







## Slovakia<sup>1</sup>

National Parties	Group in the European Parliament	Link to the official party site	Link to the official campaign site	Link to the programme	Slogan	Link to the detailed list
<b>Democratic and Christian Union (SDKU-DS) Slovenská Demokratická a Kresťanská Únia - Demokratická Strana</b>		<a href="http://www.sdkuonline.sk">www.sdkuonline.sk</a>	<a href="http://www.sdkuonline.sk/pages/volby_do_EP.shtml">http://www.sdkuonline.sk/pages/volby_do_EP.shtml</a>	x	x	<a href="http://www.sdkuonline.sk/pages/primarky_europarlament.shtml">http://www.sdkuonline.sk/pages/primarky_europarlament.shtml</a>
<b>Hungarian Coalition Party (SMK) Magyar Koalíció Pártja - Strana Madarskej Koalicie</b>		<a href="http://www.mkp.sk">www.mkp.sk</a>	x	x	x	<a href="http://www.mkp.sk">www.mkp.sk</a>
<b>Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) Kresťanskodemokratické Hnutie</b>		<a href="http://www.kdh.sk">www.kdh.sk</a>	<a href="http://verime.kdh.sk/">http://verime.kdh.sk/</a>	<a href="http://verime.kdh.sk/ako_volit/">http://verime.kdh.sk/ako_volit/</a>	x	<a href="http://verime.kdh.sk/">http://verime.kdh.sk/</a>
<b>Slovakian National Party (SNS)<sup>2</sup> Slovenská Národná Strana</b>		<a href="http://www.sns.sk">www.sns.sk</a>	<a href="http://www.sns.sk/modules.php?name=volby_2009">http://www.sns.sk/modules.php?name=volby_2009</a>	x	x	<a href="http://www.sns.sk/modules.php?name=volby_2009&amp;op=preco_volit">http://www.sns.sk/modules.php?name=volby_2009&amp;op=preco_volit</a>
<b>Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (LU-HZDS) Ľudova Strana - Hnuti za Demockratické Slovenska</b>		<a href="http://www.hzds.sk">www.hzds.sk</a>	<a href="http://www.hzds.sk/?mod=clanky&amp;par=volby-do-europskeho-parlamentu">http://www.hzds.sk/?mod=clanky&amp;par=volby-do-europskeho-parlamentu</a>	<a href="http://www.hzds.sk/?mod=clanky&amp;par=volby-do-ep-program&amp;menu=4252">http://www.hzds.sk/?mod=clanky&amp;par=volby-do-ep-program&amp;menu=4252</a>	<b>Slovensko stabilné srdce europy (Slovakia, stable at the heart of Europe)</b>	<a href="http://www.hzds.sk/?mod=clanky&amp;par=volby-do-ep-kandidati&amp;menu=4253">http://www.hzds.sk/?mod=clanky&amp;par=volby-do-ep-kandidati&amp;menu=4253</a>

<sup>1</sup> Updated 27/05/09

<sup>2</sup> The parties highlighted in blue are the governing parties

<b>Direction-Social Democracy (SMER-DS) SMER - Sociálna Demokracia</b>		<a href="http://www.strana-smer.sk">www.strana-smer.sk</a>	<p style="text-align: center;">x</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">x</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">x</p>	<a href="http://www.strana-smer.sk/259/1040/kandidati-do-europskeho-parlamentu.html">http://www.strana-smer.sk/259/1040/kandidati-do-europskeho-parlamentu.html</a>
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Source : Data collated and processed by the Robert Schuman Foundation, Fondation Robert Schuman ©

### **Analysis of the electoral campaign 5 weeks before the elections:**

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**Election Date:** 6th June

**Number of MEPs to be elected:** 13

In 2004, the Slovaks distinguished themselves thanks to their record abstention rate – the highest in Europe (17% turnout). However this was not a sign of euroscepticism, since according to the polls within Europe the Slovaks were amongst the most satisfied with their country's membership of the European Union.

The outgoing MEPs' profile is not very high except for Monika Falsikova-Benova whose popularity is linked rather more to her private life and her conflicts with the ruling party, Direction-Social Democracy (SMER-SD) and Prime Minister Robert Fico, than to her work for the European Union. Until a few weeks ago the presidential election of 21st March and 4th April last that witnessed the re-election of Jan Gasparovic, occupied the front stage of political debate in Slovakia.

17 parties are running but five only seem likely to win seats: the Democratic and Christian Union (SDKU) whose list is led by Eduard Kukan, Direction-Social Democracy (SMER-SD) which is led by Boris Zala, the Hungarian Coalition Party (SMK) led as in 2004 by Edit Bauer, the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) and the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (LU-HZDS).

The campaign has started. It is focused on 4 main themes: consumer protection, the budget, security and alternative energy sources. But these do not mean much to Slovakian voters who are not very sensitive to environment issues and consumer protection. Many projects are underway to stimulate youth participation. The campaign undertaken by the Centre for European Policy announced – "We have already been 17" referring to age (18 year olds are allowed to vote) and to the 17% turnout rate in 2004.

The polls grant 46% of the vote to Direction-Social Democracy, 13% to the Democratic and Christian Union, 11% to the far right movement and member of the government coalition, the National Party, (SNS), 9% to the Christian Democratic Movement, 8% to the Hungarian Coalition and 6% to the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia.