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## COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PROCEDURE AND IMMUNITIES

**Seminar on  
"The role of the opposition in a democratic parliament"**

***Stockholm, 10 December 2004***

**Study prepared on the basis of replies to a questionnaire**

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## **Role of the parliamentary opposition**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Political systems in Europe today are essentially made up of three types of power: legislative, executive and judicial. Thanks to the notions of the separation of powers and balance between powers, the remit of each one is clearly identified. The role of parliamentary chambers is often defined in countries' constitutions. They are meant to prepare legislation and control the executive. Legislative power is jointly shared with governments, whose activities are subject to parliamentary control.

In a system of representative democracy, parliamentary chambers also provide a forum for political debate, in which different viewpoints can be expressed and social issues addressed.

The administrative structure of these chambers includes supervisory bodies (bureau, conference of presidents, etc.). They are also divided into political groups (or clubs, factions, etc.). The purpose of this study is to provide a broad overview of the ways and means given to parliamentary opposition parties to express their views and participate in the work of parliaments<sup>1</sup>.

### **A - Rights of the opposition**

#### **1. Parliamentary status**

Every elected parliamentarian or senator enjoys a status which confers on them a certain number of rights and duties, regardless of their allegiance to the majority or the opposition. They may also be granted immunity, protecting them from prosecution during their term of office. There are no special provisions for members of the opposition.

It is this status which guarantees the principle of equal access to parliamentary resources and services for all parliamentarians: they all benefit from exactly the same information, financial and human resources and technical equipment, whichever party they belong to. These resources may not be given to each elected representative directly, but via the political groups. If this is the case, they are allocated in accordance with the size of the respective group.

This principle of equal access is widely upheld in all chambers of the Council of Europe member states.

However, there may be some exceptions. Discrimination may be exercised in favour of either the opposition or small parties. This may take the form of an increase in the standard budget: this is the case in the Czech Chamber of Deputies, which applies a coefficient of 1.3 to opposition groups<sup>2</sup>. It may also take the form of higher *per capita* quotas for small parties or independent parliamentarians: this is the case in the Polish Sejm.

#### **2. Constitutional texts**

Most constitutions do not recognise the particular status of a member of the opposition in relation to the functioning of parliamentary chambers. There is rarely a legal basis for this notion. However, the Georgian Constitution does grant special status to a parliamentary minority if the number of representatives within a minority faction is greater than half the number of majority members. The same is true of the Portuguese Constitution.

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<sup>1</sup> On the basis of a questionnaire sent to the different parliamentary assemblies of the Council of Europe member states (appendix 1).

<sup>2</sup> Government ministers remain members of the assembly, as part of the majority group, which can have an impact in financial terms.

On the other hand, constitutions do set out various provisions and rules of procedure for parliaments, guaranteeing the opposition certain working conditions such as:

- rules on the proportional composition of committees,
- rules of procedure for elections to certain posts,
- rules for submissions to the Council of State,
- rules for placing texts on the agenda.

However, some constitutions provide a number of rights for the opposition. Under the Croatian Constitution, the chairperson of a parliamentary inquiry committee must be appointed by a majority of opposition representatives. The same principle is enshrined in a draft amendment to the Italian Constitution, which extends this rule to cover chairpersons of internal investigation and monitoring committees of the Chamber of Deputies. The opposition is therefore given constitutional responsibility in the monitoring field, which is an essential task of any parliament.

### 3. Parliamentary statutes and rules

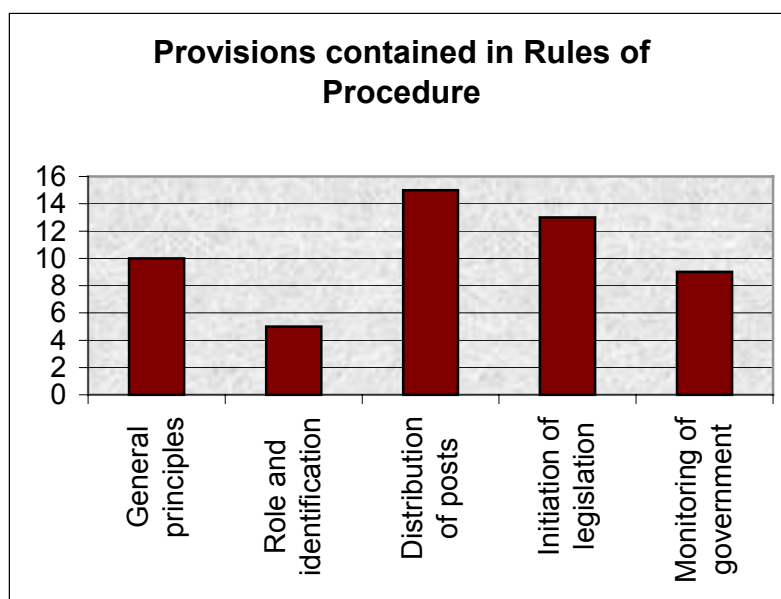
The rights of the opposition are usually laid down in the statutes, rules or procedures that govern the activities of parliaments. Around half of the statutes and rules of procedure examined contain specific provisions concerning the opposition.

