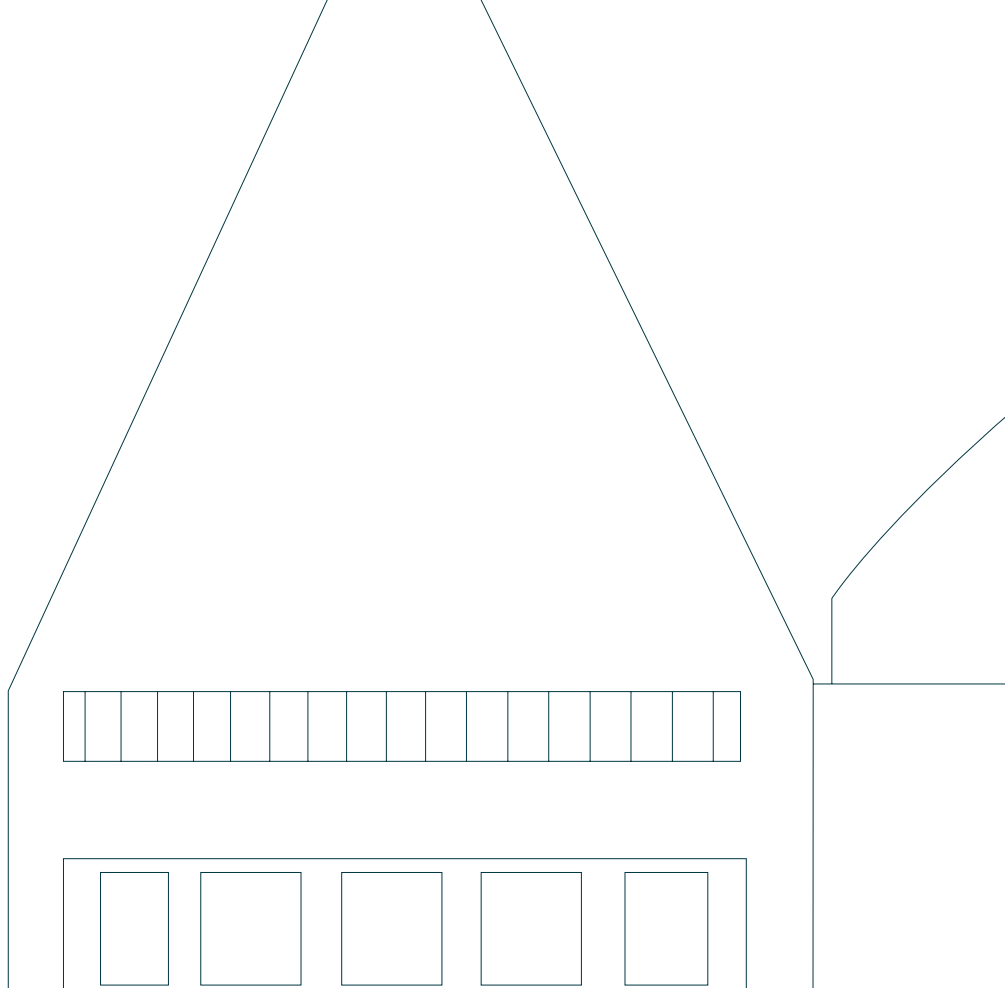


The future is open.
It depends on us –
on all of us.

Karl Popper
Scientific and social philosopher

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FOREWORD

STATE STRUCTURE

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FOREWORD
STEFAN HASSLER





STEFAN HASSLER SECRETARY TO THE LANDTAG

Dear Readers,

The people of Liechtenstein elect the Landtag, the Parliament, every four years. It exercises the rights and represents the interests of the population and plays a decisive part in shaping the State. The enclosed brochure will give you an overview of the composition of the political committees and the distribution of political powers for the 2025 – 2029 legislative period.

The brochure opens with introductory statements from the President and Vice-President of the Landtag, then goes on to explain the dual nature of the state structure, citizens' rights and the three branches of government, incorporating contributions from the spokesmen and women of the parties represented in the Landtag. It continues with a presentation of the key aspects of the Landtag Institution, followed by information about the Members of the Landtag and the members of the committees and delegations, the Parliamentary Service and the Presidium, which can be found on page 30 onwards.

Another section is devoted to my esteemed predecessor, Josef Hilti, and his farewell celebration. He presided over the Parliamentary

Service for 23 years with great skill and acumen, overseeing no fewer than three important reforms of the Landtag during this time.

Over a short journey back in time, we take you to the former assembly venues of the Landtag, show you the architecture of the Parliament Building and look at the most important historical milestones. The Landtag is generally considered to date back to 1862, when the constitution of that year linked the monarchy with the people and for the first time gave the populace the right to participate in law-making, in the agreement of significant State treaties, with oversight over the State administration. This retrospective journey through history ends with a list of the Presidents of the Landtag since 1862.

Dear Readers, we are pleased to be able to give you an insight into the Landtag, and we warmly invite you to attend a session of the Landtag in the High House, to witness the operation of our State Parliament at first-hand.

Stefan Hassler
Secretary to the Landtag

FOREWORD
MANFRED KAUFMANN





MANFRED KAUFMANN PRESIDENT OF THE LANDTAG

In February 2025, the people elected a new representative assembly, the Landtag, for the next four-year legislative period.

Under the constitution, the Landtag is one of the state authorities in the Liechtenstein political system. Its key areas of responsibility are legislation, agreement of State treaties, oversight of the State administration and the exercise of fiscal sovereignty.

For the first time there are now eight women represented in the 25-member Landtag, making this the highest number of female representatives ever, a result that I am particularly pleased about.

For me, as President of the Landtag, co-operation and co-existence are paramount. A strong Liechtenstein needs to focus on what unites, rather than on what divides. It is my aim to involve all parties represented in the Landtag in the parliamentary process,

to the best of my ability, and to promote objective, respectful and efficient cooperation. The legitimate concerns of the population and overriding national interests need to be considered promptly so that we can work together to find realistic solutions.

As a small state Liechtenstein is particularly affected by international political, economic and social developments. In this tense atmosphere of rapid global change, a well-functioning interaction between the powers of the state is precisely what is required to meet the challenges successfully.

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2025 – 2029 Landtag brochure to you. At the same time, I would like to invite you to attend a session of the Landtag in the High House and to gain first-hand experience of how parliament works.

Manfred Kaufmann
President of the Landtag

FOREWORD
FRANZISKA HOOP

10



FRANZISKA HOOP VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE LANDTAG

The 2025 – 2029 legislative period begins in turbulent times. Our Landtag faces the task of preserving what has worked well in the past, while at the same time finding new solutions to social and economic challenges. Our main focus must be to build up the citizens' trust by shaping the work of parliament in a way that is transparent, comprehensible and relatable for the citizens.

I am absolutely committed to building bridges and promoting dialogue across the political divide. Democracy thrives when we listen to and respect different opinions and use them to develop sustainable solutions that are acceptable to everyone. It is precisely in a small state such as Liechtenstein that we can achieve a great deal with closeness, openness and responsibility.

My particular focus is on children, young people and people with

disabilities. They deserve our support, so that no-one falls through the net and everyone gets a fair chance. It is equally important to me to make further improvements to the work-family balance, in order to establish a framework for a robust co-existence.

The Landtag is not just our country's parliament, but also a symbol of inclusion and cohesion. My dearest wish is for it to be seen as an open house, a place where democracy can be experienced and debated and where we can shape it together. Let us be guided by mutual respect and willingness to work together, so that Liechtenstein can continue into the future as a country in which we can all feel at home.

Franziska Hoop
Vice-President of the Landtag

LIECHTEN-
STEIN
LANDTAG





With ten ordinary members and three deputies, the Patriotic Union (Vaterländische Union “VU”) is the largest parliamentary group in the current Landtag and bears the ultimate responsibility in the Government for this legislative period. In Brigitte Haas the VU has given us our first female Prime Minister – an historic moment which fills us with pride and joy.

As a centrist people’s party, the VU has traditionally stood for the balancing of different interests and building social cohesion. We see politics as a shared responsibility for the well-being of our country and its people.

For us, the responsibility placed on us by the electors means acting with a sense of proportion, careful management of state finances and securing the sustainable development of Liechtenstein for the future.

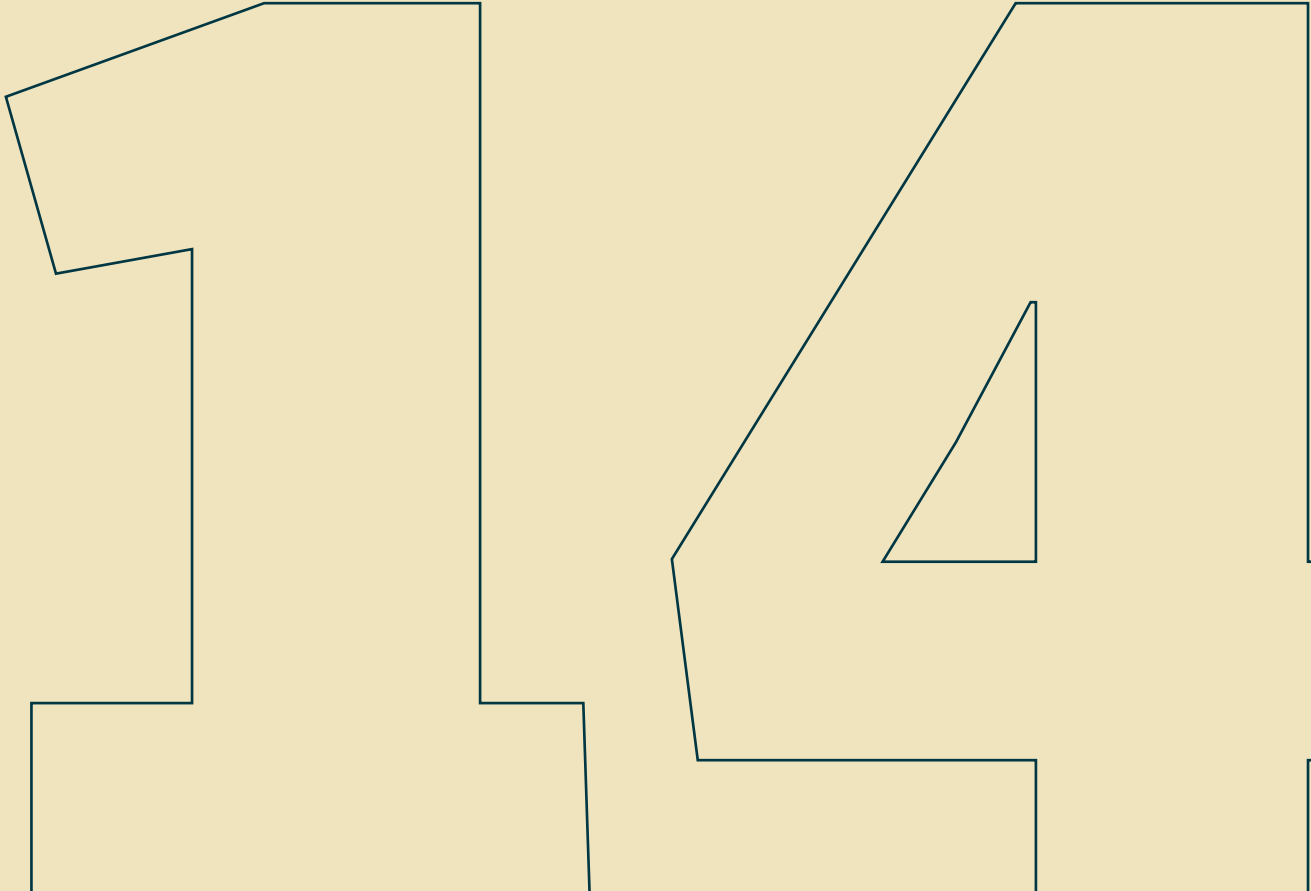
As the spokeswoman for our parliamentary group, party unity is particularly close to my heart. Different opinions must be listened to and respected, so that we can ultimately face the world with one strong, unified voice, because our democracy thrives on competing arguments and workable compromises.

