

## ESTONIA

	Pop	FL	FR	ES	Best %	Last %	Government
EK (borderline POP) Eesti Keskerakond Estonian Centre Party	X				26.1	23.0	1995 2002-2003 2005-2007 2016-2019 2019-2022
EKRE Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond Conservative People's Party of Estonia	X		X	X	17.8	17.8	2019-2021
EKo Eesti Kodanik Estonian Citizen	X		X	X	6.89	n/a	
ERP Erakond Res Publica Res Publica Party	X				24.6	n/a	2003-2005
ERSP Eesti Rahvusliku Sõltumatuse Partei Estonian National Independence Party			X		8.8	n/a	1992-1995

### Parties represented in parliament:

The ***Eesti Konservatiivne Rahvaerakond (Conservative People's Party of Estonia, EKRE)*** is a populist far-right party founded in 2012 through the merger of the agrarian People's Union of Estonia party and the nationalist Estonian Patriotic Movement. The party largely revolves around Mart Helme (chairman between 2013 and 2020) and his son Martin Helme (chairman since 2020). EKRE has a pronounced anti-immigration, anti-Russian, social conservative, and Eurosceptic profile. We therefore categorise it as Eurosceptic, far right, and populist. The party enjoyed growing popularity since 2015, when it returned 8.1% of the vote in the general election. EKRE gained 17.8% of the vote in the 2019 election and was asked to join the government coalition led by the Centre Party (EK). EKRE remained in government until January 2021, when PM Jüri Ratas (EK) and the whole government resigned after the breakout of a corruption scandal.

The ***Eesti Keskerakond (Estonian Centre Party, EK)*** is a centrist party founded in 1991 from the ashes of the Popular Front of Estonia. The party is a pro-market force programmatically committed to strengthening the Estonian middle class and social justice. The party has been internally divided over European issues until the country's accession to the EU, but is now fully committed to Estonian membership. The party is often labelled as populist. While presenting a strong people-centric component – EK advocates greater citizen participation through democratic means – there is no anti-elitism. Therefore, the EK at best qualifies as borderline populist. The party has often enjoyed government responsibilities as part of coalitions. The EK returned 23.0% of the vote in the 2019 election and has continuously sat in government between 2016 and 2022.

### Parties not/no longer represented in parliament:

***Eesti Kodanik (Estonian Citizen, EKo)*** was a populist far-right and Eurosceptic party active between 1992 and 1995. EKo managed 6.9% of the vote in the 1992 election and 3.6% of the vote in the 1995 election, when it ran in alliance with the Better Estonia party.

The Res Publica Party (**ERP**) was a populist right-wing party founded in 2001. The party presented an anti-establishment agenda campaigning on anti-corruption and 'law and order'. ERP managed 24.6% of the vote in the 2003 election and formed a government coalition with the Reform Party and the

People's Union. The party merged in 2005 with the Pro Patria Union into the 'Pro Patria and Res Publica Union', which was later renamed *Isamaa* (Fatherland).

The ***Erakond Res Publica (Estonian National Independence Party, ERSP)*** was a far-right party founded in 1988 by groups of nationalist and anti-communist dissidents. The main goal of the party was to establish a non-communist Estonia (before independence) and – consistent with its anti-Russian outlook – making the country the exclusive home for ethnic Estonians (after independence). The party gained 8.8% of votes in the first free elections of 1992 and joined the right-wing coalition government between 1992 and 1995. The ERSP merged with the Pro Patria National Coalition to form the conservative Pro Patria Union (*Isamaaliit*).