



Youth representation in candidates' lists for members of parliament for the April 25, 2021 Parliamentary Elections in Albania



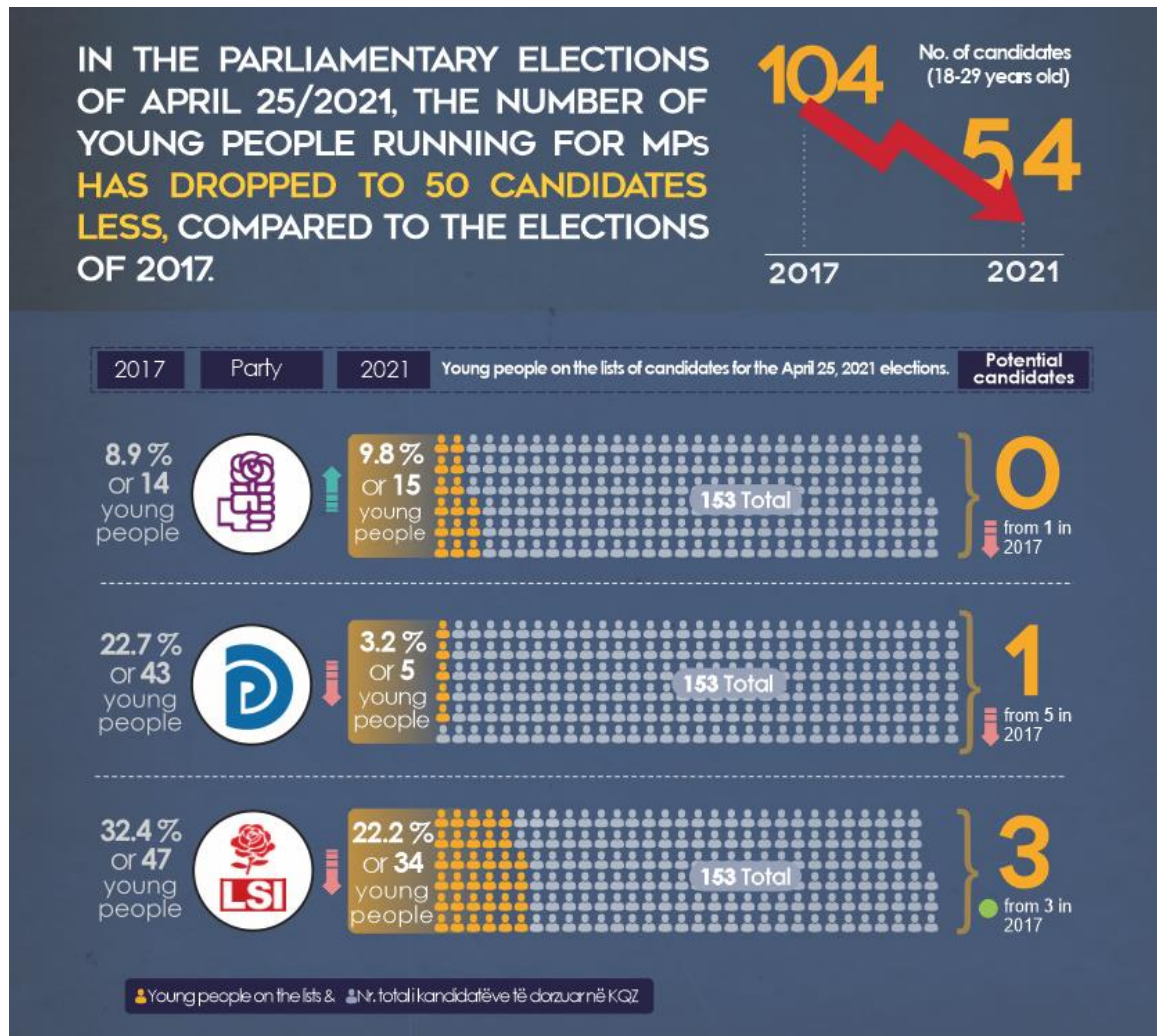
-ANALYSIS-

Even though young people constitute 1/3 of the population with a right to vote, they are often included in a disproportionate way in political subjects which represent interests of citizens. The Civic Resistance, in the framework of an initiative taken to monitor the participation of young people in elections, and with the support of the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, has analyzed the representation of youth in the candidates' lists of the 3 main political parties, for members of parliament for the Albanian Parliamentary elections of April 25, 2021.