The increasing diversity in the Landtag is also to be welcomed: Eight women (three from the VU) have been elected for the first time, equivalent to 32 % of the chamber. This means the political work is spread more widely – a net gain for the democratic culture and the future of our country.

Dagmar Bühler-Nigsch

Spokeswoman for the Vaterländische Union parliamentary group

STATE STRUCTURE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN



STATE STRUCTURE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

STRUCTURE OF THE STATE

“The Principality is a constitutional, hereditary monarchy on a democratic and parliamentary basis; the power of the state is vested in the Prince Regnant and the people ...”, so reads Article 2 of the Liechtenstein constitution. The state structure is founded on the dualism of Prince and people, they stand side by side on an equal footing.

THE PEOPLE AND PEOPLE’S RIGHTS

Under the Constitution the people are able to exercise their rights directly through elections and referendums. Other direct democratic rights include the right to initiate legislation and to request referendums, at both legislative and constitutional level. Voter participation in elections and referendums is mandatory. The Prince, the Landtag and eligible citizens have the right to initiate legislation.

LANDTAG

The Landtag performs an important function as the legitimate body representing all the citizens of the country in the dual political structure of the Principality of Liechtenstein. The Landtag is directly elected by the people using a system of proportional representation. The Oberland electoral district provides 15 Members of Parliament and the Unterland electoral district provides 10. The Landtag is convened

and adjourned by the Prince, who also has the right to dissolve parliament for compelling reasons. The principal function of the Landtag is to pass legislation. In order to be valid a law requires not only the assent of the Landtag, but must also be sanctioned by the Prince, counter-signed by the Prime Minister and published in the Liechtenstein Legal Gazette. Every law passed by the Landtag which it has not declared to be urgent, and every international treaty it has approved, is subject to an optional referendum.

The Landtag also has the right to propose Government appointments, for which a consensus must be achieved between the Prince and the Landtag. Other than its participation in legislation, areas of particular importance within its remit include financial sovereignty and oversight of the state administration, incorporating the administration of justice, together with various other items of electoral business that require its attention.

GOVERNMENT

The Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein is based on the principle of collegiality. It is made up of the Prime Minister and four other members. They are appointed by the Prince on the basis of nominations submitted by the Landtag. All important matters are

subject to the consultation and resolution of the collegial government. Business within the Government is distributed between the Ministries. The Prime Minister, who chairs meetings of the collegial body, signs the decrees and orders adopted, executes them and supervises the conduct of business. The Prime Minister, and likewise the other members of the Government, are allocated only one vote each. The Prime Minister, however, also has additional powers over those of the Government Ministers, namely the right to review the legality of the collegial decisions, the right of direct access to the Prince and the requirement to countersign the laws sanctioned by the Prince. The Prime Minister’s right of countersignature pursuant to Article 86 of the Constitution is of particular importance with regard to collaboration with the Prince.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters is exercised on behalf of the Prince, in the first instance by the Princely Court of Justice (Landgericht), in the second instance by the High Court of Appeal and in the third and final instance by the Supreme Court.

Jurisdiction in administrative matters is exercised by the Administrative Court and also by the Constitutional Court in certain cases.

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Landtag reform has for some considerable time been an ongoing aspiration, or rather an aim, to which Parliament is committed. Back in 2017 and 2018, a Special Landtag Committee was working on appropriate new measures, under my chairmanship – but at the time the members ultimately failed to decide on any more substantial plans for reform. The strengthening of the Landtag as a legislative body, if only to put it on somewhere approaching an equal footing with the Government, is now considered to be extremely important. In the meantime, the Landtag – through the introduction of the Public Enterprise Control and Supervision Act (ÖUSG) – has transferred a very key power to the Government and weakened the representation of the people in their powers of decision-making and governance. This has left the Landtag with no right of intervention and influence over ownership strategies in state-affiliated companies, apart from making funding available.

The model of the militia parliament has proved very successful in our country and it is essential that elected parliamentarians come from the widest possible range of professions and hold different opinions, that is to say people with their roots in the community, who are firmly grounded in everyday life. It has however emerged that the representation of the business community in the Landtag assembly is declining. Any future Landtag reform must introduce measures to ensure that the work-family balance can be preserved when a person takes up political office upon election to the Landtag. The representation of the people should be a mirror image of the diversity of the people, with an appropriate choice of candidates offered to citizens at elections.

Johannes Kaiser

Spokesman for the Progressive Citizens' Party
(Fortschrittliche Bürgerpartei) parliamentary group

FUNCTIONS AND POSITION

BASIC PRINCIPLES

Under its constitution the Principality of Liechtenstein is a constitutional, hereditary monarchy on a democratic and parliamentary basis. The Landtag is the representative body and organ of the people and, as such, is responsible for safeguarding their rights and interests.

LEGISLATION

The primary function of the Landtag is to participate in the legislative process. No law can be adopted or amended without the Landtag. The Landtag has the right to initiate

constitutional and legislative proposals, alongside the Prince and the people. In practice most bills are drafted by the Government and its experts. The Landtag may refer bills back to the Government or set up its own committees to review them. An opening debate is held for every bill, normally followed by two readings and a final vote. During the opening debate the Landtag will decide whether or not it wishes to continue with a bill. Suggestions may be made during the first reading, which are then examined by the Government before the second reading.

Each individual article is voted on during the second reading. If members file amendments, these must be voted on first. The final text of the articles is established by voting article by article. A final vote is held following the second reading, upon which the bill is adopted as a whole.

STATE TREATIES

International treaties that affect state powers, impose new obligations on the State, or infringe upon citizens' rights, must be presented to the Landtag for its assent.



View of the Plenary Chamber

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Following an historic election result the Democrats for Liechtenstein (Demokraten pro Liechtenstein “DpL”) are now represented with six seats in the Landtag. For us, this confidence shown in us represents both an obligation and a mission. As part of a stronger opposition, we shall approach the political task in a responsible, objective and constructive manner and provide an effective counter-balance to the Government.

We are attentive and conscientious in monitoring the activity of the coalition parties and the Government with a critical eye. We are particularly keen to boost transparency, to ensure decisions are comprehensible and clearly address any misguided developments. As an opposition party, we see ourselves as the voice of the people and bring their concerns and ideas directly to the Landtag. We shall carefully scrutinise political initiatives, identify sound alternatives and, where necessary, also call for appropriate measures. Democracy is based on a fair and clear exchange of ideas, which is something to which we want to actively contribute.

The policies pursued by the DpL are shaped by the highest guiding principles: “Promoting the welfare of the Fatherland without any ulterior motives to the best of our ability and conscience” and “The members of the Landtag shall vote solely according to their oath and their convictions”. Everything we do is based on the values enshrined in the DpL Articles.

Thomas Rehak

Spokesman for the Demokraten pro Liechtenstein parliamentary group

THE LANDTAG INSTITUTION

PLENARY SESSION

The Landtag is made up of 25 elected representatives. It exercises its powers in the sessions of the full assembly of the Landtag. The detailed consideration of laws also normally takes place in plenary session. The Landtag can therefore be described as a “working parliament”. Few functions are delegated to committees, compared with other parliaments. If committees are set up, they are normally only assigned the task of preparing specific business for the full Landtag and formulating relevant motions.

MEMBERS OF THE LANDTAG

All the members are part-time parliamentarians. They exercise their office alongside their professional occupations. They receive an annual payment and a daily allowance as remuneration. Elected members enjoy immunity and cannot be prosecuted under the law for statements they make in Parliament.

PRESIDENT OF THE LANDTAG

The President and Vice-President of the Landtag are always elected at the opening session of the current year. The President of the Landtag convenes the sessions during the year, directs the sessions and represents the Landtag externally. The Vice-President of the Landtag represents the President in the latter’s absence.

STANDING COMMITTEES

In the opening session, the Landtag also elects three standing committees for the current year: the Foreign Affairs Committee, the Finance Committee and the Audit Committee. Only the Finance

Committee has decision-making powers, with the ability to decide in respect of certain financial transactions. The standing committees are made up of three to seven elected representatives.

NON-STANDING COMMITTEES

According to the Rules of Procedure, the Landtag may also appoint non-standing committees. These are constituted either as special committees or committees of inquiry and may be made up of three to six elected members. Their mandate terminates with the completion of the assignment, but does not extend beyond the end of their term of office. The function of the special committees is to draft individual laws or other business and to present proposals to full sessions of the Landtag. The EEA Committee examines EEA legislation to establish whether it requires the assent of the Landtag. Committees of inquiry represent powerful minority rights: the Landtag is obliged to appoint a committee of inquiry if requested to do so by only seven elected members.

