

FSD2316 VAALILIITOT EDUSKUNTAVAALEISSA 1945-2007

FSD2316 ELECTORAL ALLIANCES IN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 1945-2007

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# Appendix A

## Term definitions and party and electoral district codes

### A.1 Electoral alliance

An electoral alliance is an association of two or more political parties formed solely to stand in elections. Its purpose is to improve the position of the involved parties compared to them standing alone. Electoral alliances can be either ideological or technical in nature. In an ideological electoral alliance, ideologically coherent political parties support each other, whereas in a technical electoral alliance, parties are allied in pursuit of benefit.

### A.2 Advantageousness and disadvantageousness of the electoral alliance

Each alliance in each electoral district were split one by one, and it was calculated whether the political parties participating in them would have received more, as many, or fewer seats in the parliament if they had remained unallied in the elections. The basic assumption behind the calculation was that each party participating in the alliances would have received an equal number of votes if they had been unallied. If the party would have received less seats unallied than by participating in an electoral alliance, the alliance was considered advantageous to the party.

If the party would have received more seats unallied than by participating in the electoral alliance, the alliance was considered disadvantageous to the party. If the party participating in the electoral alliance would have received the same number of seats unallied as by participating in the electoral alliance, the alliance was considered neither advantageous nor disadvantageous to the party.

If the electoral alliance had been advantageous to at least one of the parties involved, and simultaneously disadvantageous to none of them, it was calculated which of the parties involved would have received the seat received by the alliance, in case the alliance in question had not existed.

The advantageousness (hyoty and hyoty2) and disadvantageousness (haitta and haitta2) of the electoral alliance to the participating party as well as the disadvantageousness (ulkop and ulkop2) of the alliance to a party not participating in the alliance were coded in the data using party codes.

## **A.3 Electoral districts**

The division to electoral districts in the data follows the division of each election year. Between 1962 and 2007, there were no great changes in the division to electoral districts in Finland. Changes before 1962 were roughly as follows:

In the 1945 elections, Viipuri Province West and Viipuri Province East electoral districts were changed into Kymi Province West and Kymi Province East electoral districts. In the 1948 elections, the division was changed so that the Province of Kymi formed one electoral district instead of two. In addition, the Province of Åland was included as a separate electoral district for the first time in the 1948 parliamentary elections. The province had earlier been part of Turku Province South electoral district.

The City of Helsinki was separated into its own electoral district from Uusimaa electoral district in 1952, and it was included in parliamentary elections for the first time in 1954.

Central Finland (Keski-Suomi) electoral district was formed in 1960 largely from the area of earlier Vaasa Province East electoral district. At the same time, Vaasa Province South and North districts were combined into Vaasa Province electoral district. This change came into effect in the 1962 parliamentary elections.

## **A.4 Number of seats in electoral districts**

In Finnish parliamentary elections, 200 MPs are elected to Parliament. The number of representatives from each electoral district is proportional to the number of Finnish citizens residing in the district. However, one representative is always elected from the electoral district of Åland. The Council of State decides on the division of the elected representatives between the electoral districts.

## **A.5 Counting the votes**

In Finland, MPs are elected through proportional representation (PR). The so-called d'Hondt method is used to determine the election results. Thus, in the first stage of the calculation, the total number of votes of each group (i.e. party which does not belong to an electoral alliance, electoral alliance, joint list, and constituency association which does not belong to a joint list) is counted. In the second stage, each candidate is accorded a comparative index, i.e. the candidate who has received most personal votes is accorded an index which equals the total number of votes of the group, the second best candidate half of that, the third best a third, and so on. The comparative index for a candidate of a constituency association which does not belong to a joint list is his/her personal number of votes. In the final stage, all candidates within the electoral district are listed in order from best to worst according to their comparative index, and the representatives elected from the district are chosen from this list.

## A.6 Party codes and abbreviations

Code	Abbreviation	Party	Elections
1	ML	Agrarian League	1945 - 1962
	KESK	Center Party	1966 - 1987
	KESK	Centre Party of Finland	1991 - 2007
2	KOK	National Coalition Party	1945 - 1948
	KOK	National Coalition Party	1951 - 2007
3	SDP	Finnish Social Democratic Party	1945 - 2007
4	VAS	Left Alliance	1991 - 2007
5	VIHR	Green League	1991 - 2007
	VIHR	Green lists	1983
	VIHR	Greens	1987
6	RKP	Swedish People's Party in Finland	1945 - 2007
7	KD	Christian Democrats	2003 - 2007
	SKL	Christian League of Finland	1958 - 1999
8	PS	True Finns	1999 - 2007
9	SKP	Communist Party of Finland	1999 - 2007
10	RSES	Independent Pensioners of Finland	1991
	EKA	Pensioners for the People	1995 - 2003
	SSP	Finnish Senior Citizens' Party	2007
11	VSL	Alliance for Free Finland	1995 - 1999
	IP	Independence Party	2007
12	SKS	Finnish People's Blue-whites	2003 - 2007
13	LKP	Liberal Party	1966 - 1999
	LIB	Liberals	2003 - 2007
14	KA	For the Poor	2003 - 2007
15	KTP	For Peace and Socialism - Communist Worker's Party	1991 - 2007
16	STP II	Workers' Party of Finland	2007
17	SNKY	Finland Rises - People Unite	2003
	SIK	Patriotic People's Movement	2007
18	EVY	Party for Pensioners and Green Mutual Responsibility	1991
	YVP	Joint Responsibility Party	1995 - 2007
19	EPV	Ecological Party The Greens	1991
	EKO	Ecological Party	1995
	KIPU	Ecological Party	1999 - 2003
20	MVS	Forces for Change in Finland	2003
21	SEP	Finnish Pensioners' Party	1987 - 1999
22	REM	Reform Group	1999
23	SMP	Finnish Rural Party	1970 - 1995
	SPP	Smallholders' Party of Finland	1962 - 1966
24	NUORS	Progressive Finnish Party	1995
	NUORS	Progressive Finnish Party	1999
25	LLP	Natural Law Party	1995 - 1999
26	NAISL	Womens' Movement	1991
	NAISP	Womens' Party	1995
27	IPU	Humanity Party	1991
28	SPK	Finnish Constitutional People's Party	1975
	PKP	Constitutional People's Party	1979

	POP	Constitutional Party of Finland	1983 - 1991
29	SKDL	Democratic League of the People of Finland	1945 - 1987
30	DEVA	Democratic Alternative	1987
31	SKYP	Unification Party of the Finnish People	1975 - 1979
	KVL	Union for Democracy	1983
32	SYP	Private Entrepreneurs' Party in Finland	1975 - 1979
33	STP I	Socialist Workers' Party	1975 - 1979
34	TPSL	Social Democratic Union of Workers and Small Farmers	1962 - 1972
35	YP	Entrepreneurs' Party	1970
36	ISP	Independence Party	1966
37	LIST	Write-in lists	1966
38	L-SKrN	Christian Women of Western Finland	1966
39	P-SKrM	Christian-Minded of Northern Savonia	1966
40	KP	People's Party	1951 - 1962
41	SPP- OPP	Opposition of Smallholders' Party of Finland	1962
42	VML	Liberal League	1951 - 1962
43	KYL	League of People's Cooperation	1958
44	ML- OPP	Opposition of Agrarian League	1958
45	VTV	List of Free Economy	1958
46	VKKL	List of Free Citizens and Centre	1958
47	SDP- OPP	Opposition of Finnish Social Democratic Party	1958
48	PP	Smallholders' Party	1945 - 1954
49	SuKP	Finnish People's Party	1951
50	RadKP	Radical People's Party	1945 - 1951
51	RVP	Swedish Liberal Party	1948
52	RV	Swedish Left	1945
53	ED	National Progressive Party	1945 - 1948
54	SuKsP	Center Party	1962
55	AHV	Representative from Åland	1945 - 2007
56	MUUT	Others	1945 - 2007

## A.7 Electoral district codes

Code	Electoral district
1	Helsinki (1995 - 2007)/City of Helsinki (1954 - 1995)
2	Uusimaa (1995 - 2007)/Uusimaa Province (1945 - 1995)
3	Finland Proper (Varsinais-Suomi) (1999 - 2007)/Turku Province South (1945 - 1995)
4	Satakunta (1999 - 2007)/Turku Province North (1945 - 1995)
5	Åland (1948 - 2007)
6	Häme (1999 - 2007)/Häme Province South (1945 - 1995)
7	Pirkanmaa (1999 - 2007)/Häme Province North (1945 - 1995)
8	Kymi (1999 - 2007)/Kymi Province (1948 - 1995)
9	Southern Savonia (Etelä-Savo) (2003 - 2007)/Mikkeli (1999)/Mikkeli Province (1945 - 1995)

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- 10 Northern Savonia (Pohjois-Savo) (2003 - 2007)/Kuopio (1999)/Kuopio Province (1962 - 1995)/Kuopio Province West (1945 - 1958)
- 11 North Karelia (Pohjois-Karjala) (1999 - 2007)/North Karelia Province (1962 - 1995)/Kuopio Province East (1945 - 1958)
- 12 Vaasa (1999 - 2007)/Vaasa Province (1962 - 1995)
- 13 Central Finland (Keski-Suomi) (1999 - 2007)/Central Finland Province (1962 - 1995)/Vaasa Province East (1945 - 1958)
- 14 Oulu (1999 - 2007)/Oulu Province (1945 - 1995)
- 15 Lapland (Lappi) (1999 - 2007)/Lapland Province (1945 - 1995)
- 16 Vaasa Province South (1945 - 1958)
- 17 Vaasa Province North (1945 - 1958)
- 18 Kymi Province West (1945)
- 19 Kymi Province East (1945)

Nb. Uusimaa Province electoral district included the City of Helsinki 1945 - 1951  
Turku Province South electoral district included Åland 1945