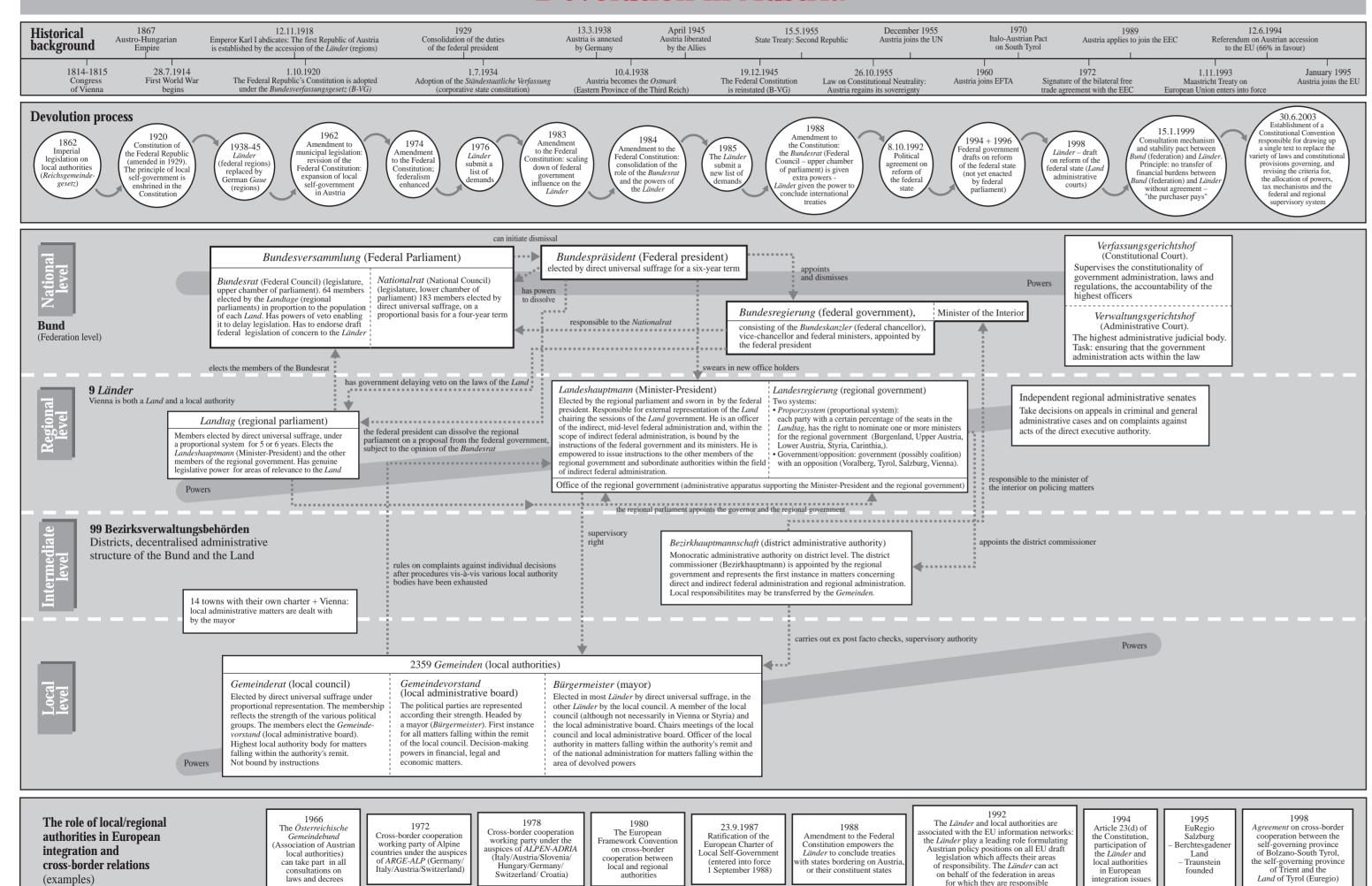
Devolution in Austria



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Austria



Amsterdam Treaty enters into force Entry into force of the Nice Treaty Signature of the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe 24.11.2002 28.2.2003 Second Schüssel government

28.1.2005 Last meeting of the of a draft Constitution and a report to the federal President, the federal rnment, the National Council, the ederal Council, the minister-preside of the parliaments and then discussed in Parliament.

Responsibilities

Article 10 of the Federal Constitution lists the reserved legislative powers of the federation; foreign policy, finances, trade policy, public safety, transport, labour law etc.

Sole legislative power and administrative authority on these areas.

Article 11 of the Constitution: legislation (Federation) – implementation *Land* (e.g. road traffic, citizenship, environmental impact assessments)

Article 12 of the Constitution lists the Federation's legislative powers (framework laws) which each Land is empowered to implement via implementing laws (services for the needy, young people, the public at large, land reform).

The overwhelming majority of legislative acts are carried out at federal level.

Article 11 of the Constitution: The Länder are responsible for the implementation of certain federal laws.

Article 12 of the Constitution: Adoption and enforcement of implementing laws for federal framework laws.

Article 15 of the Constitution: general clauses: the Land is responsible for any area of legislation or implementation which is not specifically within the purview of the (Federation), e.g. spatial planning, environmental protection, planning law, transport. Indirect federal administration: Federal laws are implemented by the Minister-President and the authorities subordinate to him. The Minister-President acts as an officer of the federal government and is bound by the instructions of the federal government or minister.

· Implementing powers. May issue decisions

Own powers: general clause. The local authorities have general responsibility for issues which are exclusively or predominantly local. Their main tasks are:

- the appointment of local officers and public servants
- local police
- local traffic management
- supervision of local planning regulations
- local health regulations local spatial planning
 - theatre, social services • regulations on public events

measures to promote and

support community activity:

Devolved powers: the local authorities carry out the duties delegated to them by the federations and the Land. The local authority implements state administrative tasks. The mayor is responsible for their implementation to the federal authorities or the Land.

From late 1990s additional Euro-Regions established comprising regions from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Sloven Germany, Italy and Switzerland

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with the acceptance of National Delegation

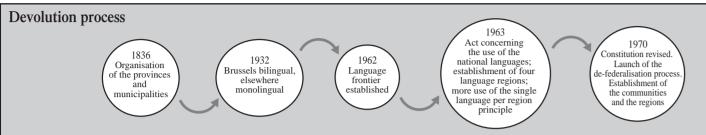
Devolution in Belgium

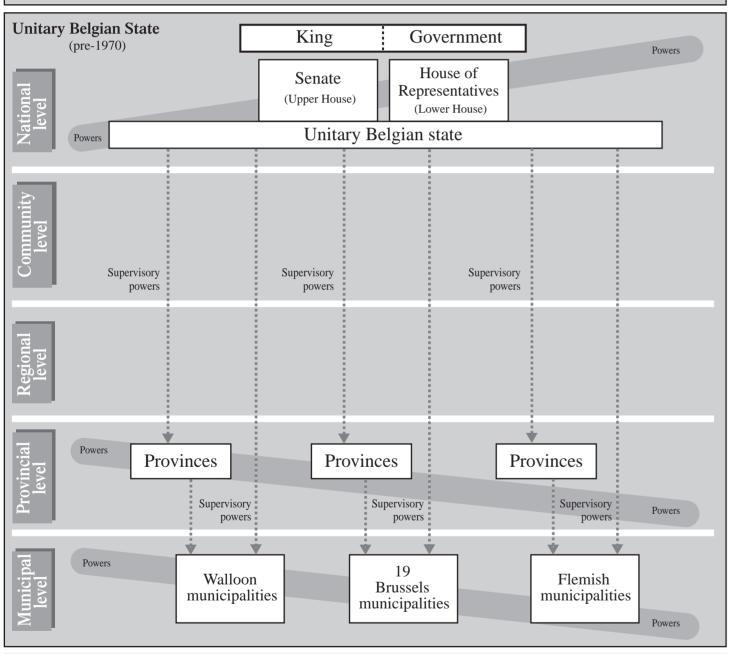


EUROPEAN UNION



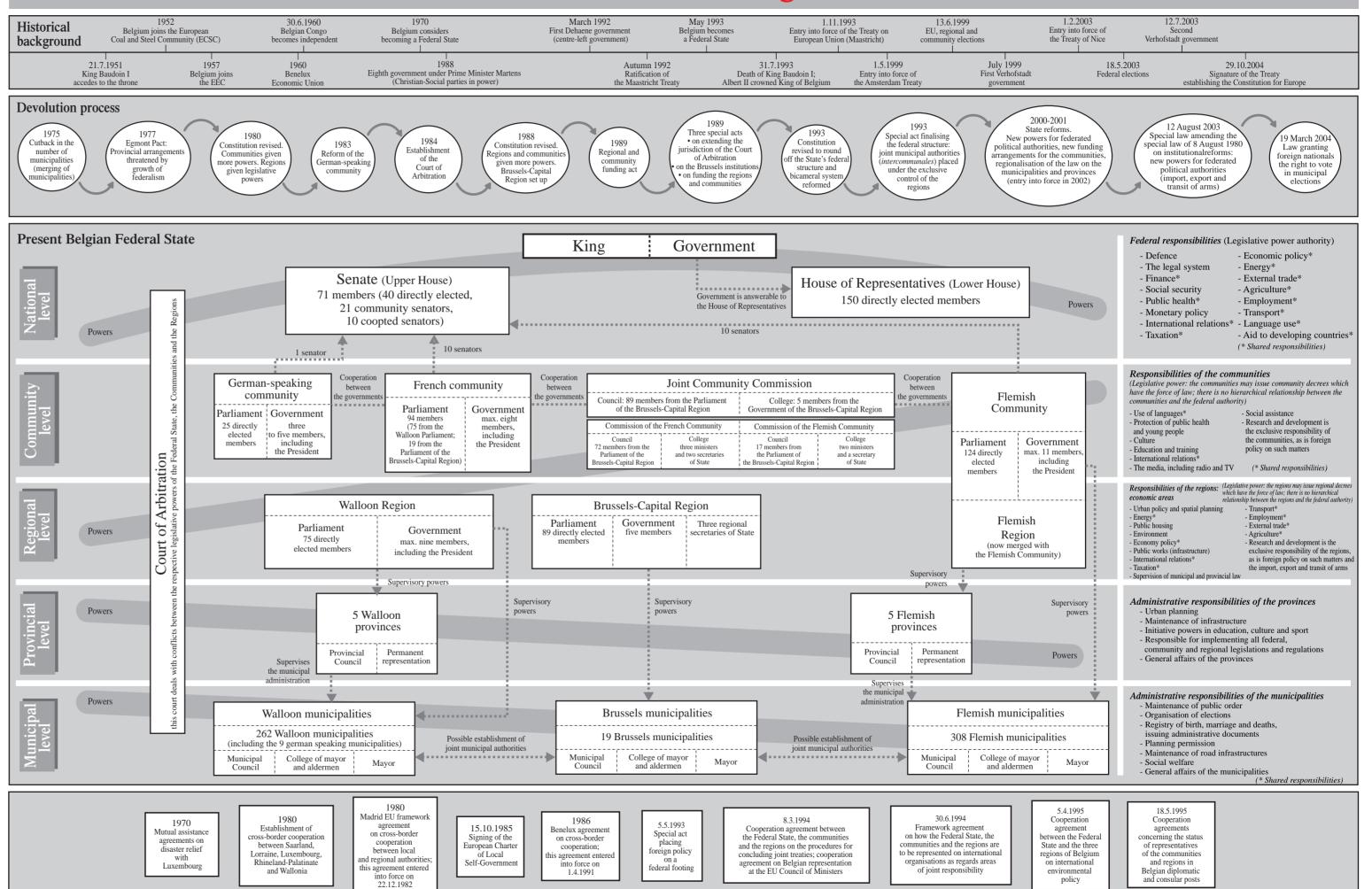






Role played by territorial authorities in promoting European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

