

## Lower House of Parliament in Belgium (2014)

<b>Political Party</b>	<b>% Vote</b>	<b>Seats</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>
<b>New Flemish Alliance</b> (Flemish separatist; conservative; liberal)	<b>20.26</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Socialist Party</b>	<b>11.67</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Christian Democrats &amp; Flemish</b> (Conservative)	<b>11.61</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Reform Movement</b> (Francophone conservative-liberal party)	<b>9.64</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Socialist Party – Differently</b> (Flemish socialist)	<b>8.83</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Open Flemish Liberals and Democrats</b>	<b>9.78</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Flemish Interest</b> (Far Right)	<b>3.67</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Democratic Humanist Center</b> (francophone Christian democrats)	<b>4.99</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Ecolo</b> (ecologist)	<b>3.3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Green</b>	<b>5.32</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Worker's Party</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Popular Party</b> (Conservative liberal)	<b>1.51</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>85</b>

- This table shows you how a parliamentary system combined with proportional representation allows the smallest of parties to get seats in the legislature.
- Also note how narrow the govt. coalition is; they only control 85 seats out of the 150 seats in parliament. This gives a lot of power to small parties in the coalition. For example, if the Open Vld party members leave the coalition (14 seats), the govt. will lose its majority in parliament. This will break the coalition and lead to new parliamentary elections.