

**The Constitution of Finland, 11 June 1999 (731/1999).** Available at <http://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/kaannokset/1999/en19990731.pdf>

*Section 14 - Electoral and participatory rights*

Every Finnish citizen who has reached eighteen years of age has the right to vote in national elections and referendums. Specific provisions in this Constitution shall govern the eligibility to stand for office in national elections. Every Finnish citizen and every foreigner permanently resident in Finland, having attained eighteen years of age, has the right to vote in municipal elections and municipal referendums, as provided by an Act. Provisions on the right to otherwise participate in municipal government are laid down by an Act. The public authorities shall promote the opportunities for the individual to participate in societal activity and to influence the decisions that concern him or her.

*Section 24 - Composition and term of the Parliament*

The Parliament is unicameral. It consists of two hundred Representatives, who are elected for a term of four years at a time. The term of the Parliament begins when the results of the parliamentary elections have been confirmed and lasts until the next parliamentary elections have been held.

*Section 25 - Parliamentary elections*

The Representatives shall be elected by a direct, proportional and secret vote. Every citizen who has the right to vote has equal suffrage in the elections. For the parliamentary elections, the country shall be divided, on the basis of the number of Finnish citizens, into at least twelve and at most eighteen constituencies. In addition, the Åland Islands shall form their own constituency for the election of one Representative. The right to nominate candidates in parliamentary elections belongs to registered political parties and, as provided by an Act, to groups of persons who have the right to vote. More detailed provisions on the timing of parliamentary elections, the nomination of candidates, the conduct of the elections and the constituencies are laid down by an Act.