralised unitary state in which the monarch of Denmark, King Frederik X,



is the head of state. Denmark is a nation state. Danish politics and governance are characterized by a common striving for broad consensus on important issues, within both the political community and society as a whole. Executive power is exercised by the cabinet of Denmark (commonly known as the Government), presided over by the Prime Minister. Denmark has a multi-party system, with two large parties, and several other small but significant parties. No single party has held an absolute majority since the beginning of the 20th century. The degree of transparency and accountability is reflected in the public's high level of satisfaction with the political institutions, while Denmark is considered one of the least corrupt countries in the world by international organizations. The Economist Intelligence Unit rated Denmark as "full democracy" and in 2023 considered the most electoral democratic country in the world.

**PRAY:** For the 2025 elections to continue to run as smoothly as previous years.

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics\_of\_Denmark

#### **Before 23<sup>rd</sup> November: Singapore General Elections**

General elections are due to be held in Singapore no later than 23 November 2025. They will be the fourteenth since independence. The People's Action Party won a majority of seats in 2020 in its toughest contest since independence. The Republic of Singapore is an island and city state, the smallest country, by surface area, in Sou



independence. The Republic of Singapore is an island and city state, the smallest country, by surface area, in Southeast Asia. It is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. Singapore comprises a main island, three larger and 58 smaller islands. Singapore is one of the most expensive cities in the world due to high rental prices, high cost of groceries, public transport and taxis, and public healthcare is only accessible to permanent residents. Singapore skilled workers can earn a good salary and tax rates are capped at 22%.

**PRAY:** For Singapore to attract investments from the world by offering what is needed and wanted by the global economy. May they adapt to market changes, so they stay relevant to the world.

LINK: https://www.sg101.gov.sg/

### **December**

#### 14th or 21st December Chilie: General Election (potential second round)

General elections are expected to be held in Chile in 2025 as for members of the National Congress and the president. The president is elected using the two-round system; if no candidate receives a majority of the vote in the first round assessed round will be held in the National Congress 155 more by a first round.



in the first round, a second round will be held. In the National Congress 155 members of the Chamber of Deputies are elected from 28 multi-member constituencies. The 50 members of the Senate are elected for eight-year terms. Senators are elected from 16 multi-member constituencies of between two and five seats based on the regions. Chile has made progress in reducing poverty over the last 30 years, but poverty and inequality remain high by OECD standards. About 28,600 families live in 533 identified slums. Transparency International ranked Chili as having the 5<sup>th</sup> worst corruption the countries of the Americas, behind Canada, Uruguay, Barbados and the United States.

**PRAY:** For the voting public to choose uncorrupted congress members and a president who will forcefully end the bribing culture in government, commerce and industry

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/