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

At the beginning of each legislative period the Landtag elects the delegations to the international parliamentary committees in which it participates, namely two delegates and two substitutes each for the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, for the EEA/EFTA Parliamentary Committees, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) as well as four delegates for the Internationale Parlamentarische Bodensee-Konferenz (IPBK)

(International Parliamentary Lake Constance Conference). These delegations are elected for the entire term of office, i.e. for four years. The Landtag also has the option of appointing special delegations for maintaining relations with other parliaments.

LANDTAG PRESIDIUM

The Presidium of the Landtag is made up of the President of the Landtag, the Vice-President of the Landtag and the spokespersons for the parliamentary groups. The Secretary to the Landtag also attends in an advisory capacity. The Landtag Presidium advises the President specifically on the drafting of the agenda for the Landtag sessions, prepares the Landtag budget and decides on the recruitment of staff for the Parliamentary Service.

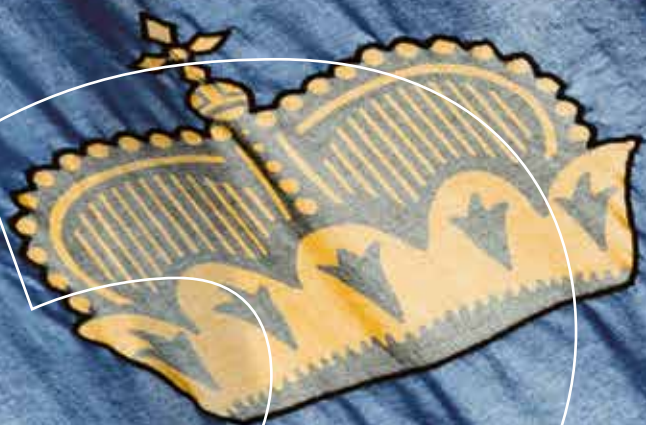
PARLIAMENTARY TELLERS

The Landtag traditionally elects two tellers, responsible for counting votes, at the opening session of each year.

PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS

In order to form a parliamentary group a party represented in the Landtag must hold at least three parliamentary seats, otherwise they will be known as voting groups. The parliamentary groups form a bridge between the parties and the Members of Parliament. Before an item of business is debated in the Landtag, the respective members meet in internal meetings of their respective parliamentary group, enabling them to reach a common consensus. This process does not give rise to the imposition of a party whip, but it does impose

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a certain degree of party discipline. The Landtag is informed of the party line by the spokesperson for the parliamentary group. The parliamentary or voting groups may be allocated a meeting room appropriate to their size.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

The National Committee exercises the rights of the full Landtag when the Landtag is not sitting and is therefore unable to perform its

functions (i. e. from the end of the parliamentary session of one year until the opening session of the following year) or in the event of prorogation or dissolution of the Landtag. The National Committee is made up of the President of the Landtag and four other members, with equal representation between the two constituency districts. The National Committee may not enter into any permanent obligation on behalf of the State.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The duties and working procedures of the Landtag are governed by the Constitution, the Law on the Business Transactions of the Landtag and the Control of the State Administration (Business Transactions and Administrative Control Act (GVVKG) and the Rules of Procedure for the Parliament of the Principality of Liechtenstein (GOLT).



Opening of the Landtag on 15 January 2026: Oldest member Erich Hasler and H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois von und zu Liechtenstein





The Free List (Freie Liste "FL") has been a significant opposition voice in the Landtag since 1993. It is committed to policies that focus on public welfare, that look at the bigger picture and rigorously promote social justice, equality, democratic participation and environmental responsibility. The FL has had two female members in the Landtag since 2025. In a parliament that continues to be under-represented in terms of female members and lacking in diversity overall, their two mandates are in sharp contrast to the political reality.

We are living in an era of profound change with an increasingly unequal distribution of power and resources, dominated by short-term interests. Social security, equality and the protection of our living standards and environment are coming under pressure. Political responsibility means taking a clear stand, for us in Liechtenstein as well. Our social, economic and environmental decisions must be dictated by our values and attitudes, in the interests of our current and future generations.

What is needed is a policy that decisively promotes social justice, a peaceful, equitable society and the preservation of our living standards and natural resources. This is what the FL stands for. We campaign for real improvements in everyday life: affordable health and living costs, fair wages, gender equality, strong rights for disadvantaged groups, as well as environmental protection and climate action, involving the people, instead of protecting individual interests.

A thriving democracy requires real diversity, alternative perspectives and critical voices. It needs the Freie Liste to achieve this.

Manuela Haldner-Schierscher
Freie Liste voting group

LANDTAG MEMBERS OF THE LANDTAG

TERM OF OFFICE 2025 - 2029



Manfred Kaufmann

1978

Certified Public Accountant

Residence: Balzers

In the Landtag since 2013

President of the Landtag

MEMBERS OF THE LANDTAG

TERM OF OFFICE 2025–2029



VATERLÄNDISCHE UNION



Dagmar Bühler-Nigsch
1969
Co-Managing Director VLGST
Residence: Triesenberg
In the Landtag since 2021



Tanja Cissé
1980
Independent,
Youth worker
Residence: Eschen
In the Landtag since 2021



Dietmar Hasler
1975
Marketing expert
Residence: Gamprin
In the Landtag since 2025



Carmen Heeb-Kindle
1985
Teacher
Residence: Balzers
In the Landtag since 2025



Stefan Öhri
1976
Bank Executive Board
member
Residence: Mauren
In the Landtag since 2025



Roger Schädler
1976
Certified banking specialist/
Customer advisor
Residence: Triesenberg
In the Landtag since 2025



Thomas Vogt
1976
Attorney-at-Law
Residence: Triesen
In the Landtag since 2009



Christoph Wenaweser
1963
Businessman
Residence: Schaan
In the Landtag 2013–2021
also 2025 onwards

Substitute representatives



Johannes Zimmermann
1961
Head teacher OSE, M.A. in
educational management
Residence: Eschen
In the Landtag since 2025



Markus Gstöhl
1978
Food inspector
Residence: Triesen
In the Landtag since 2021



Marc Risch
1975
Doctor
Residence: Schaan
In the Landtag since 2025



Mario Wohlwend
1973
Vocational instructor,
Industrial engineer MAS
Residence: Ruggell
In the Landtag since 2017

LANDTAG MEMBERS OF THE LANDTAG

TERM OF OFFICE 2025 - 2029



Franziska Hoop

1990

Social educator,
Managing Director

Residence: Ruggell

In the Landtag since 2021

Vice-President of the Landtag



MEMBERS OF THE LANDTAG

TERM OF OFFICE 2025-2029

FBP
LIECHTENSTEIN

FORTSCHRITTLICHE BÜRGERPARTEI



Johannes Kaiser
1958
Communications & media
Residence: Schellenberg
In the Landtag since 2001



Sebastian Gassner
1987
Electrical engineer
Residence: Triesenberg
In the Landtag since 2021



Lino Nägele
1994
Real estate economist,
Architect
Residence: Nendeln
In the Landtag since 2025



Bettina Petzold-Mähr
1982
Commercial clerk
Residence: Planken
In the Landtag since 2021



Daniel Salzgeber
1992
Schengen/Dublin Coordinator
Residence: Triesen
In the Landtag since 2025



Daniel Seger
1977
Attorney-at-Law
Residence: Vaduz
In the Landtag since 2017

Substitute representatives



Helmut Hasler
1968
Master carpenter
Residence: Bendern
In the Landtag since 2025



Nadine Vogelsang
1977
Business Economist FH,
Businesswoman
Residence: Schaan
In the Landtag since 2021

MEMBERS OF THE LANDTAG

TERM OF OFFICE 2025-2029



DEMOKRATEN PRO LIECHTENSTEIN



Thomas Rehak
1971
Dipl. Ing. Telecommunications Engineer
Residence: Triesen
In the Landtag since 2013



Erich Hasler
1956
Patent lawyer
Residence: Eschen
In the Landtag since 2013



Marion Kindle-Kühnis
1979
Political scientist
Residence: Triesen
In the Landtag 2009-2013
also 2025 onwards



Simon Schächle
1978
Businessman
Residence: Eschen
In the Landtag since 2025



Martin Seger
1976
Designer of heating and ventilation systems
Residence: Schaan
In the Landtag since 2025



Achim Vogt
1970
Businessman
Residence: Triesenberg
In the Landtag since 2025

Substitute representatives



Brigit Elkuch
1982
Federal Diploma in Agriculture
Residence: Nendeln
In the Landtag since 2025



Oliver Indra
1974
Primary school teacher
Residence: Vaduz
In the Landtag since 2025

MEMBERS OF THE LANDTAG

TERM OF OFFICE 2025-2029



FREIE LISTE



Sandra Fausch

1989

Environmental engineer BSc, Co-
Managing Director Ackerschaft
Residence: Eschen

In the Landtag since 2021



Manuela

Haldner-Schierscher

1971

Manager Victim Support Centre
Residence: Schaan

In the Landtag since 2021

Substitute representatives



Benjamin Risch

1993

Research assistant,
Physiotherapist
Residence: Schaan

In the Landtag since 2025



Patrick Risch

1968

Corporate Services Manager
Residence: Schellenberg
In the Landtag since 2017





Landtag 2025 – 2029:

Front row l-r: Marion Kindle-Kühnis, Carmen Heeb-Kindle, Dagmar Bühler-Nigsch, Manfred Kaufmann (President of the Landtag), Franziska Hoop (Vice-President of the Landtag), Sebastian Gassner, Daniel Seger, Sandra Fausch, Manuela Haldner-Schierscher
Middle row l-r: Thomas Rehak, Erich Hasler, Tanja Cissé, Dietmar Hasler, Johannes Zimmermann, Lino Nägele, Daniel Salzgeber, Stefan Öhri, Johannes Kaiser
Back row l-r: Simon Schächle, Achim Vogt, Martin Seger, Thomas Vogt, Bettina Petzold-Mähr, Roger Schädler, Christoph Wenaweser

STANDING COMMITTEES



L-r: Johannes Zimmermann, Marion Kindle-Kühnis, Bettina Petzold-Mähr (Chair), Franziska Hoop and Roger Schädler

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (APK)

The Foreign Affairs Committee examines and assesses international treaties that require the assent of the Landtag, and in collaboration with the Government safeguards the interests of the State in foreign affairs.