Devolution in Belgium



Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions

Devolution in Bulgaria



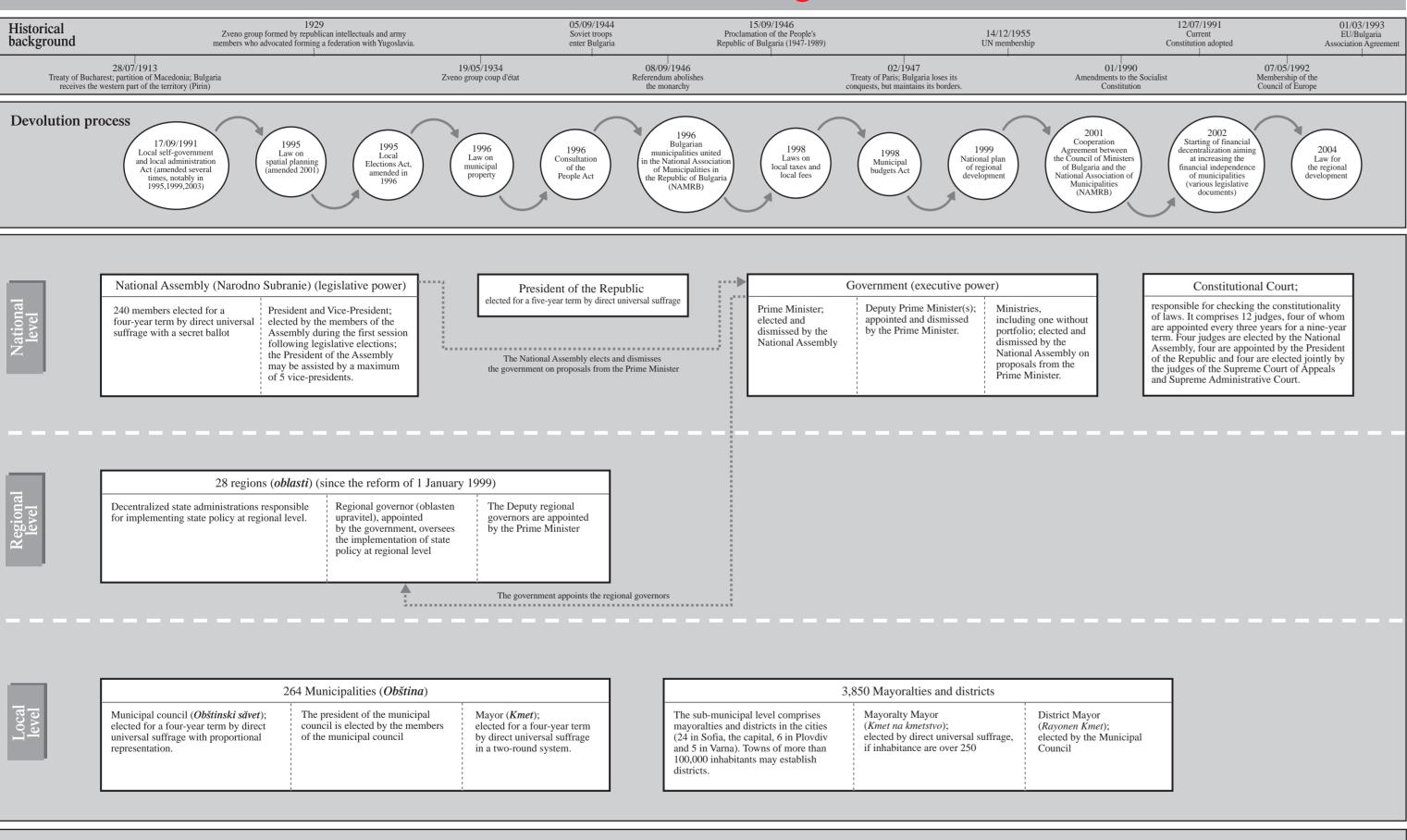
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Committee of the Regions

CoR-Studies I - 1/2005 - 26Brussels, January 2005

Devolution in Bulgaria



Involvement of territorial authorities in European integration and cross-border **relations** (for information)

Signature of the Council of Europe's Charter for Local Self-Governmen (entry into force on the 1st of September 1995)

02/06/1998 Signature of the Council of Europe framework convention on cross-border co-operation (the so-called "Madrid Convention" of 21/05/1980) (Entry into force on 08/08/1999).

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of the Mission of Bulgaria to the European Union

14/12/1995 Application for EU membership		22/01/2002 Georgi Părvanov, President of the Republic	29/10/2004 Signature by 25 Member States of the Treaty establishing the Constitution for Europe
1994 10-12/12/1999 Associate member of the WEU Helsinki European Council; EU accessio (Western European Union) negotiations opened with Bulgaria		Entry	02/2003 into force of eaty of Nice

Responsibilities

National level responsibilities in all areas.

The Bulgarian Constitution states that the "regions shall be an administrative territorial unit entrusted with the conduct of a regional policy, the implementation of state government on a local level, and the ensuring of harmony of national and local interests" (art. 142).

Administration in the regions is provided by a regional governor, aided by a regional administration (art. 143.1). The regional governor ensures "the implementation of the state's policy" (art. 143.3).

Administrative responsibilities in Municipalities

- Register of births, marriages and deaths
- Sewage
- Management of drinking water
- · Household waste
- importance
- Cemeteries Roads and bridges of local

Public areas

- Urban public transport
- Housing

- Spatial planning
- Education primary and secondary schools
- Health –municipal hospitals
- Culture and sport
- Social services

Mayoralties and districts

Mayoralties and districts are component of the administrative and territorial units of municipalities, created by Municipal Councils.

The Mayor of a mayoralty or district shall:

- implement the municipal budget
- organise public works
- appoint and dismiss municipal staff
- improve and rehabilitate the environment
- maintain population and civil registers
- organise the provision of administrative services
- · preserve public order and defence from disasters and accidents
- represent the mayoralty or district
- may be assigned other functions by the municipality mayor or an act of the Parliament

Devolution in Cyprus



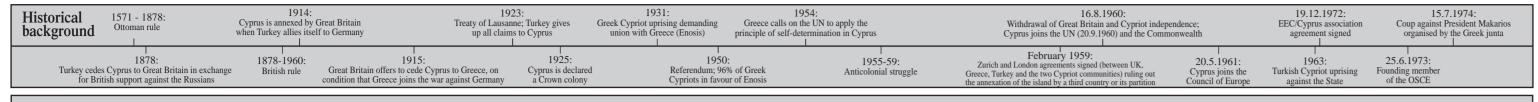
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Devolution in Cyprus



Progress of devolution



1964: Municipal orporations Lav Chapter 240 and

October 1985: Law o.°111 on municipalit pealing and replacing the unicipal Corporations Law Chapter 240 and the Municipalities Law No 64

1999: Community Law No. 86(1 of 1999 repealing and replacing the Villages Law Chapter 243

House of Representatives (legislative power)

Composed of 80 members, 56 of whom are elected by the Greek Cypriot community and 24 by the Turkish Cypriot

elected by the members and from among them

President of the Republic elected for 5 years by direct universal suffrage, power exercised through the Council of Ministers, invested by the House of Representatives

The governmen appointed by the President of the Republic

Vice-President

Government (executive power)

Ministers, appointed by the President of the Republic Republic and the Vice-President

Supreme Court (judicial power)

Composed of 13 judges, one of whom is the President of the Court; this court rules on the constitutionality of legislation

6 districts

District Officer; appointed by the Public Service Commission, the District Officer is a public servant that represents the State in the district

33 municipalities (covering approx. 65% of the population)

Municipal Council; elected for 5 years by direct universal suffrage under a system of proportional representation, the number of councillors varies from 8 to 26 depending on the size of the municipality

Mayor (executive body); elected directly for 5 years by universal suffrage by a one-round secret ballot; the Mayor chairs the Municipal Council

Deputy Mayor; elected from the members of the Council by secret ballot

Administrative Committee: members appointed by the Municipal Council

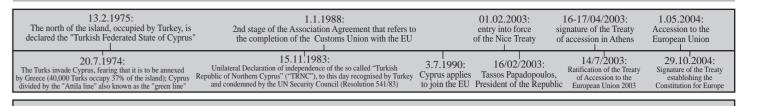
353 Community Councils (covering approximately 35% of the population)

Community Council is made up of the President of the Community, a Deputy President and three to seven other members (depending on the population of the Community), elected for 5 years

There are provisions for the creation of "complex of communities" and for the creation of two separate councils in those communities comprising both Greeks and Turks

Position of regional and local authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

8.10.1986: Europe's Charter for Local Self-Government (entry into force 1.9.1988) Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions



Responsibilities



National legislative powers in all areas



District officers are responsible for applying government policy at this level



Municipal responsibilities

- Public health
- Social, health and medical
- services
- Maintenance and construction of bridges and roads
- treatment • Water supply and management • Waste management and

Sewage management and

• Street lighting

- Regulation of trade and business

• Cemeteries and funeral

Municipal markets

services

Abattoirs

Community Councils' responsibilities

- Public health
- Road construction and maintenance
- · Waste management and treatment
- Road maintenance
- Street lighting