General principles are often set out in relation to the need for proportional representation in committees. Some provisions guarantee access to certain posts or functions, particularly ensuring that members of the opposition are appointed as committee chairpersons and/or vice-chairpersons.

Statutes and rules of procedure particularly tend to define rights linked to the ability to carry out parliamentary activities properly. These are the subject of 42% of the provisions of the statutes and rules examined.

The principal subject of these provisions is the opposition's right to initiate legislation: the rights of the leader and group, the right to place texts on the agenda, the obligation to examine their proposals, the right to prepare specific reports, etc.

Monitoring of government activities is also covered: organisation of oral questions, procedures for the tabling of censure motions, time for replies to written questions, etc. are the topics most frequently dealt with.



In some texts, the parliamentary opposition is given a formal status, which entitles it to certain additional rights and resources. However, these provisions are subject to certain conditions: numerical criteria for the constitution of a group, proclamation in a sitting with a speech explaining a political position, appointment of a leader of the opposition to represent it within the chamber's supervisory bodies.

This is the case in the United Kingdom House of Commons, where the role of the opposition and its leader is formally recognised in Erskine May's guide to parliamentary procedure. Under the traditional global pattern of a bipolar system of political forces, the opposition can be objectively identified. The largest minority party is prepared to take over should the government resign. For this reason, a group of opposition parliamentarians, known as the Shadow Cabinet, enjoys specific rights regarding the drafting of agendas, censure motions and precedence in submitting questions to ministers.

#### 4. Other approaches

Texts which do not make specific reference to the opposition contain general rules, principles and equal rights applicable to all political groups.

Membership of an opposition group is not therefore a criterion in itself in relation to the tabling of bills. As far as appointments to positions of responsibility are concerned, procedures may follow the principle of proportional representation of the political groups present, fair appointments and balanced representation within decision-making bodies, or even joint responsibility. Posts are distributed on a rather informal basis. These practices are often based on traditions or customary rules.

Other practical provisions guaranteeing the rights of minority parties might include:

- A representation threshold: the Armenian National Assembly gives every political group the right to have at least one representative in each committee;
- A variable numerus clausus: the number of seats in the Bureau of the Swedish Parliament is normally limited to ten for reasons of smooth functioning. The composition of the Bureau is based on two criteria: it should reflect the strength of the different parties and include at least one representative of each party. If this is impossible to achieve, the rules state that additional members should be admitted with the right to speak but not to vote.

## **B – Instruments**

### 1. Questioning the government

All parliamentarians enjoy equal rights to information from the government. This principle is usually achieved through a series of rules governing questions to the executive.

There are two types of question, written and oral, each of which can take different forms. They are both used in most parliaments, but not all, since some constitutions are restrictive for one chamber or the other. Senates do not always have this prerogative.

Each type of question has its advantages, depending on the parliamentarian's objective. Written questions are a particularly important parliamentary tool because the reply may, in some countries, have legal force. Governments choose this route in order to clarify matters which might previously have been open to differing interpretations. As far as oral questions are concerned, parliamentarians may be able to respond in turn to the minister's reply.

Some parliaments allow other types of oral question to be addressed to the government. For example, the government may face an hour of topical questions, broadcast live on television once or several times a week. These "question times" or "government hours" are important sessions which allow the opposition to demonstrate its role to the public.

Conditions for the tabling of questions and for replying to the parliamentarians may be laid down in the rules of procedure. The allocation of speaking time during topical question sessions is organised with great precision: speaking time is weighted according to the size of each group, sessions are organised to ensure a balance of speakers, speaking times are respected. A quota of questions per parliamentarian may be fixed for a set period. Governments usually have a certain time limit in which they must reply to written questions. This can vary between one day and three months.

Governments are not the only bodies that can be required to answer written or oral questions. In the Georgian Parliament, other organs can also be questioned: state agencies answerable to the Parliament, mayors and persons responsible for the various local and regional authorities.