L-r: Martin Seger, Stefan Öhri, Christoph Wenaweser (Chair), Johannes Kaiser, Sandra Fausch and Lino Nägele

FINANCE COMMITTEE (FKO)

The Finance Committee scrutinises the State budget. It also reviews and assesses all bills with financial implications submitted by the Government for the attention of the Landtag. The Finance Committee is responsible for the performance of duties pursuant to financial budget legislation.



L-r: Patrick Risch, Simon Schächle (Chair), Tanja Cissé and Daniel Seger.
Marion Kindle-Kühnis does not appear on the picture.

AUDIT COMMITTEE (GPK)

The Audit Committee exercises control in accordance with the Constitution and the Law on the Business Transactions of the Landtag with the Government and Control of the State Administration and in accordance with the Law on the Control and Supervision of Public Enterprises. Its functions specifically include audit of the annual financial statements and the annual report, the internal audit of offices and special tasks in accordance with specific orders of the Landtag.

OTHER LANDTAG COMMITTEES



L-r: Bettina Petzold-Mähr, Dietmar Hasler, Achim Vogt (Chair), Franziska Hoop and Markus Gstöhl

EEA/SCHENGEN COMMITTEE

The Landtag deploys an EEA/Schengen Committee as a special committee to examine the decisions of the EEA Joint Committee and the future developments of the Schengen/Dublin Acquis to assess the requirement for the assent of the Landtag pursuant to Art. 8 (2) of the Constitution.



L-r: Daniel Salzgeber, Thomas Vogt, Manuela Haldner-Schierscher and Thomas Rehak

LANDTAG REPRESENTATION ON THE JUDGE APPOINTMENT BOARD

In the process for appointing judges, the Judge Appointment Board is responsible for assessing and selecting eligible candidates. The Board is chaired by the Prince and is additionally composed of one representative from each parliamentary voting group, the member of the Government responsible for justice, as well as a number of other members corresponding to the Landtag representatives.



L-r: Bettina Petzold-Mähr (Substitute), Roger Schädler (Member), Sebastian Gassner (Head of Delegation) and Thomas Vogt (Substitute)

DELEGATION TO THE EEA/EFTA PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

The principal function of the EEA/EFTA Parliamentary Committee is to consider and take a position on EEA/ EFTA issues. The Committee contributes to a better understanding between the European Union and the EFTA countries through dialogue and consultation.

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L-r: Benjamin Risch (Member), Helmut Hasler (Member),
Manfred Kaufmann (Head of Delegation) and Simon Schächle (Member)

DELEGATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL LAKE CONSTANCE PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE

The International Lake Constance Parliamentary Conference (IPBK) is a forum with the remit and aim of discussing cross-border problems, striving to identify common solutions and campaigning for their implementation through its members in the respective parliaments, through an exchange of information and opinions taking place twice a year.



L-r: Sebastian Gassner (Substitute), Dagmar Bühler-Nigsch (Head of Delegation),
Daniel Salzgeber (Member) and Carmen Heeb-Kindle (Substitute)

DELEGATION TO THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION

The Interparliamentary Union (IPU) is a contact group for the parliaments of all sovereign states with its headquarters in Geneva. It has evolved from what was initially a small union into a global organisation of national parliaments, currently consisting of 183 member states. It is specifically committed to peaceful reconciliation in conflict situations, the protection of human rights and strengthening of democratic institutions.



L-r: Sebastian Gassner (Substitute), Johannes Kaiser (Member),
Carmen Heeb-Kindle (Head of Delegation) and Oliver Indra (Substitute)

DELEGATION TO THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The aim of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is to strengthen the parliamentary dimension within the OSCE and to facilitate dialogue and cooperation between the representatives. It plays a leading role in monitoring elections and strengthens international cooperation for the implementation of shared voluntary commitments in the fields of security and politics, economics and the environment, as well as democracy and human rights.



L-r: Achim Vogt (Substitute), Christoph Wenaweser (Head of Delegation),
Nadine Vogelsang (Member) and Marc Risch (Substitute)

DELEGATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The Parliamentary Assembly is the advisory body of the Council of Europe, made up of representatives from the 46 national parliaments. The functions, or more precisely, the objectives of the Council of Europe are specifically the protection of human rights and the rule of law in all member states, the strengthening of Europe's democratic stability and addressing current socio-political issues.

**PARLIAMENT
THE PRESIDIUM OF THE LANDTAG**



THE PRESIDIUM OF THE LANDTAG

In the current legislative period, the Landtag Presidium is made up of the President, Vice-President and the spokespersons of the parliamentary groups. The Landtag Secretary also sits on the Landtag Presidium in an advisory capacity. The Landtag Presidium is responsible, in particular, for drawing up the

agenda for the Landtag sessions and for determining the manner in which the items on the agenda are discussed in accordance with Art. 20 of the Rules of Procedure. Its functions also include setting the dates of the Landtag sessions for at least one year, drawing up the Landtag budget for the attention of

the Landtag, procuring information and documents and communicating information through the Parliamentary Service for the attention of the members, the committees and delegations, as well as the agencies assigned to the Landtag.



The members of the Landtag Presidium: L-r: Thomas Rehak, Landtag member; Franziska Hoop, Vice-President of the Landtag; Manfred Kaufmann, President of the Landtag (Chair); Dagmar Bühler-Nigsch and Johannes Kaiser, Landtag members

**PARLIAMENT
THE PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE**



THE PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE

The Landtag was established as an official institution in 1818. The Landtag Secretariat, which has been operating under the name of Parliamentary Service since the reform of the Rules of Procedure, did not however commence operations until 1990. The workload has increased significantly since the Landtag was established, in particular because of the generally increasing internationalisation of parliamentary activities and the associated complexity in the tasks to be completed. This means that there has only been a real Parlia-

mentary Service in Liechtenstein since that date. Today the Parliamentary Service consists of the Landtag Secretary, his deputy, two full-time employees and six part-time employees.

The Landtag Secretary and his Deputy are appointed by the Landtag. Stefan Hassler currently holds the office of Landtag Secretary and his Deputy is Philipp Pfeiffer. The functions and remit of the Parliamentary Service are set out in the Rules of Procedure for the Landtag, LGBL. (Liechtenstein Legal

Gazette) 2013 no. 9, Art. 16 and 17, which provide for the organisation, the preparation, follow-up and management of the Landtag sessions, recording of the Landtag debates, of the meetings of the committees and delegations, and the drafting of Landtag resolutions. The Parliamentary Service is also the official point of contact for the Landtag for the concerns of the Government, or more precisely the administration, the general public, other parliaments and international organisations.



The members of the Parliamentary Service: Front row l-r: Philipp Pfeiffer (Landtag Secretary Deputy), Gabriela Hilti, Stefan Hassler (Landtag Secretary), Hannes Matt, Giulia Notaro-Limani; Back row l-r: Sandra Gerber-Leuenberger, Ariane Schwarz, Jessica F. Bucher, Gabriele Wachter and Pamela Bühler



Impressions of the farewell ceremony for the departing Landtag Secretary, Josef Hilti

AFTER 23 YEARS OF SERVICE:

FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR THE SECRETARY TO THE LANDTAG, JOSEF HILTI

Following its October 2025 session the Landtag bid farewell to its long-serving Secretary, Josef Hilti, with a surprise celebratory reception in the Hall of Pillars.

When the newly-elected Landtag began its work on 10 April 2025, Josef Hilti was starting out in his seventh legislative period as Secretary to the Landtag and Head of the Parliamentary Service, having worked with and for five Presidents of the Landtag. At the end of October 2025 Josef Hilti retired after 23 years of service.

As the President of the Landtag, Manfred Kaufmann, emphasised in his tribute, Josef Hilti was always there to support Landtag members with advice on all issues arising, no matter how large or small. “Josef was always on hand with help and advice”. If we include the on-going reform to the Landtag’s Rules of Procedure, the Secretary presided over no fewer than three Landtag reform initiatives. In 2008, the Landtag moved into the Hohe Haus (High House) with its electronic voting and broadcasting systems – it was in its own building for the first time in its history.

Josef Hilti was involved in the process from the outset, attending the meetings of the relevant committees, keeping a watchful eye over the construction, thereby representing the Landtag’s interests.

It only remained for the Landtag President, Manfred Kaufmann, to say “Thank you Josef” and wish the departing Landtag Secretary all the best for the future. Stefan Hassler from Vaduz succeeded Josef Hilti on 1 November 2025.

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**ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY VENUES FOR THE
REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF THE
PEOPLE OF LIECHTENSTEIN**

ASSEMBLY VENUES FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF THE PEOPLE OF LIECHTENSTEIN

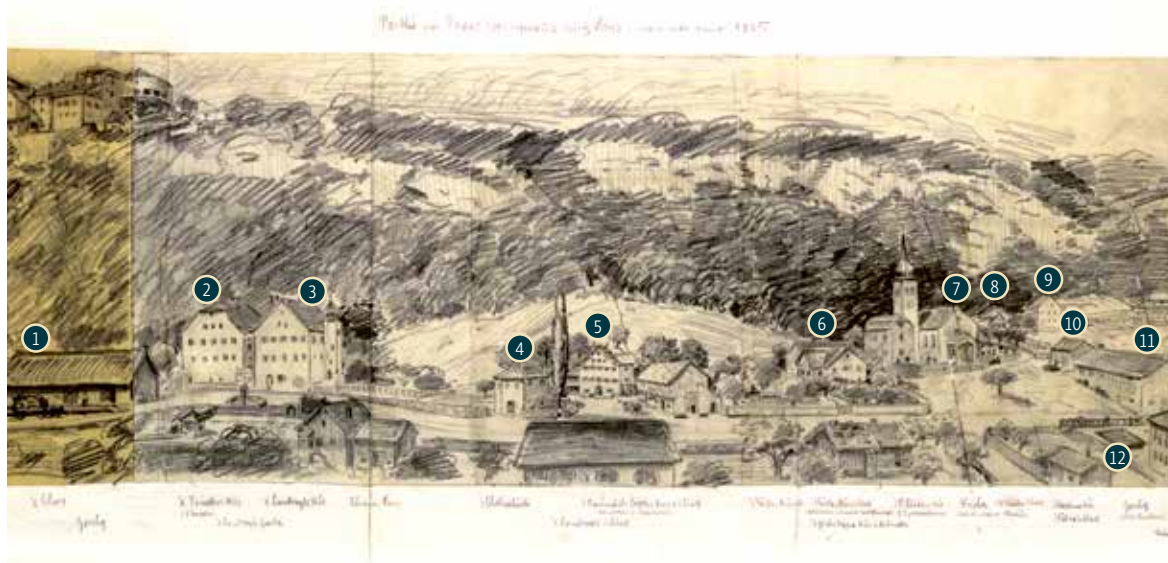
In February 2008, the Landtag moved into a prestigious new building in the centre of Vaduz. At its own decision it was built in the immediate vicinity of Government House. The following paragraphs outline the various locations where the representative body of the people in our country convened in the past, detailing how the people were represented, the composition of the Landtag and its assembly procedures. Its duties and powers are also covered as points of interest.