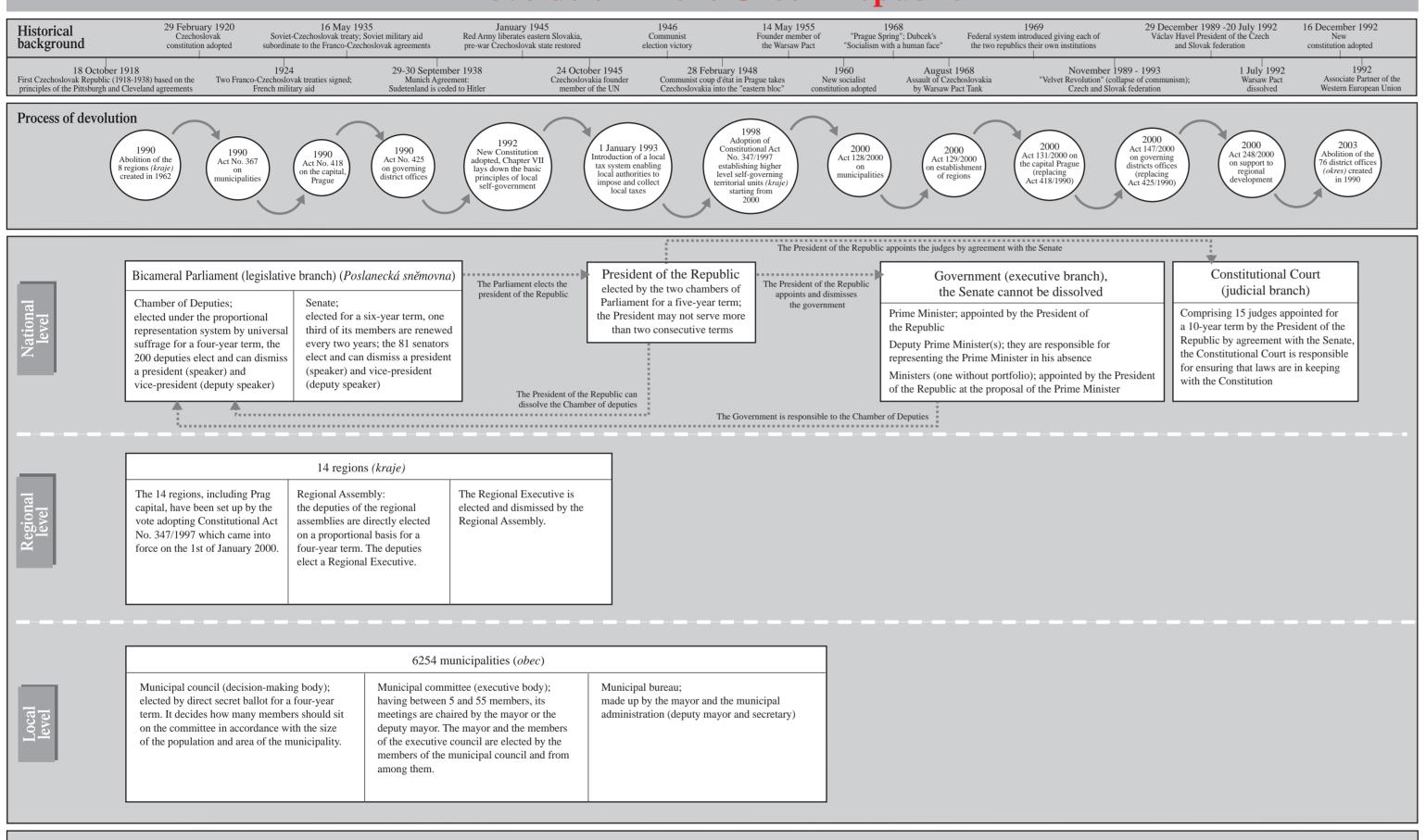
Devolution in the Czech Republic



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in the Czech Republic



Involvement of territorial authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

Current situation as of September 2003

25 May 1998 Signature of the European harter of Local Self-Govern (cf. Council of Europe)

24 June 1998

nature of the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between territorial unities or Authorities (Council of Europe) (Entry into force on the 21 March 2000)

(entry into force on the 1st of September 1999)

1 January 1993 "Velvet Divorce"; Czech and Slovak 2 February 1993
Václav Havel President of the Czech
EU/Czech Republic Association 01 2 2003 16/17 4 2003 1.05.2004 Signature of the Treaty of Signature of the Treaty of Entry into force eration splits; Czech Republic created Republic; re-elected on 20 January 1998 30 June 1993 Member of the Council of Europe Member of NATO President of the Republic: Referendum on EU Signature of the Treaty establish Vaclav Klaus Accession (77,30% yes) the Constitution for Europe

Responsibilities

National legislative responsibilities in all areas.

14 Regions (kraje)

According to Constitutional Act 347/1997 regional responsibilities have to be set up by a specific law.

Municipalities (obec)

General municipal responsibilities

- · Water management and treatment
- Urban heating Waste processing
- Management and maintenance of open spaces
- Cemeteries
- Social assistance and youth policy

- Management of municipal infrastructures
- Management of municipal roads
- Economic promotion
- Environmental protection
- Spatial planning
- Fire-fighting and prevention

Responsibilities transferred by the State to certain municipalities

- Education (pre-school and primary)
- Management of municipal transport (urban, road and rail)
- Culture

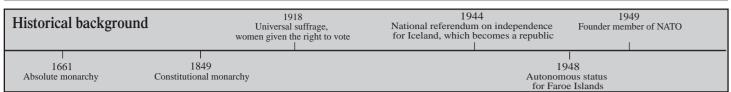
- Agriculture
- Energy supply
- Public order
- Housing

Devolution in Denmark

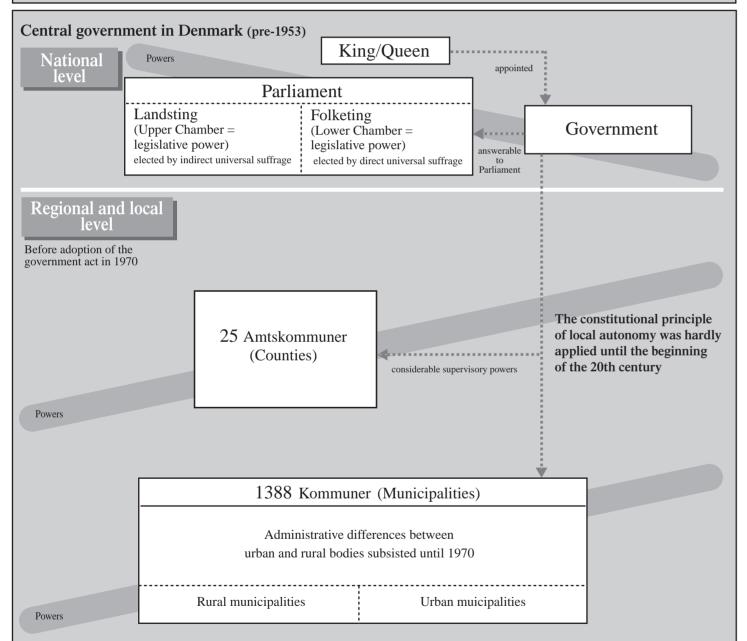


EUROPEAN UNION







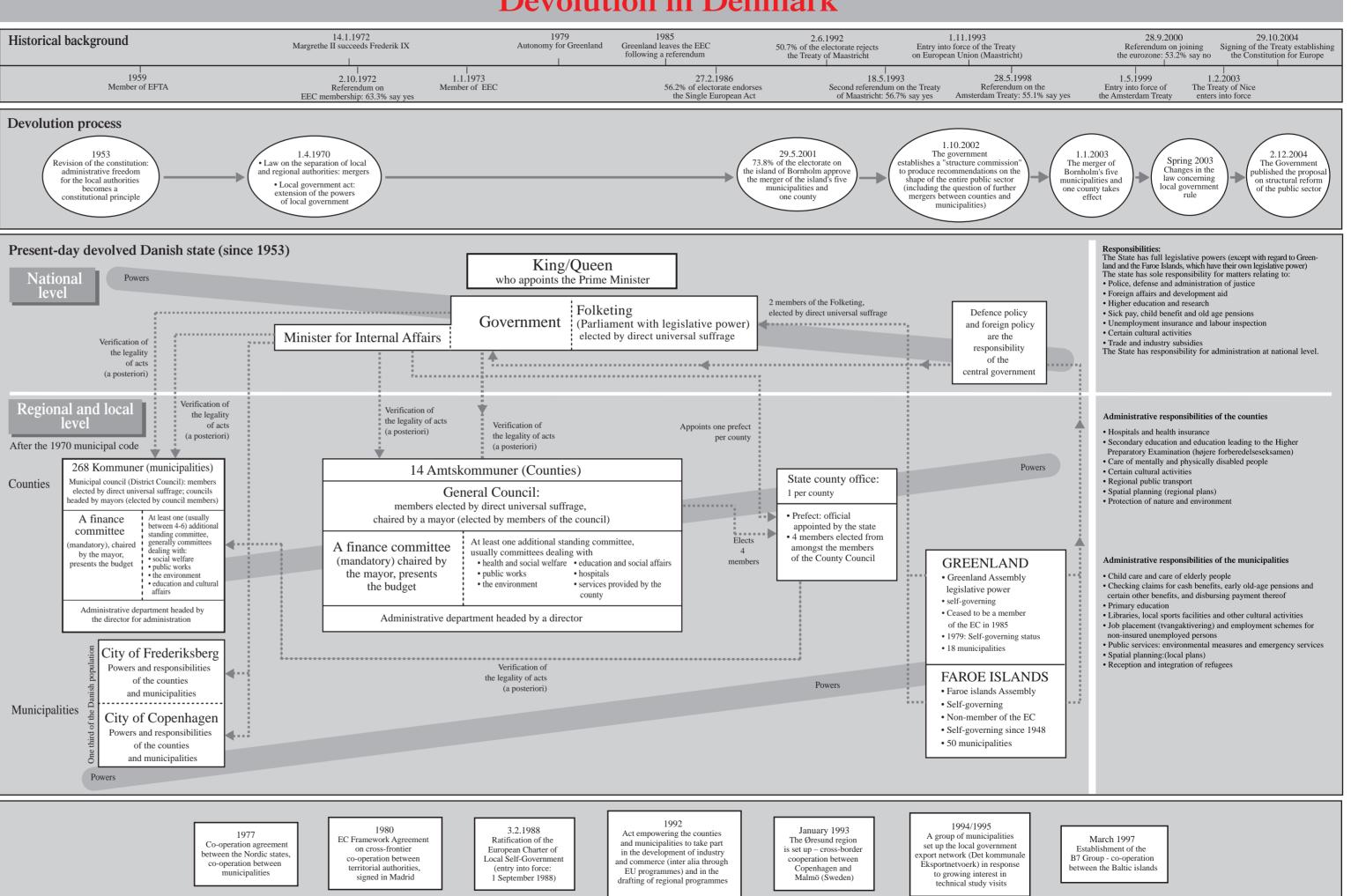


Role played by territorial authorities in promoting European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

1962
Treaty of Helsingfors:
provided the legal basis for
co-operation between the Nordic states
in the following areas: legal matters,
cultural affairs, physical infrastructure
and environmental regulations

1970
Establishment of a German-Danish committee for promoting cross-frontierco-operation (this committee is currently responsible for implementing Interreg II)