## 2. Monitoring government activities

### ***Parliamentary committees of inquiry***

The right to ask for a committee of inquiry to be set up is widely recognised, unless it is inconsistent with the constitutional role of the chamber concerned. There are numerous provisions to ensure that this right can be properly exercised at every stage, from the right to initiate an inquiry to the appointment of the rapporteur.

The most obvious is a plenary adoption procedure, with voting on a majority basis, which gives the decision-making power to the majority. Other criteria may be applied to this type of opposition action. At the initiative stage, conditions may be laid down for a request to be lodged: a minimum number of signatures of parliamentarians from different groups, or a certain proportion of parliamentarians (one-fifth, one-quarter, etc.).

The appointment of inquiry committee members is another restricting factor. As a general rule, the opposition is entitled to be represented, but the majority remains pre-eminent: members are appointed on a majority basis or by proportional representation, and specific criteria may apply on a case-by-case basis, depending on the nature of the inquiry. Particular procedures may also be in place: a selection committee may determine the number of seats, approve nominations, etc.

The appointment of rapporteurs follows the same rules, with the opposition remaining in the minority. However, in some chambers, the specific nature of this type of committee is such that the rapporteur is automatically a member of the opposition. This is the case in the Croatian Parliament, for example.

### ***Other forms of parliamentary control***

In some countries, on the other hand, inquiries may be conducted by a standing committee which deals with a particular subject and questions the ministers concerned or by specific committees such as the Constitutional Committee in Sweden. The latter body has jurisdiction to scrutinise ministers' actions or government affairs and has access to the minutes of all decisions and relevant documents. Any parliamentarian or standing committee is entitled to refer a matter to this committee by means of a written request.

Permanent bodies may also be set up to audit, evaluate or control public funds for specific purposes. In France, two such bodies operate within the Finance Committee and the Social Affairs Committee. They control the management of the state and of social security and are co-chaired by the majority and the opposition.

### ***Censure motions***

Parliamentarians are also able to table a motion of censure of government policy, which should not be confused with the question of confidence posed by a government following the announcement of general policy. A censure motion is a means of verifying that the government has majority support.

As with requests for the creation of committees of inquiry, safeguards are often put in place in order to prevent abuses: the need for a minimum number of signatures (one-tenth of members in the French and Swedish Assemblies, one-fifth in the Estonian Parliament, one-quarter in the Czech Chamber of Deputies, etc.), fixing of a time limit for inclusion on the agenda. Censure motions are usually adopted by a simple majority, which limits their impact.

However, this instrument is not used in some presidential systems which are not based on a parliamentary majority.

## **C – Exercise of parliamentary activity**

### 1. Participation in committee activities

Committees are the parliamentary bodies in which legislation is drafted. A certain amount of arbitration takes place at this level, which means they can be strategically important for opposition action.

#### **Composition of committees**

Committees are usually formed on the basis of proportional representation. Nearly all parliaments claim to use this system, although the term covers various methods of calculation, which need to be distinguished because they are the deciding factor<sup>3</sup>. They can lead to differences in the opposition/majority ratio between 3 in 5 and 4 in 5, which is significant. Some methods favour the main political groups, while others facilitate the participation of small groups. This is particularly important if the government majority is narrow.

The Czech National Assembly, where the majority is just one vote, uses the Hagenbach – Bischoff quota. The opposition is represented equally within the Assembly presidency, but only chairs 5 of the 14 committees. The Portuguese Parliament, where the majority is also very small (5 votes), uses the D'Hondt method: opposition representatives occupy 6 of the 12 Bureau seats, while 5 of the 12 committees are chaired by opposition members.

Another method of forming committees offers greater latitude to the majority: the creation of a selection committee<sup>4</sup>. Such a committee, initially set up on a proportional basis, determines the number of seats and validates the lists of representatives of the different groups. This sometimes leads to highly complex procedures for the composition of committees, but they cover every possible eventuality.

#### **Working conditions**

Depending on institutional traditions, parliaments' work is **organised in a variety of ways**. There may be only a few committees with wide-ranging remits and many members: this is the case in the French National Assembly, which has only six standing committees for 577 members. On the other hand, there may be numerous, much more specialised committees which can only function with fewer members and are more like working groups: the United Kingdom House of Commons, for example, has 32 committees, usually with 11 members each.

As mentioned above, certain rules of procedure are dependent on these organisational structures. These may include:

- the freedom to join committees or otherwise;
- membership of one or more committees;
- whether or not the number of seats in each committee is fixed;
- system of terms of office within each committee.