COURTS AND ASSEMBLIES AT THE LINDE IN VADUZ, AT ROFENBERG AND IN BENDERN

The County of Vaduz and the Dominion of Schellenberg each formed an electoral or judicial district. Each appointed a court, consisting of a Governor ("Landammann") and twelve justices, which represented the districts in their relations with powers and autho-

rities and were responsible for the organisation of the community. They played an important part in the state administration and the judicial system. Up until the 17th century they dispensed public law for the court venues, in Vaduz at the Linde, near the Chapel of St. Florin for the Oberland electoral district, and in Eschen, at Rofenberg near the Holy Cross Chapel for the Unterland electoral district.

The place where the public court was held was also where men capable of bearing arms met in a citizens' assembly to elect the Governor and justices. In the 18th century the electoral venue for the Unterland was the Schwibboga in Bendern. The public meetings were held every two years with a fixed schedule, in a formal ceremony, until the beginning of the 19th century.



Former Government Quarter in Vaduz 1865. The buildings from left to right: (1) "Zoschg" (2) "s'Verwalters Hus (d'Kanzlei)"; (3) "s'Landvogts Hus"; (4) "s'Schelmahüsli"; (5) "s'Baumästr Segers Hus u. Schtall (the house where Peter Balzer was born)"; (6) "s'Försters Hus u. Schtall (the house where the composer, Josef Rheinberger, was born)"; (7) "s'Dr. Schädlers Hus (Czakathurm)"; (8) "Kircha (obscuring s'Pfarrhus)"; (9) "s'Dr. Schädlers Schtall"; (10) "s'Kaplona Hus"; (11) "s'Fetza Schtall"; (12) "Zoschg" (Old Schoolhouse); (13) "s'Rybergers" (Haus z. Linde).

VADUZ – SEAT OF POWER AND VENUE FOR PEOPLE’S ASSEMBLIES

Together with the buildings at the foot of the castle rock, Vaduz Castle became the seat of power. The functions fulfilled by Vaduz as the judicial and administrative centre, customs office and market place, but also as a venue for elections and assemblies, were intrinsically linked with the function of the castle as the seat of the ruling family from the 14th century onwards. In fact, Vaduz had been appointed place of jurisdiction in 1392. The Äuli is mentioned as the place where the court assembled in documents dating back to the 15th century, and later on, the Linde near St. Florin’s Chapel was mentioned as the venue for the public court and the election of the Governor. In fact, the Oberland citizens’ assembly met there for around five hundred years until 1808.

LOSS OF PEOPLE’S RIGHTS AND REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

The transfer of sovereignty to the Princes of Liechtenstein was associated with a loss of a range of previously established people’s rights. In 1720, the district bodies, governors and courts were abolished. They were reinstated at the request of the districts in 1733, but with greatly reduced powers. This reduced Landammann constitution, and with it the old tradition of citizens’ assemblies, endured until 1808, when the remainder of the historical people’s rights were abolished by the princely authorities. The Oberland

and Unterland districts ceased to exist, there were no longer any municipal or judicial districts, and there was consequently no form of people’s representation whatsoever.

ESTATES PARLIAMENT IN THE GOVERNOR’S HOUSE: 1819 – 1847 AND 1857 – 1862

In 1818, the Prince issued a Constitution which created the Parliament of the Estates. The Estates, consisting of the clergy and the citizens, had the right to send representatives to the Parliament. The clergy elected its three deputies, whereas the citizens, or the subjects in general, were represented by the justices and municipal treasurers, who were in turn selected by the authorities from a short list of three candidates proposed by the municipal assemblies.

From 1819 to 1847 the Parliament was convened once a year, after which there was an interruption of ten years. The Estates Parliament was not convened in the year of revolutions, 1848, and in the following year was replaced by a National Council (Landrat), established by a provisional constitution. This first democratic representation of the people of Liechtenstein lasted until 1852, when the Constitution of 1818 came into force once again. However, the Estates Parliament was not convened again until 14 October 1857, again at the Governor’s House. During the years that followed, it was already involved in the discussions on a new



Part of the Government Quarter 1868: Detail from the panoramic view from the Rhine towards the village and castle by Moriz Menzinger 1868.

The buildings from left to right: (1) Schoolhouse, built in 1854; (2) House of Dr. Grass, later the Teacher’s House; (3) House of the Estates, built in 1867; (4) Government House, former Customs House and hotel; adjoining (5) Governor’s House.

constitution, which it adopted unanimously in its final session on 4 September 1862.

PROVISIONAL CONSTITUTION OF 1849: THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, LIECHTENSTEIN'S FIRST DEMOCRATIC PARLIAMENT – 1849–1851

Transitional provisions issued by the Prince on 7 March 1849 gave Liechtenstein a provisional constitution. The people, represented by assemblies of electoral deputies and the Constitutional Council, were closely involved in the drafting of this constitution, which formed the legal basis for Liechtenstein's first democratic parliament. The National Council elections were held in May 1849, bringing some significant changes. The right to vote was now no longer restricted to property-owning citizens of the municipalities, but was extended to all state citizens residing in the country. Elections were no longer decided indirectly by electoral delegates, but directly, albeit in two stages. In the first ballot, each municipality provisionally nominated a full 24-member National Council. A national electoral list of 45 men was produced from the results, based on the number of municipal votes. On 20 May 1849 the entire electorate of the Principality met in the historical venue at the Linde in Vaduz to form a national assembly. The election was conducted in the form of a public vote based on a show of hands, working through the names on the electoral list until 24 councillors and eight substitutes had been elected. An impressive 1,800 voters assembled, forming groups around their respective municipal leaders. At two o'clock all the bells of St. Florian's Chapel were rung and the National Administrator, standing on a raised platform, opened the assembly with a short address, before proceeding to the election itself.

The National Council held its first constitutive meeting on 23 May 1849 in the beer hall of the Vaduz Brewery. At the subsequent meeting held on 4 June 1849, this hall was selected by the people's representatives as their permanent venue, provisionally for one year. In the first and only session of the National Council, four more meetings were held there. However, after that session ended, the Prince did not convene the Council again. In Austria and in the German Confederation, to which Liechtenstein belonged, regressive policies were gaining traction. Principles, such as those that were due to be adopted in a new constitution for Liechtenstein in 1848 and 1849, could no longer be put into practice. On 20 July 1852 the Prince suspended the provisional articles of the constitution of 1849. The estates-based constitution of 1818 was resurrected. The Estates Parliament was reconvened, representing the people, but without having any rights.

1862 – BIRTH OF THE PRESENT LANDTAG

From the outset the Estates, reconvened in 1857, used their meetings as a forum to present their aspirations for reform to the Princely authorities, namely a new state constitution with free elections to represent the people. In 1862, the Estates achieved their goal of transitioning Liechtenstein from absolutism towards constitutionalism, in a Constitution freely agreed between the Prince and the people. Resulting from a compromise, the Constitution of 26 September 1862 essentially established the current form of government, which interconnects the monarchy with the sovereignty of the people. The Landtag became a true representative body of the people once again, endowed with the right to participate in legislation and to approve the state finances. It was made up of 15 members, twelve being elected indirectly through electoral deputies and three appointed by the Prince.

ELECTORAL DEPUTIES' MEETINGS 1862–1914

The electoral deputies were elected for each municipality, two for every 100 inhabitants. A population of 8200 in 1861 produced a total of 164 electoral deputies and until 1877 the country only had one single electoral district. The electoral deputies met in Vaduz Castle to elect the Landtag members and their substitutes, with the first meeting taking place on 24 November 1862. In 1878 the country was divided into two electoral districts, the Oberland, which could now elect seven representatives and the Unterland, which could elect five, in separate meetings of electoral deputies. The meetings in the the Oberland district took place in the large dining room on the first floor at Vaduz Castle until 1894, and from 1898 until 1914 in the newly built "Nigg'schen Gasthof zum Schloss" (now known as "Schlössle") in Vaduz. The electoral deputies of the Unterland district met in Mauren in the "Batliner'schen Gasthof" (now known as "Rössle") until 1886, and from 1890 till 1914 in the Schoolhouse.

LANDTAG IN THE KIRCHTHALER GASTHOF 1862–1867

After a preparatory meeting on 10 December 1862 the newly elected Landtag met on 29 December for a ceremonial opening session in the hall of the "Kirchthaler'schen Gastwirtschaft" (later known as "Vaduzerhof"). The Landtag met there until 1867. The building was the former Vaduz Brewery, built by Johann Baptist Quaderer.

THE LANDTAG IN ITS OWN "PARLIAMENTARY BUILDING" 1868 – 1905

The fact that the Landtag was soon making every effort to secure its own building is evidence of its

self-awareness and understanding of its importance. As early as 4 August 1864 it was considering a Government proposal for the construction of a parliamentary building. Peter Rheinberger, the State Surveyor, drew up construction plans which incorporated office premises and residential quarters for the District Judge and detention cells, in addition to the debating chambers. The construction site, on which the guest stables of the former prestigious hotel "Zum Adler" to the south (now the National Museum) once stood was donated by Prince Johann II in 1865. The hotel had been used as the seat of government since 1856. The construction costs were estimated at 6,800 guilders. The Landtag assembled in its new debating chamber for the first time on 18 May 1868. The "Ständehaus" (House of the Estates), named after the Estates, formed the centre point of the country. A sign reading "0 km" was engraved on the threshold and used to count the distance to places up and down the country.