Devolution in Denmark



Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

Devolution in Estonia



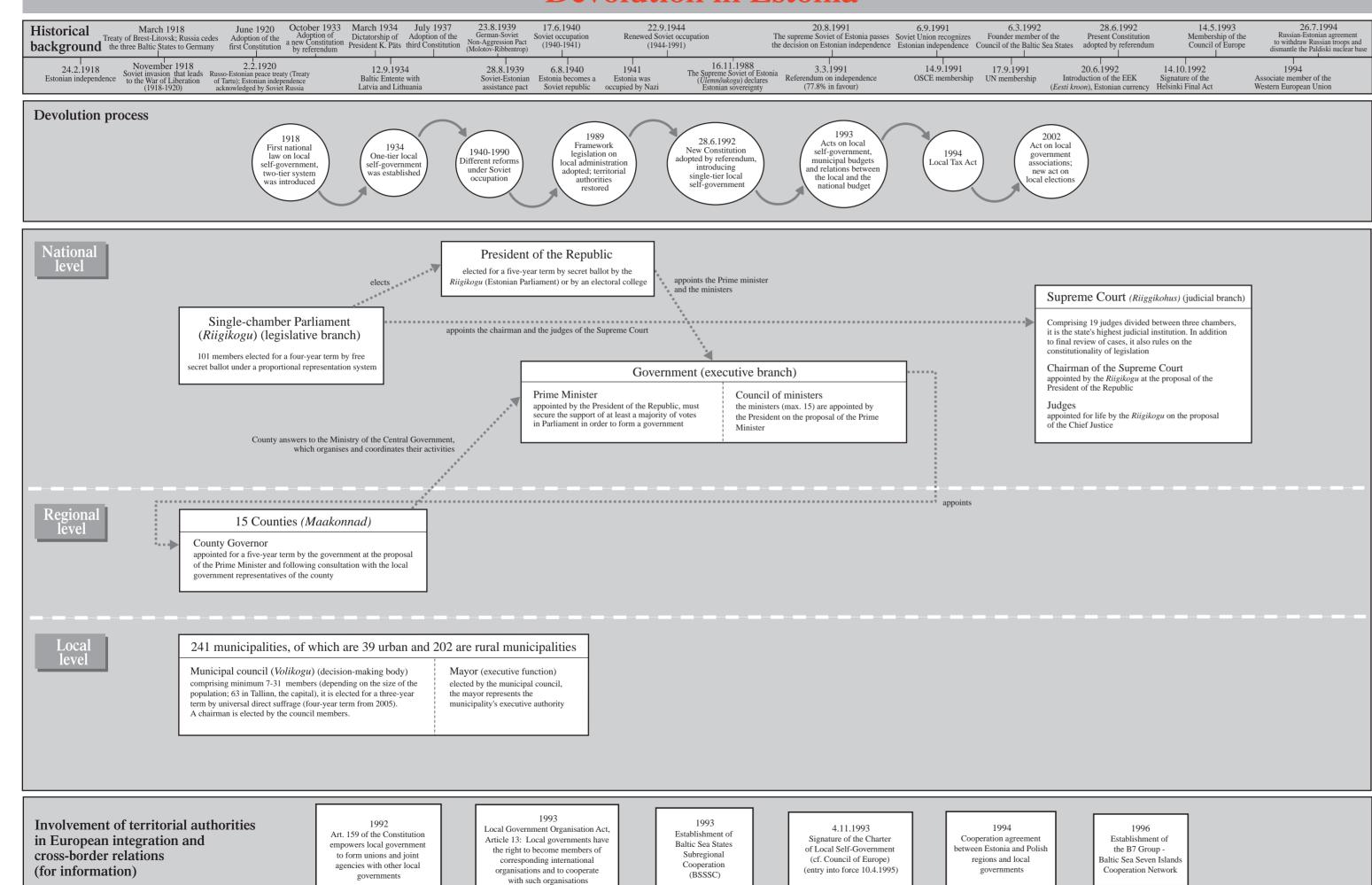
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Devolution in Estonia



	12.6. Signature of th Association	ne EU/Estonia	21 September 2001 Presidential elections (inaugurated on the 8th of October): Arnold Rüütel President of the Republic	01 February 2003 Entry into force of the Treaty of Nice	29.3. 2004 Estonia joins NATO	1.5.2004 Accession to the EU
Septemb Free trade agree the three Balt	ments between	13.11 WTO me		16/17 April 2003 Signature of the Treaty of Accession in Athens	14.9.2003 Referendum on EU Accession (66.84% in favour)	29.10.2004 Signature of the Treaty establishing the Constitution for Europe

Responsibilities



National level responsibilities

Legislative power rests exclusively with Riigikogu.

General administrative powers in areas of national sovereignity: justice, foreign affairs, national defence, finances, supervisory powers

- Maintenance of public order; fire fighting and
- Infrastructure development and maintenance
- Industry and commerce
- Education
- Labour policy
- Health management
- Motorways



County level responsibilities

Counties are administrative units representing the central government at local level. There is no elected regional level.

- Environmental management
- Economic and spatial development
- Supervision over single acts of local self-governments
- Coordination of emergency situations



Municipal level responsibilities

Under the Constitution, all local issues are dealt with and resolved by self-governing territorial authorities unless assigned to other persons according to law. They operate their own budgets.

- Education (nursery, primary and secondary levels) Spatial planning
- Maintenance of public areas
- Social welfare and services
- Welfare services for the elderly
- Housing and utilities
- Water supply and sewer maintenance
- Maintenance of local public roads
- Local public transport
- Maintenance of public order
- Municipal libraries and museums
- Sports and leisure facilities

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

Devolution in Finland



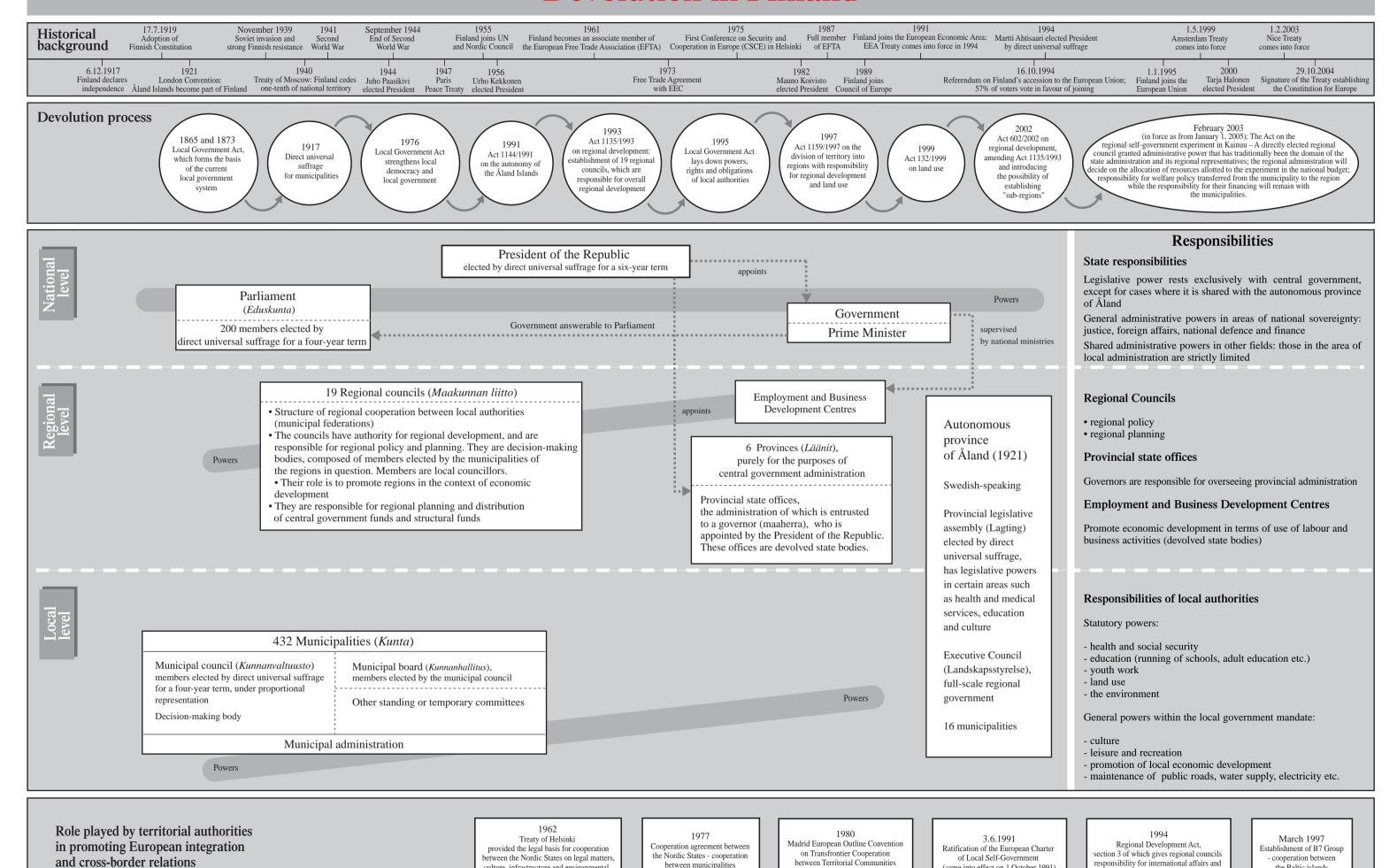
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Devolution in Finland



between municipalities

or Authorities

(came into effect on 1 October 1991)

the Baltic islands

external relations

culture, infrastructure and environmenta

legislation

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions

(for information)

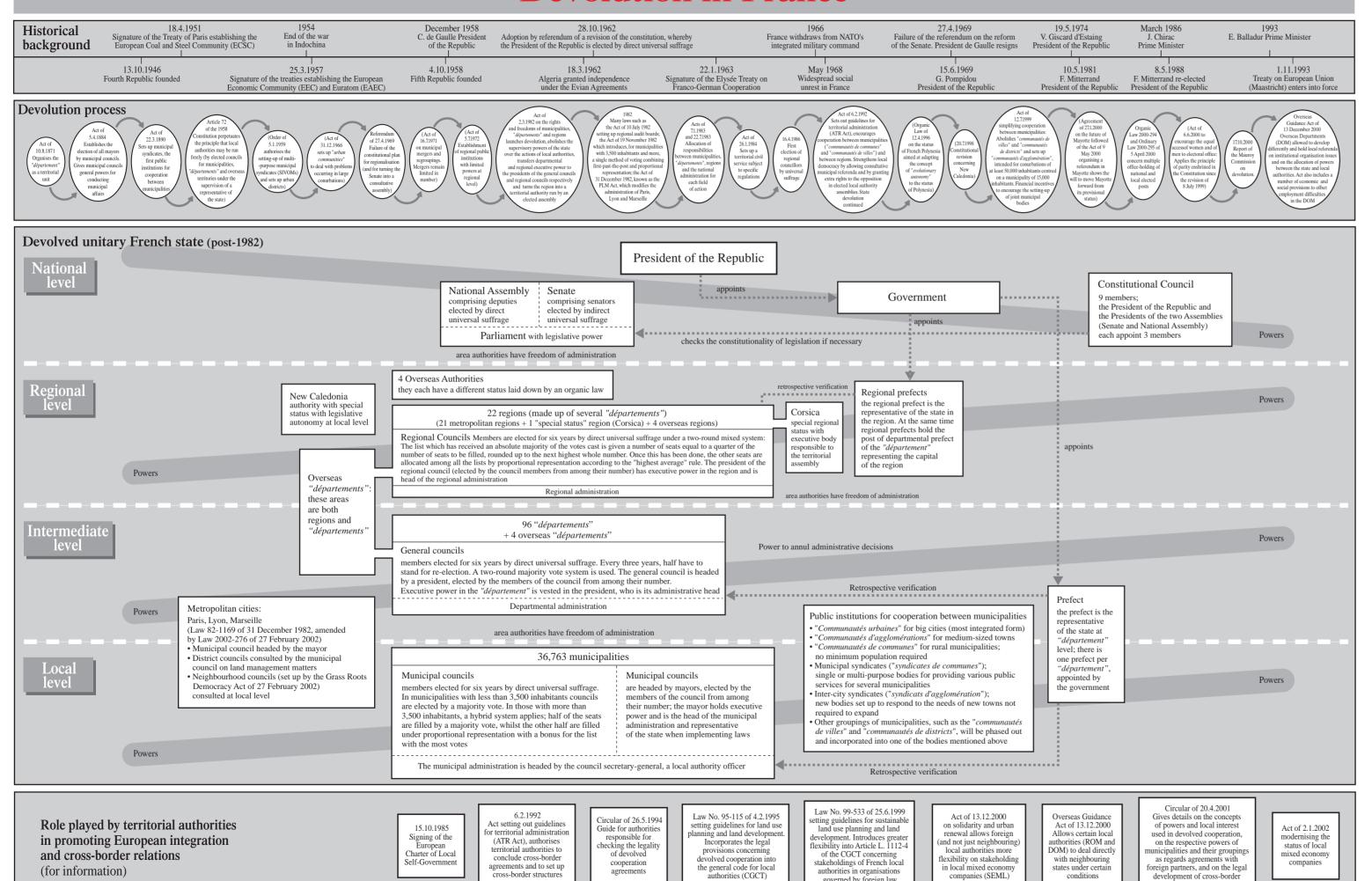
Devolution in France



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in France



governed by foreign law

ross-border structur

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

September 2000 5.5.2002 J. Chirac Presiden J. Chirac re-elected Treaty of Nice president's term reduced to five years of the Republic Amsterdam Treaty President of the Republic 17.6.2002 29.10.2004 J-P Raffarin Prime Minister L. Jospin Prime Minister Amsterdam Treaty National Assembly and Signature of the Treaty establishin a Constitution for Europe