YOUTH REPRESENTATION IN ELECTORAL LISTS

The analysis considers the percentage of candidates participating in voting lists, their gender and potential to be selected as future members of the parliament and their average age. In addition to measuring the performance over the years of youth representation in elections, a comparison has also been made with the participation of young people in the lists of the 2017 parliamentary elections.



The maximum age calculated in this analysis for the consideration of young candidates is 18 to 29 years old, referring to the age limit of youth provided on law 75/2019 on Youth, European Union standards for the age of youth and study criteria used by INSTAT in our country. For each of the 3 main political parties in the country, young candidates have been analyzed at the national level and at the regional or electoral zone level, identifying their participation percentages and potential candidates who are running to become members of parliament after the April 25 elections. Given the tendency over the years for political parties to put young candidates at the bottom of their lists, Civic Resistance has considered **potential young**

candidates (up to 29 years old), each candidate who is part of the winners' list to become part of the future parliament, in reference to the results of the 2017 parliamentary elections.



The number of young candidates on the lists for MPs in the April 25 elections is 54, 50 less than the number of young candidates running in the 2017 elections.

Regarding gender participation of young people in the lists of the 3 main political parties in 2021, more girls (35) than boys (19) are running for the elections, while in 2017, 41 girls and 63 boys were part of it. The average age of young candidates of the 3 political forces in the 2021 elections is 26 years old, while in the 2017 elections, this average was 25 years old, so there is a slight increase in the average youth age of candidates for MPs.

Young people in the candidates' lists for MPs for the Socialist Party

REGION	NO. OF YOUNG CANDIDATES IN 2017	% in 2017		% in 2021	NO. OF YOUNG CANDIDATES IN 2017
Tiranë	4/37	10.8%	↑	11%	4/36
Durrës	0/16	0%	↑	6.6%	1/15
Shkodër	0/11	0%	↑	16.6%	2/12
Korçë	1/13	7.7%	↑	8.3%	1/12
Fier	2/16	12.5%	↓	5.5%	1/18
Elbasan	2/20	10%	↓	6.6%	1/15
Kukës	0/3	0%	●	0%	0/3
Berat	1/8	12.5%	↓	11.1%	1/9
Gjirokastrë	0/4	0%	↑	16.6%	1/6
Dibër	0/6	0%	●	0%	0/6
Lezhe	3/8	37.5%	↑	33.3%	3/9
Vlorë	1/14	7.1%	↓	0%	0/12
Nr Total	14/156	8.9%	↑	9.8%	15/153

The Socialist Party of Albania has submitted at the CEC a list of 153 candidates for members of parliaments for the Parliamentary Elections of April 25. 15 of 153 candidates belong to the youth age group of 18 – 29 years old, who constitute around 9.8% of the total number of people running for the April 25 elections. The Socialist Party, has an increase by 1 younger candidate in the list,

compared to 2017, but has a decline regarding potential candidates to become members of the parliament. In 2017 there was one potential candidate compared to 2021, where there is no potential candidate, and most likely there will be no candidate aged 18-29 in the seats won by the Socialist Party in the elections.

In 5 out of 12 electoral zones, The Socialist Party has not nominated any young people in the list submitted to the CEC, while the electoral zone with the youngest candidates is Lezha region with a full 33.3%, or 3 out of 9 candidates are young people.

The average age of young candidates in the Socialist Party for the 2021 elections is 28 years old, a year older than the average age of candidates for this party in 2017. While in terms of gender, 9 out of 15 young candidates are girls and 6 are boy candidates. This is an unchanged indicator if we also refer to the gender of young candidates in the 2017 parliamentary elections.

Young people in the candidates' lists for MPs for the Democratic Party

The Democratic Party of Albania has submitted to the Central Election Commission a list of 153 candidates for MPs in the April 25 elections for the Albanian Parliament. 5 out of 153 candidates belong to the youth age group 18 - 29 years old who constitute only 3.2% of the total number of people running for the elections of April 25 for this political force. The Democratic Party has a high drop with 38 young