LANDTAG IN GOVERNMENT HOUSE FROM 1905

Around the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th, the available space had become too small for the state authorities and departments. In 1899, the Landtag asked the Government to make the necessary arrangements to commence construction of a new administrative building for Liechtenstein to house the Landtag, the Government and all the official depart-

ments, which would become the focus of the political life and administration of the country. The present Government House was built on the site of a former manor between 1903 and 1905, designed by the Princely Architect, Gustav von Neumann. The costs were covered by a contribution of 100,000 crowns from the Prince and a loan of 260,000 crowns from the "Landschäftlichen Sparkassa". The new administrative building was inaugurated in an opening ceremony at the meeting of the Landtag on 28 December 1905. The Landtag had left its own building to be given a new assembly chamber on the second floor of the administrative building. On the instructions of Prince, the wall recesses in the Landtag chamber were adorned with portraits of Reigning Princes and coats of arms, at the Prince's expense.

The relocation of the Landtag to Government House in 1905 was an outward sign of the shift in the political balance between the Landtag and Government that had been gradually taking place since 1862. Without any institutional change, the power and pre-eminence of the National Administrator within the Government and over the representation of the people had increased sharply towards the end of the 19th century. This unwelcome development was rectified by the Constitution of 1921: the Landtag had 15 members, as before, but now they were all elected by the people.



Government House in 1909.

The ability of the Landtag to control and participate in the state administration was enhanced. The most important change compared with the former Constitution was the extension of the people's rights to include the right of initiative and the right to instigate referendums.

THE LANDTAG'S TEMPORARY MOVES TO THE MUSIC SCHOOL 1969/70 AND 1989 – 1996

Between 1969 and 1970 the Landtag chamber in Government House underwent renovations, during which time the Landtag held its meetings in the auditorium of the recently established Music School in the Rheinbergerhaus. There were several failed attempts, both before and after this, to increase the number of Landtag members. However, in 1984 a majority of the electorate voted in favour of women's right to vote, which added strength to the argument for increasing the number of members to represent the people. In 1988, the people agreed to raise the number of members of the Landtag to 25, and in December 1984 it informed the Government of its intention of commissioning its own building within a reasonable distance from Government House. This decision, and the subsequent plans for the development of the Government Quarter, resolved a number of important issues regarding the future layout of the centre of Vaduz and meant that the other possible locations for a parliament building

which had been mooted became surplus to requirement. In 1989 the new 25-strong Landtag moved its sessions back to the Music School due to lack of space in Government House and remained there until 1996.

THE ROAD TO A NEW LANDTAG BUILDING 1984 – 2008

The decision in 1984 was followed in 1986 by a competition for urban planning designs, centring around the construction of a Parliament Building. In the following year, the designs by the architect, Luigi Snozzi were judged to be the best and in 1990 his plans for the redesign of the Government Quarter were submitted. The first stage of the overall project would provide the parliament building, together with secure premises for museum displays, the archive and cultural heritage assets in a hillside development. In October 1992 the Landtag accepted this project and granted a guaranteed credit. However, a referendum was called and the project was rejected by a large majority of the electorate in March 1993.

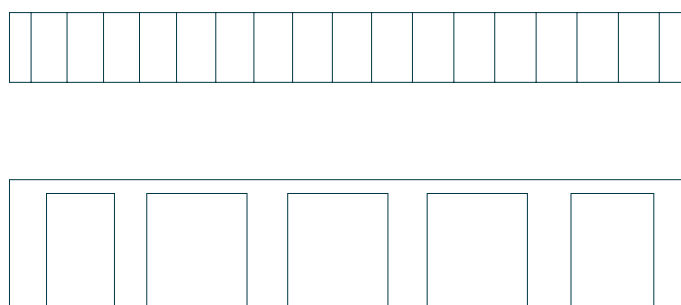
After this setback the issue of a new assembly venue for the representation of the people did not come up for consideration again until 1995. The Landtag decided to convert the parliamentary chamber in Government House for use as a debating chamber on a trial basis. In autumn 1996, it finally decided on the design of the debating chamber which was by now understood to be temporary. In the same year, a Government report on the construction of a new parliament building was submitted to the Landtag members. Discussions on the location followed, along with an urban planning survey and an architectural and project competition. In 2000, the design by the architect Hansjörg Göritz was selected. The budget for the project was set beforehand at CHF 36 million.

The people's representatives were able to move into their new assembly premises in February 2008. The Parliament Building provides them with premises that are in keeping with their function. Its position, size and architecture reflect the function of the Landtag laid down in the Constitution as the legislative body of the state and its inherent national and political significance. The new building is, for now, the final stage of a century-long transformation of the centre of Vaduz from a mediaeval manorial and administrative district into the Government Quarter. Its proximity to what was an historic assembly venue for the people is intended to highlight its paramount importance for the representation of the people.



Parliament Building in Peter-Kaiser Square.

THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING



The Parliament Building, with its ochre-coloured brick façade, designed by German architect, Hansjörg Göritz, was opened in 2008 and along with Government House and the Archive Building forms the Government Quarter, all close neighbours in Peter Kaiser Square, the largest public square in Vaduz.

A car park is situated beneath the Peter Kaiser Square with space for more than 50 vehicles. The National Command Centre, where in extreme situations of an exceptional nature the emergency operation of the Government can be guaranteed, is also housed there on the same level as the car park.

The Landtag Building is made up of three structures, the High House, the Connecting House and the Long House, with the Connecting House serving as a structural connection between the two other buildings. Passing through the foyer of the High House, visitors arriving to witness parliamentary sessions ascend

to the Plenary Chamber on the first floor, where the 25 representatives of the people meet together with the Government, supported by the Parliamentary Service. The representatives hold their debates in plenary sessions around a round table in the truest sense of the word - currently the only seating arrangement of its kind in Europe. The Plenary Chamber which has a maximum height of approx. 19 metres is a very impressive sight. The chamber has a state-of-the-art, electronic speaker-display panel with an integrated voting system, a technical booth for broadcasting the plenary sessions, as well as a translation booth.

The ground floor of the Long House is furnished with two conference rooms, an archive and a cafeteria for the use of the Landtag.

On the first floor, opposite the Plenary Chamber, the Lounge is a place where members can meet for an informal exchange of ideas.

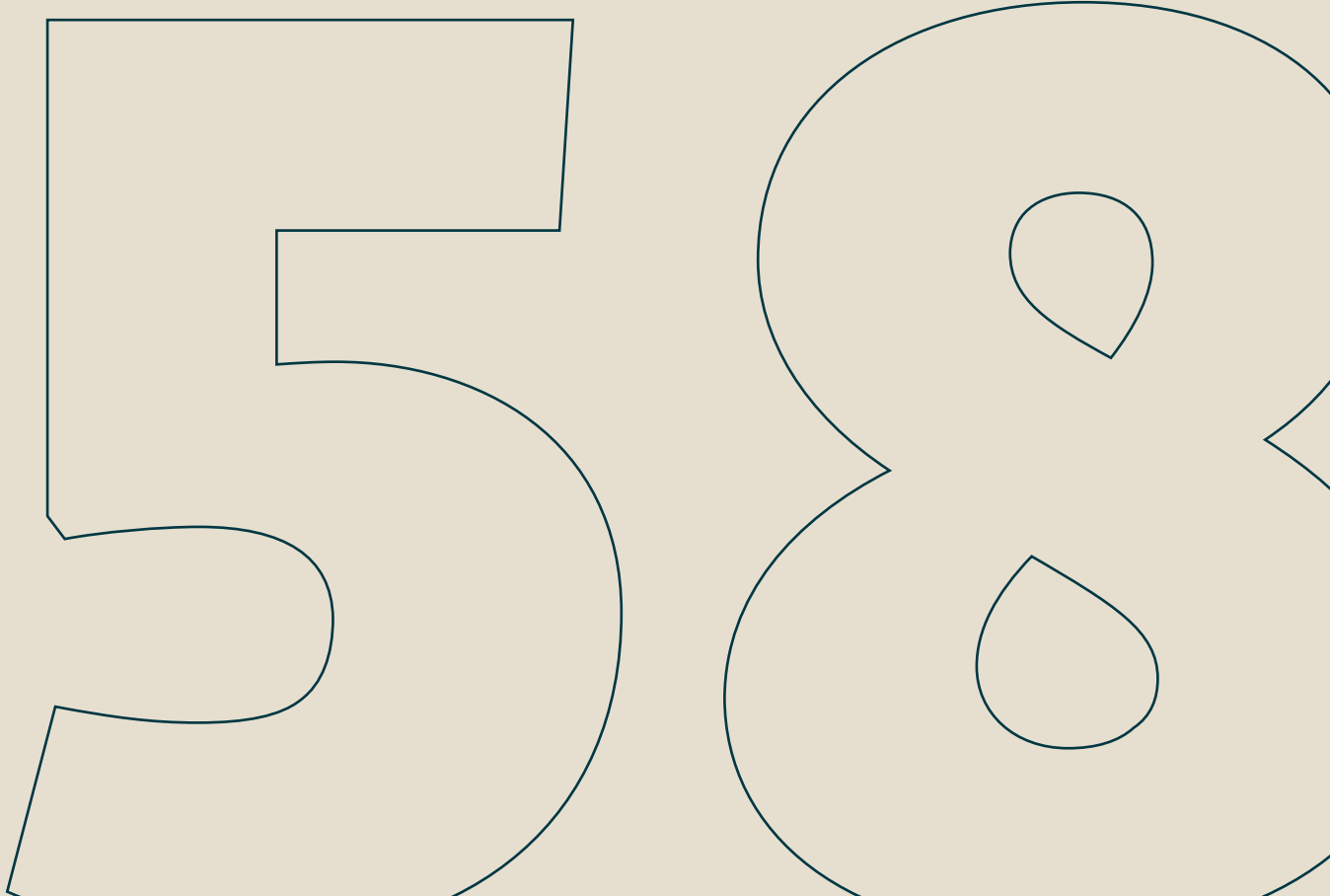
Adjoining the Lounge are the office premises of the Parliamentary Service, where the Landtag Secretary, deputies and other staff members carry out their duties.

