







Poland¹

National Parties	Group at the European Parliament	Link to the party's official site	Link to the official campaign site	Link to the programme	Slogan	Link to the detailed list
Peoples Party (PSL) Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe ²		www.psl.org.pl	x	x	x	http://www.psl.org.pl/?news=2187
Civic Platform (PO) Platforma Obywatelska		www.po.org.pl	www.eurowybory.platforma.org	x	x	http://www.eurowybory.platforma.org/pl/kandydaci-po/okregi-wyborcze/okreg-wyborczy-nr-1-/
Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej		http://www.sld.pl	http://www.sld.org.pl/wybory2009	http://www.sld.org.pl/wybory2009/dokumenty_programowe.htm	x	http://www.sld.org.pl/wybory2009/kandydaci_do_pe.htm
Law and Justice (PiS) Prawo i Sprawiedliwość		www.pis.org.pl	http://www.pis.org.pl/komentarz.php?id=4&ida=14908	x	x	http://www.pis.org.pl/article.php?id=14971
Modern Democratic Party (PD) Partia Demokratyczna		http://www.demokracy.pl/	x	http://demokracy.pl/index.php?do=standard&navi=0001,0003		http://demokracy.pl/index.php?do=news&navi=0001,0001&id=4664
League of Families (LPR) Liga Polskich Rodzin		http://www.lpr.pl	x	x	x	http://www.lpr.pl/?sr=!czytaj&id=6701&dz=kraj&x=1&pocz=0&gr=
Self Defence (SO) Samoobrona	-	www.samoobrona.org.pl	x	x	x	http://www.samoobrona.org.pl/pages/04.pe/15.poslowie/

¹ Updated 27/05/09

² The parties highlighted in blue are the ruling parties

Porozumienie dla Przyszłości-CentroLewica (C) Agreement for the Future of the Centre Left	-	www.centrolew.pl	x	x	x	http://www.centrolew.pl/
Poles First (NP) Naprzód Polsko	-	www.naprzodpolsko.pl	x	x	x	x
Social Democratic Party of Poland (SDPL) Socjaldemokracja Polska	-	http://sdpl.pl/index.php/ida/29/				http://sdpl.pl/index.php/ida/14/?idn=1762&p=1

Source : Data collated and processed by the Robert Schuman Foundation, Fondation Robert Schuman ©

Analysis of the electoral campaign 5 weeks before the elections:

Authors : Dominika Tomaszewska and Aleksandra Saczuk (Robert Schuman Fondation, Poland)

Election date: 7th June

Number of MEPs to be elected: 50

The Polish political parties are completing their lists. Above all this election is an opportunity for a new confrontation between the two main parties in the country – the Civic Platform (PO) in power and Law and Justice (PiS) chaired by Jaroslaw Kaczynski (Lech Kaczynski, his twin brother is President of the Republic).

The Civic Platform is counting on its opening to other parties and is rallying independents or people from various political environments on its list – these include Danuta Hübner (European Commissioner for Regional Policy), who lies to the left on the political scale and Marian Krzaklewski, former Solidarnosc leader and founder in 1996 of the Solidarity Electoral Action (AWS) which lies rather more to the right. Severely beaten in the general elections in 2001 AWS and Marian Krzaklewski disappeared from the political arena. Civic Platform is also counting on the European experience of its candidates: Róża Thun (head of the Representatives of the European Commission in Poland and former Chairwoman of the Polish Schuman Foundation), Jerzy Buzek (outgoing MEP and Prime Minister from 1997 to 2001) and even Jacek Saryusz-Wolski (chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee at the European Parliament). The party, which has 14 seats in Strasbourg at present, wants to win 25 seats and thereby strengthen its position within the EPP, the European People's Party.

Law and Justice is trusting its loyal voters and national MPs who do not have much to do with Europe such as Jacek Kurski and

Zbigniew Ziobro (former Justice minister). The party is intending to campaign on the economic crisis, which it blames the government in place for. The weekly Polityka wonders about the revival of the far-right in Poland (League of Families, LPR and Samoobrona, SO) which was the major winner in the European elections in 2004, notably due to extremely low turnout.

Although the PiS has managed to remain ahead of the League of Families and Samoobrona over the last five years it may very well lose voters from its rightwing because of its trend towards the centre that started in 2008 with the aim of providing Jaroslaw Kaczynski with the image of a moderate, modern, open leader. This is why it might find it difficult in rallying the centre and far right traditionalist and nationalist electorate.

Finally the left failed in putting forward a united list in Poland – three lists were due to be presented.

The Civic Platform is in the lead in the polls (58% of the vote), with Law and Justice due to win 27% and all of the leftwing lists, 5%.