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<sup>3</sup> The *d'Hondt method*: take the ratio between the number of votes and the number of seats and take the highest averages. The *Sainte Lagüe method*: a coefficient is allocated to each seat. The *Hare quota*: number of votes / electoral quotient (number of votes / number of seats), then take the highest remainder. The *Hagenbach - Bischoff quota*: number of votes / number of seats + 1.

<sup>4</sup> As mentioned above in relation to the composition of parliamentary inquiry committees.

Another external factor should also be taken into account: the voting system in parliamentary elections. The electoral system whether uninominal or a list system, dictates the political make-up of the parliament, which is either bipartite or divided into numerous small parties and may have a clear or more fragile majority. This situation has repercussions within the committees and on the ability of opposition groups to influence the debates.

## 2. Appointment of rapporteurs

Opposition parties, which have to state their position on the texts examined by the committees, also like to air their views in plenary sittings. Rapporteurs are given an official platform to address the whole assembly.

In some parliaments, the committee chairperson usually acts as rapporteur. If this is not the case, rapporteurs are appointed in different ways. They may be chosen in accordance with the balance of power or with current traditions and customs. The role may be divided equally between the political groups, or allocated to the group which prepared the text (opposition or majority), etc. The rapporteur may therefore be a member of the opposition. In Poland, for example, around one in three rapporteurs were opposition representatives in 2004. Portugal operates a rotation system for the appointment of rapporteurs, provided the rapporteur does not belong to the same political group as the author of the law.

Under the rules of procedure of some parliaments, the opposition is allowed to draft a so-called "minority" report if it does not agree with a report presented by the majority. However, in the Czech Chamber of Deputies, one-fifth of the committee members must support the appointment of a rapporteur to draft a counter-report.

Not all chambers use rapporteurs, either because the role is an administrative one carried out by a government official or civil servant, or because they do not exist at all since no written reports are produced.

## 3. Positions of responsibility

### ***Chamber presidents and vice-presidents***

These two functions are connected. The president is usually elected by a majority vote and is a member of the majority group. The vice-presidents deputise in the chairing of debates. In many parliaments, these posts are often distributed either equally or with the opposition well represented at vice-president level<sup>5</sup>. A proportional voting system may be used to ensure that all political groups can be represented. The opposition's access to these posts depends on the rules governing such appointments. A majority voting system can block any chance of the opposition holding these posts. On the other hand, if all the posts are allocated in a single vote, one or more vice-presidents may be members of the opposition<sup>6</sup>.

The UK Parliament is unusual insofar as once the President (Speaker) and his or her three deputies have been elected to their posts, they relinquish any allegiance to a party in order to remain impartial in the chairing of debates.

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<sup>5</sup> This is the case in the Finnish Parliament, where the presidential team includes representatives of the five largest groups.

<sup>6</sup> This is the case in the Estonian Riigikogu.

### ***Committee chairpersons and vice-chairpersons***

The position of committee chairperson is highly sought after among parliamentarians. It is essential for the opposition to have access to these positions, since it opens the door to the other parliamentary organs and offers a leading role in the parliament's activities. Nevertheless, the importance of this position is also proportional to the field of responsibility concerned and the size of the committee, as mentioned above<sup>7</sup>. In some countries, the opposition enjoys excellent access to these positions, although there remain several parliaments where this is not the case.

In countries where the opposition is large, with almost as many members as the majority, preliminary political agreements are used to ensure a balanced representation. Arrangements may be made at the start of each session, as is the case in the Croatian and UK Parliaments. Depending on the chamber, there are different ways of appointing opposition members: a proportional representation agreement between the political groups, the election of chairpersons by each committee, or a mutual agreement that if the majority holds the chair, the opposition should provide the vice-chair, and vice versa.

There are several reasons why, in some countries, the committee chairpersons do not include any members of the opposition. Firstly, this may be due to the voting procedures: elections requiring a majority, held in a plenary sitting, with members voting for one post at a time, can enable the majority to hold on to all these key positions, especially if they are few in number, such as in France.

The second reason is the political choices that are sometimes made: the majority may decide not to involve the opposition or the opposition may not wish to participate. It is significant that, even though the principles of fairness or proportional representation may be enshrined in the rules of procedure, or even a particular status set out in constitutional texts<sup>8</sup>, the opposition does not, in practice, automatically assume this level of responsibility. Its involvement is only possible through political agreement.