The second floor of the building incorporates rooms for the parliamentary parties and the office of the President of the Landtag.

The floor above the office accommodation finally leads on to the roof terrace giving a wonderful view over the Swiss mountains and down to the Peter Kaiser Square below.

The roof terrace, which could, if necessary in future, be converted to accommodate more offices or conference rooms, also boasts an impressive view of the hanging wall behind the Landtag building, approximately 26 metres in height, which is secured by a 15 metre-long anchoring system.

HISTORY



HISTORY

ABSOLUTISM

The Landtag as an institution was created by the absolutist Constitution of 1818. The two estates, the Church and the people, were granted the right to be represented by “Deputies”. The Church elected three members of the clergy into Parliament. The people were represented by the eleven community leaders and the administrators (that is to say, municipal treasurers). The Parliament of the Estates was convened once a year by the Prince for a single session. It possessed absolutely no rights; its sole function consisted in consenting “with gratitude” to the annual demand for taxes.

CONSTITUTION OF 1862

The history of Liechtenstein’s parliamentary system begins with the establishment of the 1862 Constitution. The Landtag now became a true representative body of the people which was mainly constituted by way of free elections. The number of members was reduced to 15. Three were appointed by the Prince, while the other twelve were elected indirectly by the people, with two electoral deputies being elected for every hundred inhabitants in each municipality. Only men were eligible to vote. These electoral deputies then elected the members of parliament at an electoral meeting. The Landtag now had the right to participate in the most important, but by no means all, affairs of the State: the right to participate in legislation, the right of assent to important state treaties, the right to approve taxes (financial sovereignty), the right to oversee the state administration, as well as the right to participate in military recruitment. The Landtag still had no influence over the formation of the Government and the appointment of judges.

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

The two historic constituencies were abolished during the absolutist period. Although the subjects put up a strong resistance, the Constitution of 1862 did not reverse the creation of a unitary state. During the “Coinage Chaos” in 1877, when the inhabitants of the Unterland vigorously opposed the introduction of the gold standard, the conflict flared up again. As a consequence, in 1878 the country was divided into two electoral districts: with seven members now being elected from the Oberland electoral district and five from the Unterland. The Prince then appointed two members from the Oberland and one from the Unterland. In the Constitution of 1921, the Prince relinquished the right

to appoint three princely representatives, while the total of 15 members with a 60:40 ratio between the Oberland (9) and Unterland (6) was retained.

BLOCKING MINORITY

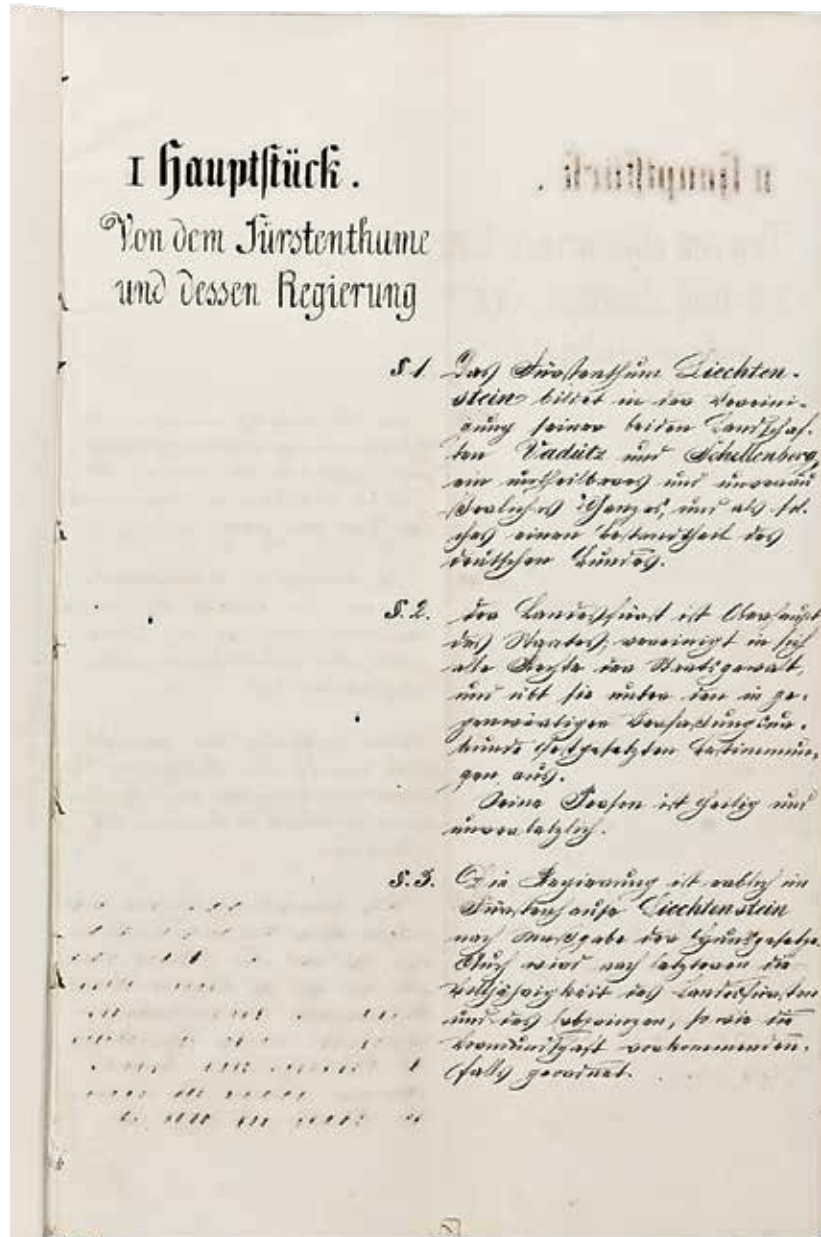
This proportion was retained when the number of members was raised to 25 in 1988, although the ratio (15:10) does not exactly match the number of inhabitants in the two electoral districts. The Unterland is given an advantage and protected as a minority. Since at least two thirds of the members (17) must be present for a resolution of the Landtag to be valid, the Unterland representatives have since 1878 had the ability to block changes in the Constitution or to stop resolutions entirely, simply by walking out of the chamber.

CONSTITUTION OF 1921

The Constitution of 1921 placed the State of Liechtenstein on a new foundation, in that monarchical and democratic principles were now on an equal footing for the first time. Many of the state functions can now only be exercised if the different state bodies work together. A fundamental innovation compared with the Constitution of 1862 was the concept that the State is based on “democratic and parliamentary principles”. The people were granted extensive direct democratic rights (electoral rights, right of initiative and referendum). As the Prince gave up the right to appoint three members, the Landtag was now a full parliament, purely for the representation of the people. The rights of parliament were expanded significantly and ever since the Government has been shaped by cooperation between the Prince and the Landtag, with the Landtag having the right to nominate appointees. Another innovation was the ability of the Landtag to select judges, either by submitting nominations to the Prince, or directly.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION OF 2003

As part of a constitutional revision in 2003, certain rights and powers of the Landtag were either modified or redefined. For example, the selection of judges was transferred to a Judge Appointment Board chaired by the Prince or the Head of State. The Government is appointed by the Prince by mutual agreement with the Landtag, on the basis of the Landtag’s nomination. If the Government loses the confidence of the Prince or the Landtag, its authority to exercise its office will lapse. The Prince will appoint a transitional government for the temporary administration of the entire



Original Constitution of 1862. © Kubelka, Peter, Wien / LI LA

state for the period until the new Government takes office. Furthermore, when an emergency decree is issued, the Prince will take the place of the legislative body. This constitutes an emergency measure independent of Parliament.

ELECTORAL LAW CHANGES

The direct right to vote in a secret ballot was introduced in 1918. Since then, members have no longer been elected by electoral deputies, but directly by electors at the ballot box. Up to 1939, elections were conduc-

ted on the basis of a majority voting system. Shortly before the Second World War, in the face of the perceived threat from outside, a truce was concluded between the opposing parties, leading to the adoption of a system of proportional representation. At the same time an electoral threshold of 18 percent was introduced in the Election Act, designed to keep extremist elements out of the Landtag. This threshold was revoked by the Constitutional Court in 1962, because it had no constitutional basis. In 1973, a new 8 percent electoral threshold was adopted in the Constitution.

Initiatives to abolish or reduce this electoral threshold have so far been unsuccessful. Similarly, other efforts to change electoral law (for example, by introducing a majority clause for both electoral districts) have been rejected by the populace.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

The introduction of voting rights for women and the right to stand in elections was twice rejected in referendums in 1971 and 1973 and only succeeded on the third attempt in 1984.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

In international terms the Landtag is a small parliament. Since 1919, there had been repeated attempts to increase the number of members, but these had failed in four referendums. It was not until 1988 that the electorate agreed to increase the number of members to 25.

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN

The first woman was elected in 1986. In 1993, two women were successful; from 1997 to 2001 there was only one ordinary female member in the Landtag. At the 2001 elections three women were elected to the Landtag. No fewer than six women (equivalent to 24 percent) succeeded in getting into parliament in the Landtag elections held on 13 March 2005, followed by the same number on 8 February 2009. In the Landtag elections held on 3 February 2013 the number was reduced to five women, equivalent to a share of 20 percent. This number fell even further to only three women in the 2017 Landtag elections. On the other hand, seven women were elected to represent the people in the 2021 Landtag elections, more than double the number elected in 2017. Eight women successfully entered parliament in 2025.



The first assembly venue of the Landtag was in the House of the Estates (Ständehaus) from 1868 to 1905.