REGION	NO. OF YOUNG CANDIDATES IN 2017	% IN 2017		% IN 2021	NO. OF YOUNG CANDIDATES IN 2017
Tiranë	10/50	20%	↓	0%	0/36
Durrës	3/19	15.7%	↓	6%	1/15
Shkodër	5/18	27.7%	↓	8.3%	1/12
Korçë	7/15	46%	↓	0%	0/12
Fier	6/21	28.5%	↓	5.5%	1/18
Elbasan	2/20	10%	↓	0%	0/15
Kukës	0/3	0%	●	0%	0/3
Berat	0/8	0%	●	0%	0/9
Gjirokastrë	2/4	50%	↓	0%	0/6
Dibër	4/9	44.5%	↓	0%	0/6
Lezhe	2/9	22%	↓	11%	1/9
Vlorë	2/13	15%	↓	8.3%	1/12
Numri total	43/189	22.7%	↓	3.2%	5/153

candidates less on the list, compared to 2017. The DP has only 1 potential candidate to be a member of the Albanian Parliament, who is running for elections in the region of Durrës and 6 on the list, while in the 2017 elections, this party had 5 young potential candidates for MPs.



3 out of 5 young candidates of the Democratic Party's list or 35% of them belong to the coalition parties of "Alliance for Change", including the only potential candidate to be a member of parliament in the next assembly, who is part of the Legality Movement Party.

In 4 out of 12 electoral zones, the Democratic Party has not nominated any young people on the list submitted to the CEC.

The average age of young candidates in the Democratic Party for the 2021 election is 26 years old, a year lower than the average age of candidates of this party in 2017. While in terms of gender, 3 out of 5 young candidates are girls. This is an improved indicator if we refer to the gender of young candidates in the 2017 parliamentary elections.

Young people in the candidates' lists for MPs for the Socialist Movement for Integration

REGION	NO. OF YOUNG CANDIDATES IN 2017	% IN 2017		% IN 2021	NO. OF YOUNG CANDIDATES IN 2017
Tiranë	21/36	58.3%	↓	22.2%	8/36
Durrës	5/14	35.7%	↓	0%	0/15
Shkodër	3/11	27.3%	↓	25%	3/12
Korçë	2/12	16.6%	↑	33.3%	4/12
Fier	3/16	18.8%	↑	44.4%	8/18
Elbasan	3/14	21.4%	↓	20%	3/15
Kukës	0/3	0%	↑	66.6%	2/3
Berat	4/8	50%	↓	11.1%	1/9
Gjirokastrë	0/4	0%	●	0%	0/6
Dibër	1/6	16.6%	●	16.6%	1/6
Lezhe	2/8	25%	↓	22.2%	2/9
Vlorë	3/13	23.1%	↓	16.6%	2/12
Nr. Total	47/145	32.4%	↓	22.2%	34/153

The Socialist Movement for Integration has submitted to the Central Election Commission a list of 153 candidates for MPs for the Parliamentary Elections of April 25. 34 out of 153 candidates belong to the young age group 18 - 29 years old, who constitute about 22.2% of the total number of people running for the April 25

elections. SMI has a decrease with 13 young candidates less in the lists, compared to 2017, but it is the party with more young candidates among the main political forces. The SMI also has 3 potential young candidates

running for the April 25 elections for MPs after the elections, the same number it had for the 2017 elections.

There were only 2 out of 12 electoral zones, in which the Socialist Movement for Integration did not involve any young people in the list submitted to the CEC, while the electoral zone with the youngest candidates is Korça region with 4 out of 9 young candidates.

The average age of young candidates in the Socialist Party for the 2021 elections is 26 years old, a year higher than the average age of candidates of this party in 2017. While in terms of gender, 21 of the 34 new candidates are girls and 13 are boy candidates. This is an unchanged indicator if we also refer to the gender of young candidates in the 2017 parliamentary elections.

Main findings

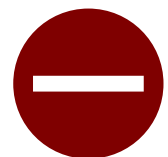
- Compared to the 2017 elections, the number of young candidates in the lists of the 3 main political parties in the country has been reduced from 104 to 54 new candidates.



- The party with the youngest candidates for the April 25 elections is the SMI (22.2%) while the political force with the fewest young candidates is the Democratic Party (3.2%).



- The Socialist Party is expected to have no potential young candidates for MPs after the April 25 elections. The DP has only one potential young candidate and the SMI has 3 potential candidates to win seats in the next assembly.



- Regions with a limited number of seats have fewer young people on the lists than large regions, an indication of the parties' distrust in young politicians.



- In the lists of the 3 main political parties in 2021, there are more girls (35) than boys (19) running, while the average age of young candidates is 26 years old.