The committees chaired by members of the opposition may deal with technical, specialised subjects, or much more important topics. It is not unusual for budget committees to be chaired by the opposition, for example. In Estonia, the Budget Audit Committee is always chaired by the opposition.

### ***Bureau and conference of presidents***

The bureau usually consists of the president and vice-presidents of the chamber, together with the administrative officers responsible for its affairs. The presidents of the political groups are also usually members of the bureau. The size of the bureau varies between 9 and 20 persons and the opposition may be totally unrepresented or account for up to 45% of the membership.

As with access to the position of assembly vice-president, most countries traditionally endeavour to ensure that different political groups are represented within the bureau. In cases where the opposition is absent, this is due to political choices made in advance, particularly in relation to the appointment of committee chairpersons. Sometimes the opposition may decide it does not wish to be involved, as is the case in Macedonia.

Some chambers (eg House of Representatives in Cyprus, UK House of Commons, Ukrainian Parliamentary Assembly) do not have a bureau. Instead, these functions, which essentially concern the conduct of parliamentary affairs, are entrusted to the conference of presidents.

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<sup>7</sup> See page 8.

<sup>8</sup> See pages 3 and 4.

The conference of presidents usually comprises the chamber president and vice-presidents and the chairpersons of the various specialised committees. It is responsible for organising the parliament's work. Depending on whether the opposition is involved in these two bodies, it may participate in decision-making of this type<sup>9</sup>.

#### **4. Legislation**

The primary role of parliaments is to legislate. Generally speaking, members of the opposition have the same right to propose bills as all the other parliamentarians. Depending on the parliamentary system used, however, this is not always fully the case. The chances of opposition bills being debated depend on the rights attributed to the opposition, as we have seen with regard to the placing of items on the agenda. In France, this is known as a "*niche parlementaire*". The adoption of laws depends on the balance of power at the time of the vote, and this balance is usually in favour of the majority. The same applies to resolutions tabled by the opposition.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The two determinants in representative democracies are the constitutional rules and parliamentary culture. The latter is the subject of the present report. The manner in which all the political groups represented within a chamber can express themselves and participate in the work of the parliament is a vital indicator of the parliament's state of health. The opposition's role in parliamentary activities depends on its ability to organise itself and establish political dialogue with the majority.

The work of the opposition is also influenced by other factors, which it might be useful to analyse. These include, for example, the absenteeism of members, the number of parliamentary sessions (whether or not the agenda is saturated) and the clarity of the texts tabled (poorly written laws, degree of administrative technicality, etc.).

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<sup>9</sup> This body may have a different name, such as the Polish Council of Elders, the German Council of Elders or the Lithuanian Assembly of the Elders.

**APPENDIX 1****QUESTIONNAIRE ON RIGHTS AND RESOURCES  
OF THE OPPOSITION IN A DEMOCRATIC PARLIAMENT**

The Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) is currently preparing a seminar in Stockholm on 10 December 2004 on the role of the opposition in a democratic parliament.

The secretariat of PACE wishes to prepare a short study on the rights and resources of the opposition in the parliaments of the Council of Europe member states and to make it available to the seminar's participants.

1. Does your country's constitutional law or the rules of procedure of your parliament deal with the status of the opposition? If yes, please explain.

2. Do members of the opposition in your parliament have the possibility to become:

- members of the Bureau (Conference of Presidents) ;
- committee chairpersons ;
- rapporteurs ?

What is the current situation in this respect (if possible give figures)?

3. Does the current composition of the organs of your parliament (Bureau/Conference of Presidents, general committees and sub-committees) reflect the strength of the opposition (e.g. proportional system of attribution of seats)? If possible, give figures.

4. Do members of the opposition have the right to:

- submit bills and motions of confidence ;
- receive requested information from the government ;
- submit oral/written questions to the members of the government and to receive answers ;
- ask for the setting up of committees of inquiry and become members of them ?

5. Do the political groups in your parliament have equal access to the material and technical resources and other facilities made available by the parliamentary administration?

## **Model answers - by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe**

### **Ad question No.1**

This question does not apply to the Council of Europe which is an international organisation. However, Rule 6.2 of the Parliamentary Assembly's Rules of Procedure states as follows: "Insofar as the number of their members allows, national delegations should be composed so as to ensure a fair representation of the political parties or groups in their parliaments. Each parliament shall inform the Assembly of the method used to apportion seats on its delegation". If this fair representation is not ensured, the credentials of the national delegation concerned may be challenged by the Assembly.

### **Ad question No.2.**

The chairpersons of all existing Assembly's political groups (Socialist Group, Group of the European People's Party, Liberal, Democratic and Reformers' Group, Group of European Democrats and Group of the Unified European Left) are ex officio members of the Bureau. Furthermore the ten committee chairpersons, who are appointed on the basis of proposals from the political groups, are ex officio members of the Bureau. Currently four members of the Socialist Group, 3 members of the Group of the European People's Party, 2 members of the Liberal, Democratic and Reformers' Group and 1 member of the Group of European Democrats are committee chairpersons and as such Bureau members. The distribution of the committee chairmanship is done on the basis of "d'Hondt principle".

Efforts are undertaken to achieve a better balance among the rapporteurs appointed, according to their political affiliation ("d'Hondt principle" is used in this context).

### **Ad question No.3.**

The Bureau reflects the strength of the political groups insofar as the committee chairpersons are concerned. Seats on the general Assembly committees are distributed in respect of national delegations (Rule 43.2), with the exception of the Monitoring Committee (and ad hoc committees) which is based on the proposals made by the political groups, taking into account the "d'Hondt principle". Both national delegations and political parties/groups shall be fairly represented on standing sub-committees.

### **Ad question No.4.**

The Assembly is not a legislative body. However members of all political affiliations may table motions containing proposals for the elaboration of Council of Europe conventions and other matters. Those members also have different possibilities to obtain information from the Committee of Ministers, the executive organ of the Council of Europe. They may in particular ask questions for oral or written reply by that Committee or its Chairperson.

### **Ad question No.5.**

The allocations to the Assembly's political groups are mainly based on their strength. All groups receive the technical equipment and facilities necessary for exercising their functions.

## APPENDIX II

## Sources of the information contained in this report

Member state	Assembly	Senate
Albania		
Andorra		
Armenia	X	
Austria		
Azerbaijan		
Belgium		X
Bosnia and Herzegovina		
Bulgaria		
Croatia	X	
Cyprus	X	
Czech Republic	X	X
Denmark	X	
Estonia	X	
Finland	X	
France	X	
Georgia	X	
Germany		
Greece	X	
Hungary		
Iceland		
Ireland		
Italy		X
Latvia		
Liechtenstein		
Lithuania	X	
Luxembourg		
Malta		
Moldova		
Monaco		
Netherlands		
Norway	X	
Poland	X	
Portugal	X	
Romania	X	
Russian Federation		
San Marino		
Serbia and Montenegro		
Slovak Republic		
Slovenia	X	X
Spain	X	X
Sweden	X	
Switzerland		
the former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	X	
Turkey		
Ukraine	X	
United Kingdom	X	X

27 chambers from 23 different countries participated in this study.

**Appendix 3**  
**Participation of the opposition / total number of posts**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Chamber</b>	<b>Presidency</b>	<b>Vice-Presidency</b>	<b>Committee chairpersons</b>	<b>Committee vice-chairpersons</b>	<b>Bureau</b>	<b>Representation of the opposition in the assembly</b>
Armenia	Assembly	Majority	0/?	0/9	0/?		15%
Belgium	Senate	Majority	2/3	1/?	3/?	1/3	
Croatia	Assembly	Majority	3/5				
Cyprus	Assembly	Majority		6/21		None	
Czech Republic	Assembly	Majority	3/5	5/14			49.5%
	Senate	Majority					
Denmark	Assembly	Majority					
Estonia	Assembly	Majority		2/11	6/11		
Finland	Assembly	Majority	1/2	6/15		7/18 *	
France	Assembly	Majority	2/6	0/6		4/18	29%
Georgia	Assembly	Majority	0/?	0/?	4/26	0/19	
Greece	Assembly	Majority	2/5				
Italy	Senate	Majority					
Lithuania	Assembly	Majority	1/5				
Norway	Assembly	Opposition	4/6	8/12			62%
Poland	Assembly	Majority	3/4			1/3	
Portugal	Assembly	Majority	2/4	5/12		6/12	48.2%
Romania	Assembly	Majority		8/14		6/13	
Slovenia	Assembly	Majority		2/?			
	Senate	Majority					
Spain	Assembly	Majority		2/?		4/9	
	Senate	Majority		5/17			
Sweden	Assembly	Majority	7/16	9/16	5/11		
The former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	Assembly	Majority				0/?	
Ukraine	Assembly	Majority				None	
United Kingdom	Assembly	Majority	2/3	14/32		None	24.7%
	Senate	Majority	12/30	12/36		None	

\* Conference of Presidents