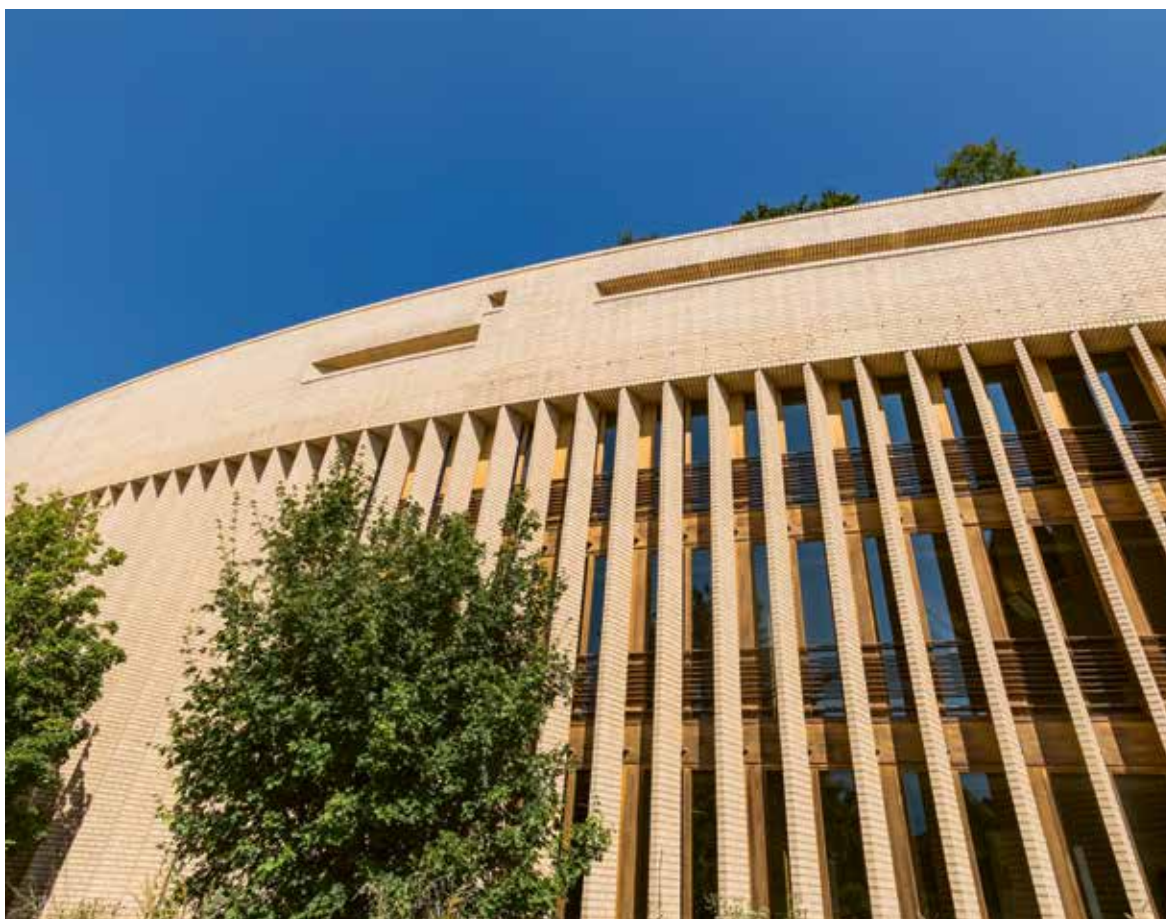
LIECHTEN-
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LANDTAG



THE PARTIES

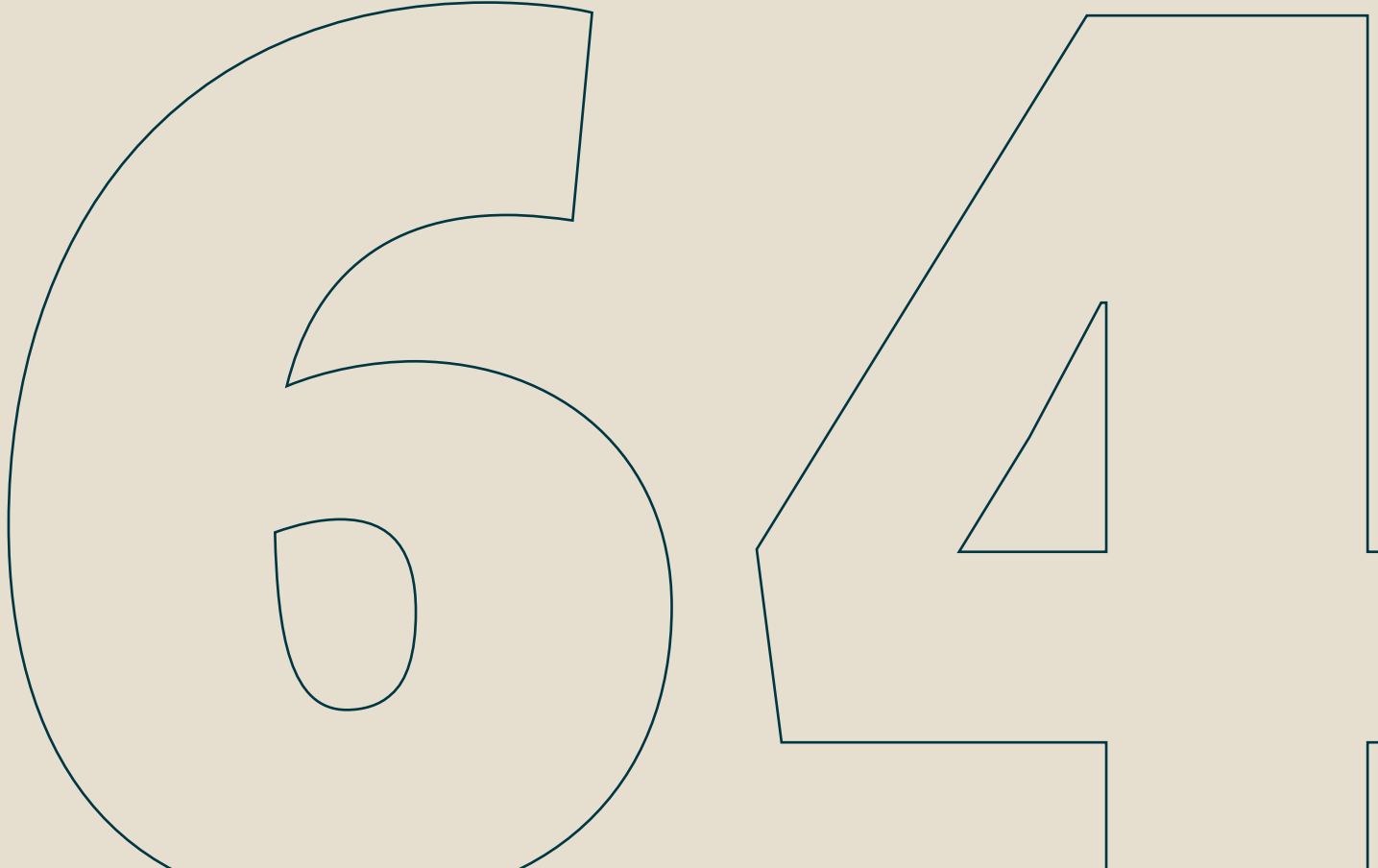
The first parties were formed in 1918. Until 1993 the Progressive Citizens' Party (Fortschrittliche Bürgerpartei "FBP") and the Patriotic Union (Vaterländische Union "VU") were the only parties represented in the Landtag. Following the introduction of proportional representation (1939), elections generally produced very small majorities, leading to the formation of coalition governments over a very long period (1938 to 1997). In 1993, a third party, the Free List (Freie Liste "FL"), got over the 8 percent line of the electoral threshold to enter the Landtag for the first time. The two legislative periods between 1997 to 2005 both saw a single party in government, representing a departure from the coalition between the two large parties that had been the order of the day in the past. The model of "grand" coalition has been the normal scenario since the 2005 election. In 2013, a fourth party, the Independents (die Unabhängigen "DU"), entered the Landtag for the first time, winning four seats at their first attempt. In the 2017 election, there were once again four parties

in the Landtag which were all large enough to form a parliamentary group. Following internal disputes, the Independents (DU) parliamentary group which had five members, split into two separate groups in 2018. The three-member majority of the Independents (DU) formed the New Faction (Neue Fraktion "NF"), but this meant that the Independents (DU) were then no longer eligible to form a parliamentary group and therefore became a "voting group" with only two members for the remainder of the legislative period. As a result, from the second half of 2018 there were five parties or groups represented in the Landtag for the first time. In the 2021 Landtag elections the Independents failed to gain any seats, ending an eight-year presence in the Landtag. By contrast, the Democrats for Liechtenstein (Demokraten pro Liechtenstein "DpL"), running in an election for the first time, entered the Landtag with two seats. The same parties won seats in 2025. So the Landtag now once again comprises four parties for the current legislative period, three of which meet the criteria for the status of a parliamentary group.



HISTORY **PRESIDENTS OF THE LANDTAG**

SINCE 1862



PRESIDENTS OF THE LANDTAG

SINCE 1862



Karl Schädler*
1862–1870



Wilhelm Schlegel
1871–1876, 1878–1881,
1886–1889



Rudolf Schädler
1877



Albert Schädler
1882–1885, 1890–1918



Friedrich Walser
1919–1921



Wilhelm Beck
1922–1928



Anton Frommelt
1928–1944



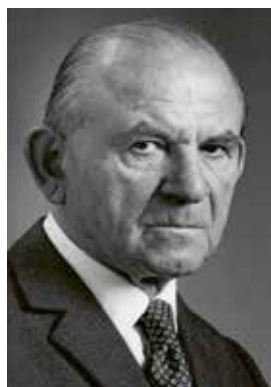
David Strub
1945–1953, 1955, 1957



Alois Ritter
1954, 1956



Josef Hoop
1958–1959



Martin Risch
1960–1965



Alexander Frick
1966–1969

LIECHTEN-
STEIN
LANDTAG



PRESIDENTS OF THE LANDTAG

SINCE 1862



Karlheinz Ritter
1970 – 1973, 1978 – 1992



Gerard Batliner
1974 – 1977



Ernst Walch
1993



Paul Kindle
1994, 1996



Otmar Hasler
1995



Peter Wolff
1997 – 2001



Klaus Wanger
2001 – 2009



Arthur Brunhart
2009 – 2013



Albert Frick
2013 – 2025



Manfred Kaufmann
since 2025

* No photograph exists of the first President of Parliament, Karl Schädler.

Shown instead is the first page of the minutes that documented the first meeting of the Landtag, on 29 December 1862.

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The Landtag brochures can be obtained free of charge from the Parliamentary Service.

Interested parties can find more information at www.landtag.li.