Responsibilities of the state

Social action and health: Benefits (aid) involving national solidarity; supervision and checking of state-run health establishments; universal sickness agreement (CMU); checking of public hygiene

Further vocational training and apprenticeships: Choice of general actions

Education: Development of programmes; staff pay and organisation of studies; universities

Economic aid: Responsibility for economic development Town planning: State control; territorial directives; national town planning rules; protection of the architectural heritage; national parks Environment: National reserves

Cultural affairs: State control

level

Responsibilities of the regions under ordinary law (2003)

Further vocational training and apprenticeships: Regional vocational training development plan; implementation of initial and further training schemes for young people and adults; apprenticeships

Education: Creation, construction, maintenance and operation of high schools and establishments for specialist education Planning, regional planning: Preparation of the regional development and land use plan; State-region planning contract School transport: Regional plan; general interest links Rail transport: Regional passenger transport

Economic aid: Direct aid (in accordance with EU rules); indirect aid for companies; stakeholding in regional development and regional financing companies

Town planning: Regional nature reserves

Environment: Environmental protection; heritage and sites board; listing of historical monuments; regional air quality plan; classification of regional nature reserves

Cultural affairs: Regional archives, regional museums; protection of heritage and listing of monuments and artistic riches (2003: experimental)

Responsibilities of the "départements" under ordinary law (2003)

Social action and health: Aid for children; social aid for families; accommodation for people with disabilities and elderly people; supervision of social establishments in the "département" Education: Creation, construction, maintenance and operation of

ordinary secondary schools and colleges Planning, regional planning: Rural equipment aid programme;

associated in state-region planning contracts School transport: Financing and organisation of transport outside the towns

Passenger transport between towns: Departmental transport plan; passenger transport between towns Economic aid: Direct aid complementary to that of the region (by agreement); indirect aid for companies (including loan and

other guarantees) Town planning: Definition of walking routes Environment: Departmental waste disposal plan

Cultural affairs: Departmental archives; departmental museums; central lending library

level

development of cross-border

devolved cooperation

Responsibilities of the municipalities under ordinary law (2003)

Social action and health: Optional services (e.g. day care centres, shelters for the homeless); municipal hygiene offices

primary schools and pre-school classes Planning, regional planning: Joint municipal development

charters; joint municipal boundary initiatives School transport: Financing and organisation within the municipal

Economic aid: Direct aid complementary to that of the region (by

agreement); indirect aid for companies (including loan and other guarantees)

(SCOTs); local town planning; issue of building permits and other authorisations concerning occupation of the land Environment: Drainage; distribution of drinking water; collection

Cultural affairs: Artistic teaching schools; municipal archives;

Education: Creation, construction, maintenance and operation of Town planning: Preparation of territorial consistency schemes

and processing of household waste

municipal museums; music academies

Devolution in Germany



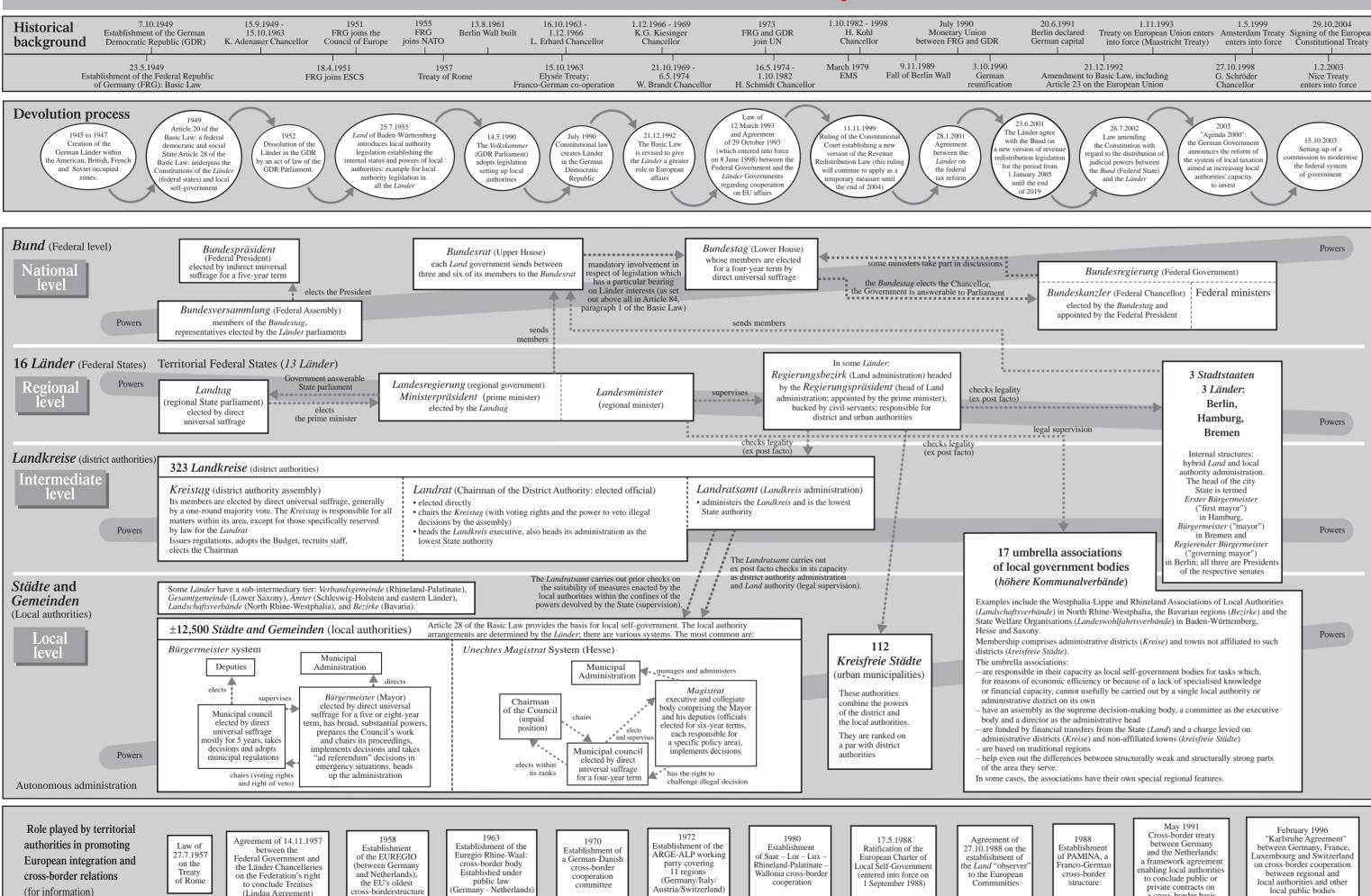
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Committee of the Regions

CoR-Studies I – 1/2005 – 4 Brussels, January 2005

Devolution in Germany



Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions

(Lindau Agreement)

Responsibilities

Legislative and administrative responsibilities of the Federation (Bund)

Exercises legislative authority solely in those areas assigned to it under the Basic Law (Articles 70 to 75), inter alia in those areas which are the prerogative of a sovereign State (Article 73); foreign policy, defence, currency, public services. Article 74 comprehensively lists the matters on which the Federal Government has a right to legislate, in so far as federal legislation is necessary for guaranteeing equal living conditions or for preserving legal and economic unity (justice, social welfare, civil law, criminal law, labour law, economic law etc.). In addition the Federal Government has the authority to establish the legislative framework (Article 75) for areas such as higher education, the press, environmental protection and spatial planning.

According to Article 87 of the Basic Law, the exercise of executive powers by the federal authorities is limited to a few areas such as foreign affairs and federal finances.



Legislative and administrative responsibilities of the Länder (federal States)

- The Länder exercise the powers and carry out those tasks of government devolved to them by Article 30 of the Basic Law, in so far as the Basic Law makes no other provisions; they are thus responsible for implementing federal legislation.
- As a rule, the Länder are responsible for implementing federal law under Article 83 of the Basic Law.
- The Länder have the right to legislate in all areas which are not vested solely in the Federal Government by
- The Länder can pass legislation in the areas set out in Article 74, which otherwise come under the responsibility of the Federal Government, as long as the Federal Government has not made use of its prerogative to legislate in that area.
- The Länder have their own legislative powers with regard to culture, education, universities, broadcasting/television, local authority matters and the police.



Administrative responsibilities of the district authorities

Complementary, "supra-municipal" powers, involving a type of mandatory cooperation between local authorities.

1. Mandatory powers

(under federal and Land legislation)

- building and maintenance of secondary roads
- spatial planning at district authority level
- maintenance of nature parks
- social welfare and youth welfare
- building and maintenance of hospitals
- building and maintenance of secondary schools and technical colleges
- household waste collection and disposal

- 2. Optional powers (in accordance with the principle of local self-government)
- support for cultural activities
- construction of pedestrian areas and cycle lanes
- support for pupil exchanges
- construction and maintenance of public libraries
- promotion of economic activity and tourism
- management of adult education colleges (Volkshochschulen)

a cross-border basis

Administrative responsibilities of the local authorities

Local authorities have general responsibility for town planning and all affairs pertaining to the local community.

1. Optional powers

- incentives for local economic activity
- incentives for housing, establishment of social welfare infrastructure
- building and maintenance of public transport infrastructure
- cultural affairs and sport facilities
- management of energy supply utilities
- twinning arrangements with municipalities in other countries

2. Mandatory powers (under federal or Land legislation)

- town planning, construction and maintenance of the local authority road network
- · construction and maintenance of primary schools

- maintenance and management of waterways, sewage disposal
- social welfare and youth welfare
- construction of recreational and leisure areas
- urban development and regeneration

