

# OVERVIEW: 2024 GLOBAL ELECTIONS

In 2024, countries with a combined population of more than 4 billion people, and making up over 50% of global GDP, will hold national elections. The results will both reflect and impact an increasingly uncertain geopolitical and economic environment. Voting will take place against a backdrop of heightened geopolitical bloc rivalry, driven by competition between China and the West, the Ukraine-Russia war, the Middle East conflict, posturing by non-aligned countries, and an uncertain economic landscape.

## UNITED STATES | NOV. 5

At stake is control of the White House and both chambers of Congress. Key issues will be the economy/inflation, immigration, crime, climate and energy policy and reproductive rights. Key questions: How will foreign policy (China, Middle East, Ukraine) factor into the election outcome? Will foreign actors influence the outcome? Will the election outcome improve or undermine public trust in the electoral process?

## MEXICO | JUNE 2

Two women, former Mexico City mayor Claudia Sheinbaum (incumbent MORENA) and Senator Xóchitl Gálvez (opposition alliance), are competing for the presidency. The main issues are national energy policy, migration, nearshoring, crime/security, social policy, USMCA disputes and water.

## ISSUES TO WATCH

- Election trust and integrity, safe and accessible elections, accurate ballot counting, reporting and certifications, and legal processes for resolving disputes
- Use of dis- and misinformation by political parties and candidates to impact election outcomes
- Foreign state and non-state actors engaging in election interference
- Use of AI in campaign operations
- Impact of nationalism, left-right polarization and hate speech on election outcomes

## U.K. | TBD

Key issues will be the state of the economy, cost of living, tax policy and anti-institutional grievances. Polling suggests the ruling Conservative Party, which has been the primary governing party in the U.K. since 2010, is on course to lose power to the Labour Party amid voter discontent.

## EU PARLIAMENT | JUNE 6-9

Each member state holds elections in accordance with local laws. Parliamentary political groups set priorities in manifestos. Experts expect a shift to the right and an increase in MEPs from nationalist parties who are skeptical of the EU as a governing body. The EU Parliament will expand from 705 to 720 seats resulting from demographic changes over the past five years. Key issues: Future EU policy on migration, climate, energy, competition and the economy.

## SOUTH AFRICA | MAY TBD

For the first time, the African National Congress (ANC) faces a risk of losing its parliamentary majority. Voters are angry over economic chaos, unemployment, crime, anti-immigration sentiment and energy shortages.

## UKRAINE | TBD

After Russia invaded in February 2022, Ukraine declared martial law, suspending elections. President Zelensky says elections can take place, but parliament would have to change the law and foreign aid would be needed to conduct a vote in both Ukraine and European countries where 6+ million Ukrainians are residing.

## RUSSIA | MARCH 17

There is no rival to threaten Putin remaining in power, so the election outcome will be another 6-year term. Putin will use the election to drive nationalism against the U.S. and the West. Is there any election outcome that might impact Putin's actions in Ukraine, or his approach to relations with Europe and the U.S.?

## INDIA | APRIL (SEVERAL DATES)

India's election is massive – more than 900 million eligible voters casting ballots over several weeks. The main opponent of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP), and a third 5-year term, will be the Indian National Congress-led alliance styled as "INDIA." Inflation, nationalism and the caste system are key issues.

**Other 2024 elections in Asia:** Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, South Korea legislature.

## TAIWAN | JAN. 13

William Lai Ching-te, deputy to the current president and DPP candidate, was elected in a three-way race with 40% of the vote. He will take office in May. China's reaction will be closely watched by global companies, the U.S. and allies across the region. The opposition KMT won the most seats in the parliament.

## INDONESIA | FEB. 14

Two successors are competing to replace outgoing President Joko Widodo. Democracy activists have raised concerns over Jokowi's attempts to build a dynasty after a recent court ruling allowed the president's eldest son to join the leading candidate's ticket. Indonesia has a recent history of social unrest and violence during elections, with riots staged and inflamed by accusations of electoral fraud.