3. State powers devolved to urban municipalities and medium-sized towns

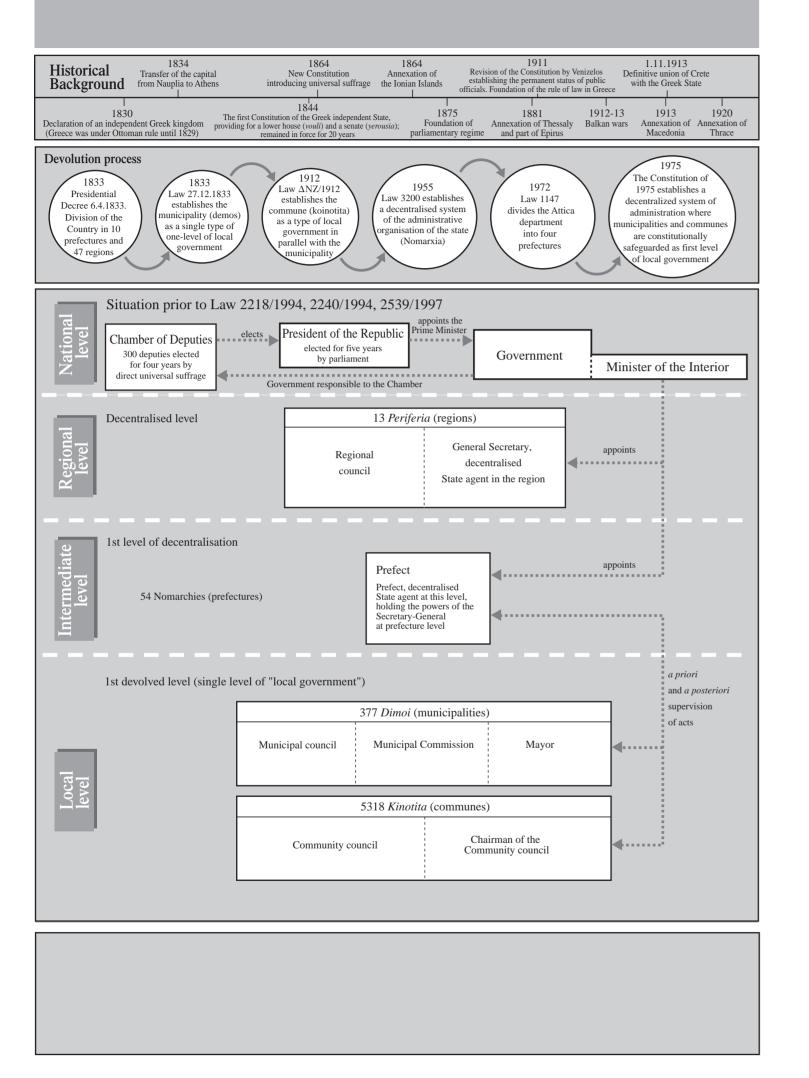
- registration of births, marriages and deaths, issuing of identity papers
- running of elections
- census taking and registration formalities for non-Germans
- · urban traffic management
- supervision of food quality, hotels, restaurants and public houses

Devolution in Greece



EUROPEAN UNION





Devolution in Greece

Historical Proclamation of the Republic Under King George II Defeat of Greece in the war against Turken in Miner Acia, I. S. millton Constitution of the Proclamation Under King George II Defeat of Greece in the war against Constitution of the Dictatorsh	German troops Council of Europe Constitution Constitution political leadership is exiled under an internal military coup wins elections renewing the parliamentary in the EU democracy of Greece in the EU democracy of	1987 1.11.1993 Irresent territorial structure of Greece introduced comes into force June 2000			
Turkey in Minor Asia. 1,5 million of Greek refugees flee in mainland "Second Greek Republic" of LMetaxas Civil war Membership in NATO of Greek refugees flee in mainland referendum favours parliamentary democracy. of Karamanlis and a referendum favours parliamentary democracy. of Karamanlis and Papandreou return to Greece. 1980					
development					
Situation since Laws 2218/1994, 2240/199 Chamber of D 300 deputies elected for by direct universal	President of the Republic elected for five years by Parliament by indirect universal suffrage or four years President of the Republic elected for five years by Parliament by indirect universal suffrage Appoints the Prime Minister	State responsibilities General powers in matters coming under national sovereignty, particularly in the areas of national defence, foreign affairs, finance and justice; together with areas other than the administration of local affairs. The government determines and steers the country's political course, in line with the constitution and laws. The prime minister is responsible for cohesion within the government and directs its work, and that of the public services in general, implementing government policy. Exclusive legislative powers The peninsula of Ayion Oros (Mount Athos) in Chalkidiki forms a self-governing monastic community but has a civil governor, appointed by the government, who is responsible for public order outside the monasteries.			
Decentralised level Peripheriako Simvoulio	ral of the region. Appointed by the central government, the Secretary-General is a senior civil servant heading administrative services. A decentralised State agent	Regional responsibilities The 13 regions are simple sub-divisions of the State Their responsibilities are: a) region development and b) vertical coordination of economic policy The region today is the only level of decentralised State administration; it participates national planning and draws up, plans and implements economic, social and culture development policies. The region is administered by its secretary-general, who represents the sovernment.			
2nd devolved level Powers	51 Nomarchiako Simvoulio (prefectural council) 21 to 37 members, elected for four years by direct universal 31 to 37 members, elected for four years by direct universal 32 to 37 members, elected for four years by direct universal 33 tifrage (three-fifths of the elected representatives are drawn 34 from the majority list; two-fifths of the following lists are 35 distributed by proportional representation) 36 Exercises executive and regulatory powers Anomarchiaki Epitropi (prefectural committee) 37 It comprises five to seven members appointed for two years, 38 chaired by the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 39 the prefect). All the members are elected by the council 40 the prefect). All the members are elected by the council 41 to comprise five to seven members appointed for two years, 42 chaired by the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 43 the prefect). All the members are elected by the council 43 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 44 the prefect). All the members are elected by the council 45 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 47 the prefect or the decisions of the prefectural council and the 48 commission. 48 Head of services and personnel. 49 The prefect or the decisions of the prefectural council and the 49 commission. 40 The prefect represents the prefectural council and the 40 services and personnel. 40 The prefect represents the prefectural council and the 40 services and personnel. 40 The prefect represents the prefectural council and the 40 services and personnel. 41 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 41 the prefect). 42 The candidate heading the winning list is elected prefect. 43 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 43 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 44 the prefect). 43 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 44 the prefect). 43 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 44 the prefect). 44 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed by 44 the prefect). 44 the prefect or the deputy prefect (appointed				
Towers		municipalities and rural communes. The prefectural self-government institutions are administered by a prefectural board and a prefect, all elected by the people for a four-year term.			
1st devolved level	900 Dimos (municipalities)	Responsibilities of the municipal and communal self-government agencies (first level of local government)			
evel	In January 1999, 900 municipalities and 133 communes covering the whole of the country came into being. They are public-law legal persons and are responsible for local affairs. Their primary task is to promote the social and economic progress of their inhabitants and protect their cultural and spiritual interests.				
133 Koinotita (communes)					
Powers	Simvoulio (Communal Council) Seven to 11 members elected for four-year term by direct universal suffrage (same procedure as for municipalities) Decision-making body, chaired by a chairman of the Communal Council Proedros Kinotitas (Chairman of the Communal Council) The chairman represents the community, implements the council's decisions and is head of the services				

Role played by territorial authorities in promoting European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

6.9.1989
Ratification of the European Charter of Local Self-Government (entry into force on 1 January 1990)

1992
Establishment of the ad-hoc
"Kastoria-Korce" cooperation
structure between Greece and
Albania, cross-border cooperation
(cultural meetings)

January 1992
Cross-border business development programme under INTERREG I and the European Social Fund:
Drama Chamber of Commerce
(Greece/Bulgaria)

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions

Devolution in Hungary



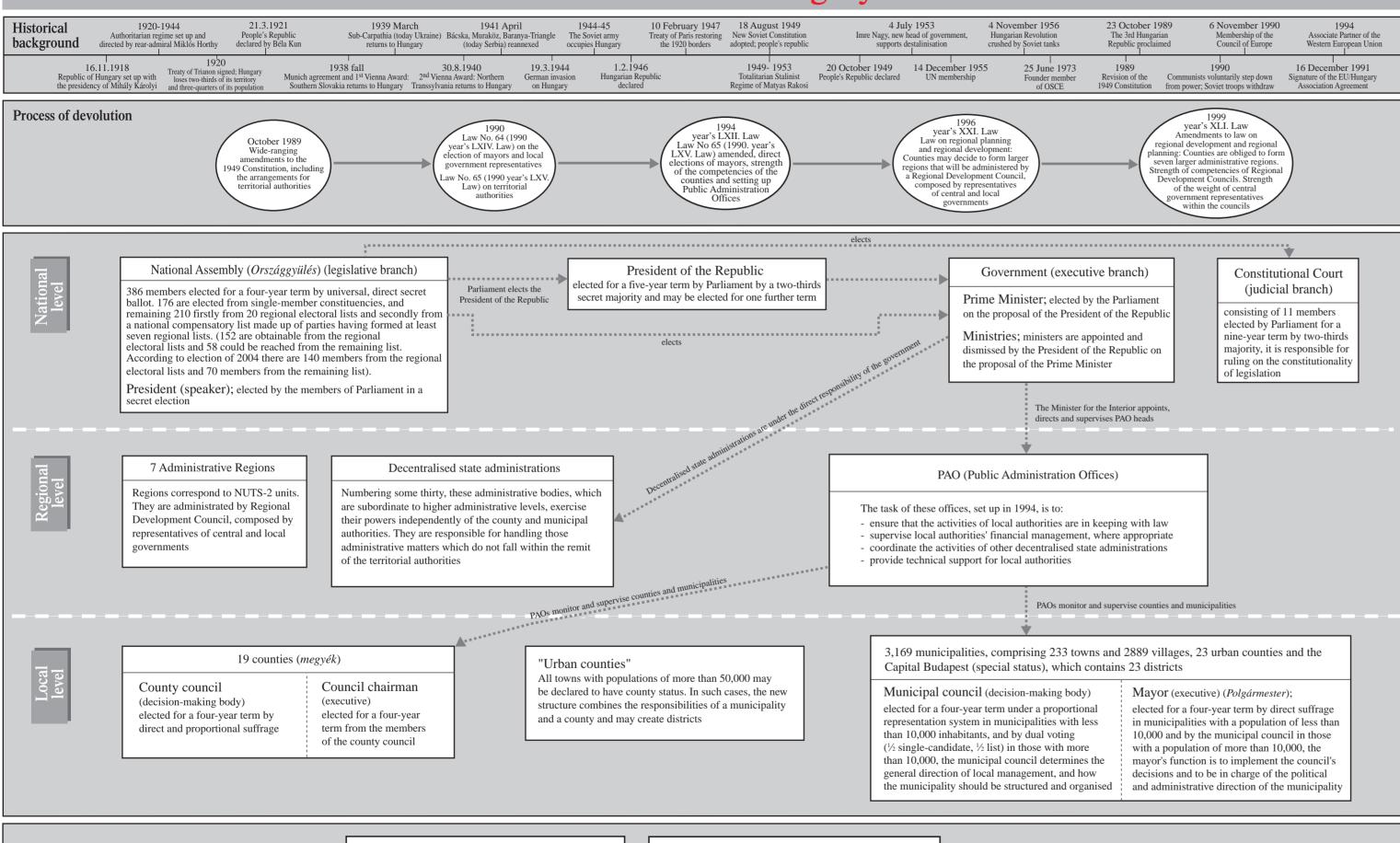
EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions

CoR-Studies I - 1/2005 - 18Brussels, January 2005

Devolution in Hungary



Involvement of territorial authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

6 April 1992 Signature of the European Charter of Local Self-Government (cf. Council of Europe) (entry into force on the 1st of July 1994) Signature of the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between territorial Communities or Authorities (Council of Europe) (Entry into force on the 22nd of June 1994) 19 March 1995

Signature of a Treaty of Good-neighbourly Relations and Friendly Cooperation with the Slovak Republic guaranteeing the inviolability of the borders between the two countries and the rights of the 600,000 Hungarians living within Slovak territory.

(Hungary already signed so called "Good-neighbourly Relations and Friendly Cooperation Treaties" with Ukraine, Romania and Poland

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

12.3.1999 NATO membership	4.8.2000 Ferenc Mádl President of the Republic	12.4.2003 Referendum on EU Accession (83,76% yes)	1.05.2004 Accession to the European Union	
23.3.199 Associate Memb Western Europea	per of the Entry into	force of Signature of the Treaty	29.10.2004 Signature of the Treaty establishing the Constitution for Europe	

Responsibilities



National legislative responsibilities in all areas. Parliament determines the legal status, duties and functions, operating guarantees, means of funding and basic economic management rules of territorial authorities, together with the legal status of their representatives, the rules governing their election and their rights and duties.



- Regional development policies
- Administration of Community Funds



County level (megyék) responsibilities

Mandatory tasks:

- · Spatial planning
- Environmental issues
- Establishment of spatial information systems
- Promotion of tourism

Other tasks can be transferred to counties.

Municipal level responsibilities

Municipalities are legal entities, may issue ordinances and are free to govern local public affairs.

- · Public registry office
- Public order
- Land registry
- Local development
- · Water and sewage
- Refuse collection
- Contact with suppliers
- Management of public areas
- Cemeteries
- Fire-fighting and prevention
- Housing

- Municipal infrastructure
- Municipal transport (road and river)
- Spatial planning
- Education (kindergartens and nursery, primary and secondary level schools)
- Health (primary health centres)
- Sport
- Culture
- Protection of the rights of national and ethnic minorities
- Urban Transport

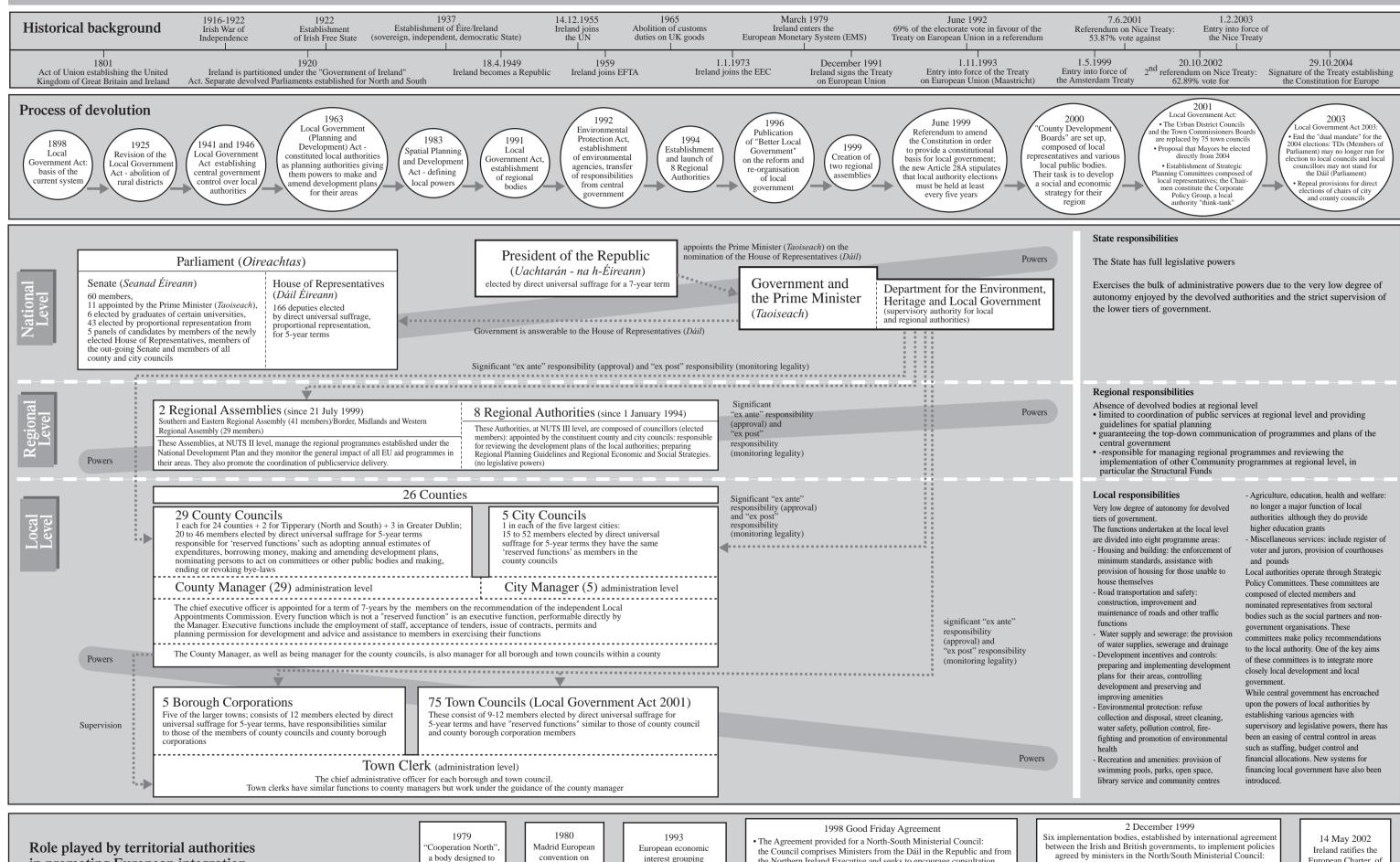
Devolution in Ireland



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Ireland



interest grouping

ECOM (European

Chamber of Commerce)

responsible for fostering

North-South cooperation

foster North-South

cooperation between

commercial and

ndustrial enterprise

cross-border

cooperation

between local and

regional authorities

the Northern Ireland Executive and seeks to encourage consultation,

• British-Irish Council: This body comprises Ministers from the British

Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales: it is responsible for exchanging

and Irish Governments and from the devolved administrations in

information and for securing agreement on cooperation issues

cooperation and various activities on an all-Ireland basis.

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

in promoting European integration

and cross-border relations

(for information)

between the Irish and British governments, to implement policies agreed by ministers in the North/South Ministerial Council:

(1) Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission; (2) InterTradeIreland; (3) the North/South Language Body; (4) safefood – Food Safety Promotion Board; (5) Special Europea Union Programmes Body (SEUPB); (6) Waterways Ireland. The SEUPB is the managing authority for the North/South INTERREG and PEACE Programmes.

European Charter of ocal Self-Governmen (The Charter entered into force on 1 September 2002)

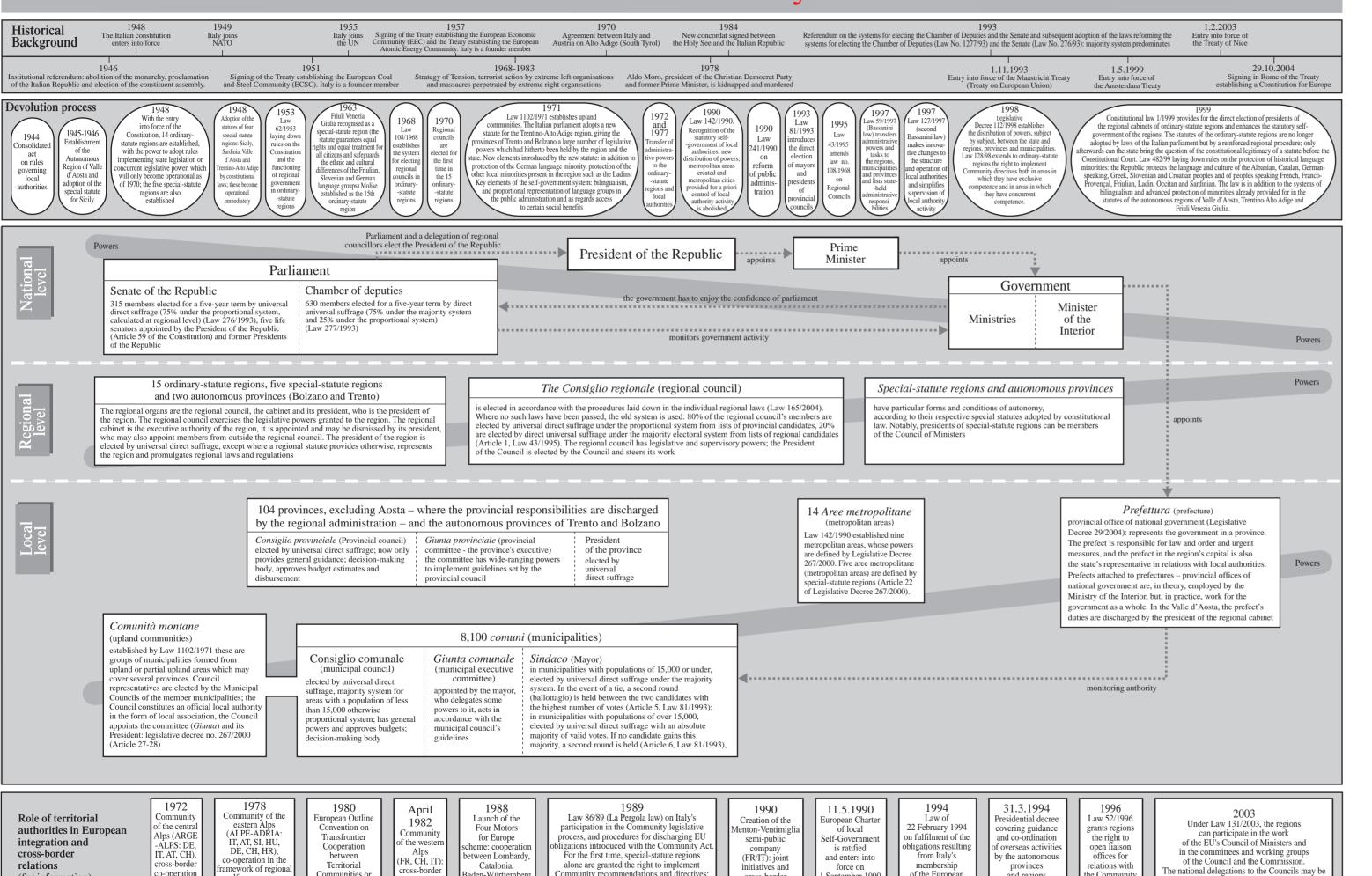
Devolution in Italy



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Italy



munity recommendations and directive

the Community Act is introduced.

cross-border

co-operation

den-Württem

and Rhone-Alps

of the European

September 1990

and regions

the Communi

institutions

chaired by a regional representative

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

regional planning

(for information)

law 2/2001 governi onsolidated act on ct election of President ropolitan cities ca suffrage in Regions with netropolitan areas and atutory self-governance island/archipelago Valle d'Aosta and Bolzar retain the existing

Constitutional law 3/2001 - Reform of Title V of the nary-statute regions and divides legislative power between the stat nd the regions. The new text identifies matters in which the regions hav exclusive legislative power, 17 matters in which the state alone may slate, and matters in which legislative power is concurrent, where the ions have to comply with the fundamental principles laid down by the tate when law-making. The regions' right to conduct foreign policy is ognised. The autonomous provinces of Trento and Bolzano rece explicit constitutional recognition. The difference between ordinary-statute regions and special-statute regions is diminished.

(in the process of being state has questioned the legitimacy of posal for constitutional reform, adopte t first reading by both chambers and be cussed at second reading by the Senat alia, the federal form of the

title 5 of

Law amending Law 86/89 lavin sions on Italy EU legislative ocedures for

Responsibilities

State responsibilities

The new Article 177 of the Constitution gives the state exclusive legislative powers in the following areas:

state foreign policy and international relations; state relations with the European Union; the right of asylum and the legal status of non-EU citizens; immigration; relations with religious groups; defence and the armed services; money, savings and financial markets, the tax system and fiscal equalisation; state bodies; election of the European Parliament; state administration; law and order and security; citizenship; civil status; criminal, civil and administrative justice; determination of minimum standards of civil and social rights; general education standards; social security; electoral legislation; main bodies and functions of municipalities; provinces and metropolitan areas; customs; coordination of the statistical and information system, environment and cultural heritage.

The state exercises concurrent legislative power with the regions in a number of other areas listed in Article 117 (see following paragraph).

The power to issue regulations shall be vested in the state regarding all matters where it has exclusive legislative power, insofar as it does not devolve such power to the regions (Article 177(6)).

The following bodies have been established to promote coordination between different levels of government:

- the State-Regions Conference established by Prime Minister's decree of 12 October 1983:
- the permanent State-Cities and Local Autonomies Conference established by Prime Minister's decree of 2 July 1996;
- the joint Conference (State-Regions Conference + Permanent State-Cities and Local Autonomies Conference) established by Legislative decree 281/1997 under Article 9 of Law 59/1997.

Regional responsibilities

The regions may adopt their own statute (Article 123 of the Constitution).

Under Article 177 of the Constitution, the regions shall have (exclusive) legislative power with respect to any matters not expressly the preserve of state law (4) and not included in concurrent legislation.

Article 177 lists a series of matters of concurrent legislation (the state shall only set fundamental principles (3)):

Regional international relations and relations with the European Union; foreign trade; job protection and industrial safety; education; scientific research; protection of health; food; sport; civil protection; town planning; civil ports and airports; development of cultural and environmental resources; large-scale transport and navigation networks; energy; complementary social security, etc.

The regions, as well as the autonomous provinces of Trento and Bolzano, also have horizontal powers, which they can exercise in the matters within their remit, while respecting the procedural standards set by the state, which has the power of substitution (5).

- participation in decisions to establish Community instruments
- implementation of international agreements and European Union instruments

At the request of autonomous regions or provinces, and within their remit, the government can appeal to the Court of Justice against Community instruments. It is obliged to do so if the State-Regions Conference demands it with an absolute majority of the autonomous regions and provinces (Article 5, Law 131/2003).

Legislative power shall be vested in the regions in respect of all matters not subject to exclusive state competence (Article 117(6) of the Constitution).

Under Article 123 of the Constitution, the regions may create a council of local governments, a consultative body for the region and local authorities.

Provincial responsibilities

The provinces may adopt their own statute (Article 6 Legislative decree 267/2000)

The provinces are mainly responsible for decentralised implementation of state responsibilities, but also see to local government needs for municipalities regarding questions beyond their powers.

The provinces have jurisdiction in the following areas:

- spatial planning
 - environmental protection

highways and transport

- civil protection
- protection of water and energy resources
- protection of cultural heritage
- · labour market school education
- compiling public data

• protection of flora and fauna

• fresh-water hunting and fishing

nature reserves and parks

- technical and administrative assistance for municipalities
- local economic development
- social and land-use planning
- The provinces have the power to enact legislation enabling them to organise and execute their duties (Article 117(6) of the Constitution).

The Autonomous Communities

The 1978 Constitution mapped out three different avenues to autonomy, each with two sub-divisions in line with the initial level of powers.

1. Establishment of Autonomous Communities under Article 151 of the Constitution (special status)

The historical Autonomous Communities have enjoyed the most extensive range of powers from the outset. This option was available to the historical *nacionalidades*: Catalonia, the Basque Country, Galicia. Andalusia also took this route.

The powers of these communities are determined by Article 148(1) and, where appropriate, Article 149(1) of the 1978 Constitution.

2. Establishment of Autonomous Communities under Article 143 of the Constitution (general status)

Between 1979 and 1981 most of the regions became Autonomous Communities with limited powers, with the assent of the *Cortes Generales* (Asturias, Cantabria, Rioja, Murcia, Aragon, Castilla de la Mancha, the Canaries, Valencia, Extremadura, the Balearics). Article 144 of the Constitution applies to Madrid and Castilla-Leon. The powers of these Autonomous Communities are defined by Article 148(1) of the Constitution.

3. The Community of Navarra

The first additional provision of the 1978 Constitution recognises the historic rights of the *Foral* regions and grants them autonomy under a special procedure. This provision was enacted in order to establish the *Comunidad Foral de Navarra*.

28 February 1992: Autonomy pact, extension of the powers of the Autonomous Communities established under Article 143 and 144 of the Constitution.

Differentiation factors

In addition to the two-tier system of initial devolved powers, the 1978 Constitution provided for powers to differentiate between the various Autonomous Communities.

- Article 3(2) officially recognised the languages of certain Autonomous Communities
- Article 149(1)(8) provided for the maintenance of distinct civil legislation based on common (*foral* law) or special (Navarra, Catalonia etc.) practice.
- The *first additional provision* acknowledged the basis of the specific financial and fiscal systems in the Basque Country and Navarra. The Canaries have their own financial system.
- Some Autonomous Communities enjoy certain political powers, e.g. the right to establish their own police force (The Basque Country, Galicia, Navarra and Catalonia).
- In the Balearic Islands, each island has its own administration, called an Island Assembly. This type of administration is recognised in Article 141(4) and 141(3) of the Spanish Constituion and in Article 2 of National Law 8/2000 of 27 October on Island Assemblies. There are three Island assemblies in the Balearic Islands (one on Majorca, one on Ibiza and one on Formentera).

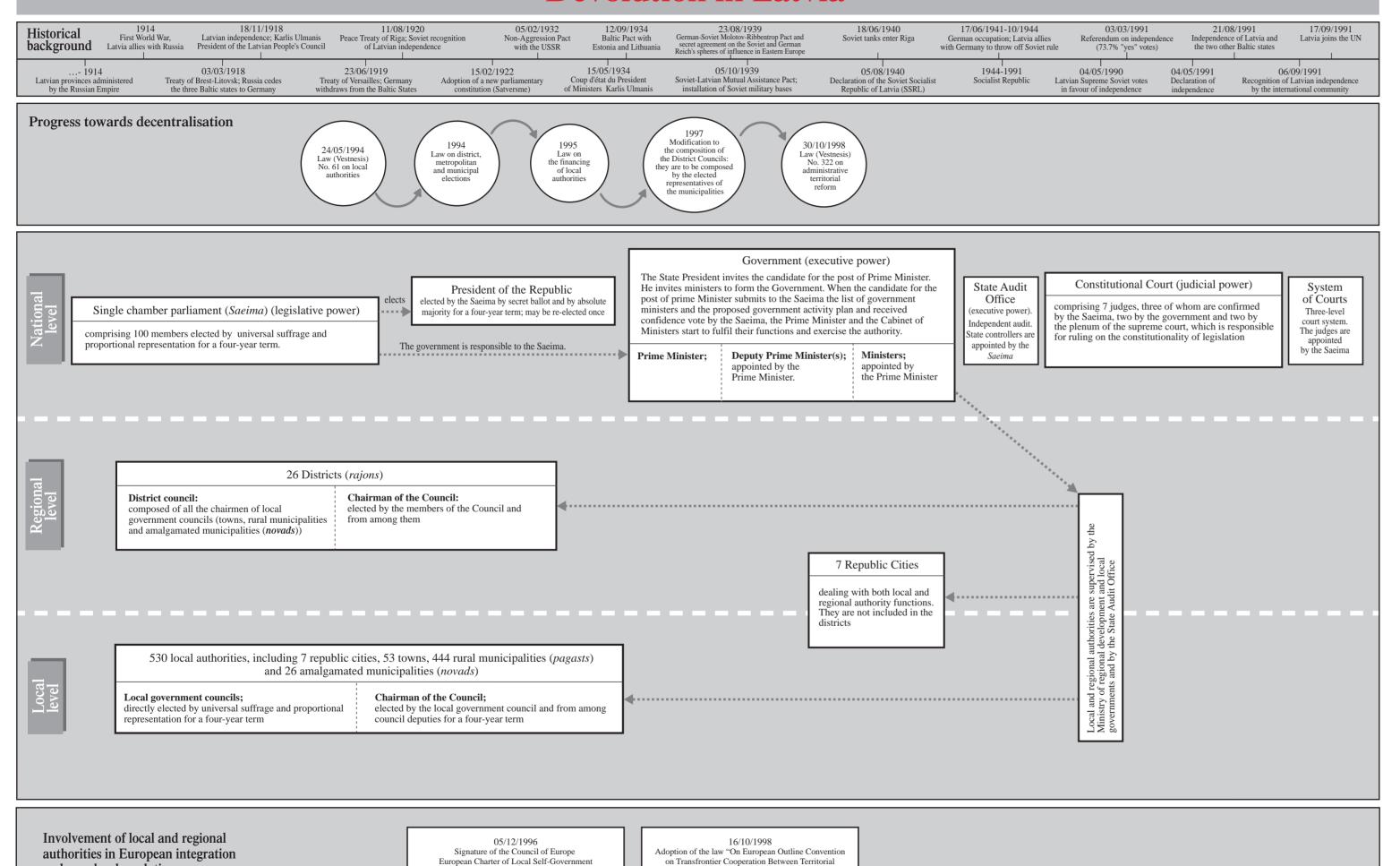
Devolution in Latvia



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Latvia



Communities or Authorities and its annex"

(which came into force on 22.10.1998).

(known as the "Madrid" Convention of 21/05/1980)

(which came into force on 02/03/1999)

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

and crossborder relations

(for information)

ander member of Baltic Council	Withdrawal of Russian troops from Latvian territory	Latvia joins the Council of Europe	Vaira Vike-Freiberga; President of the Republic	Signature of the Treaty of accession in Athens	Signature of the Treaty establishing the Constitution for Europe
_	•1 •1•,•				

08/07/1999-

01/02/2003

Entry into force of the Treaty of Nice

1998

Major amendments to the constitution

31/01/1995

Responsibilities

06/03/1992

The State has full legislative powers. With regard to regional policy, the government is obliged to consult local and regional authorities before adopting any decisions which affect them.

- Maintenance of public order
 Transport infrastructure Regional/spatial planning
- Regulation of public utilities: Electricity
- Telecommunications
- Post

14/02/1994 09/05/1994 Latvia joins the NATO Associate member Partnership for Peace of the WEU

30/04/1994

– Railway

- Housing policy
- development
- Higher education (teachers'
- Health
- Culture

16-17/04/2003

- Economic policy and Environment
 - Civil protection

20/09/2003

(67% yes)

endum on EU Accession

- Taxes
- salaries) and science · Foreign policy
 - Defence

Welfare

1.5.2004

Accession to

the European Union

29.10.2004

Districts (Rajons)

A district government ensures, through the District Council, the performance of the functions prescribed by law and functions delegated by the local governments, observing the interests of the State and the residents of the district territory:

- Civil protection
- Public transport services
- Representation of self-
- government in regional sickness insurance institution

• Continuing education of pedagogues

District governments have legislative powers limited by law (right to issue binding regulations). The seven republic cities with special status exercise powers at both regional and local level

Local governments have legislative powers limited by law (right to issue binding regulations).

- Registry of birth, marriage and deaths, issuing
- administrative documents Maintenance of public order
- Cadastral register
- Spatial planning • Upkeep of public areas
- Civil protection
- Environment

- Regulation of public utilities:
 Economic policy and - heating
- water supply and treatment
- household waste management
- Lighting Hospitals Roads
 - - Welfare • Culture

development

• Education (pre-school,

primary and secondary)

Availability of health care

Local government budget and property is separated from state and regional budget and property

 Cemeteries Housing

Devolution in Lithuania



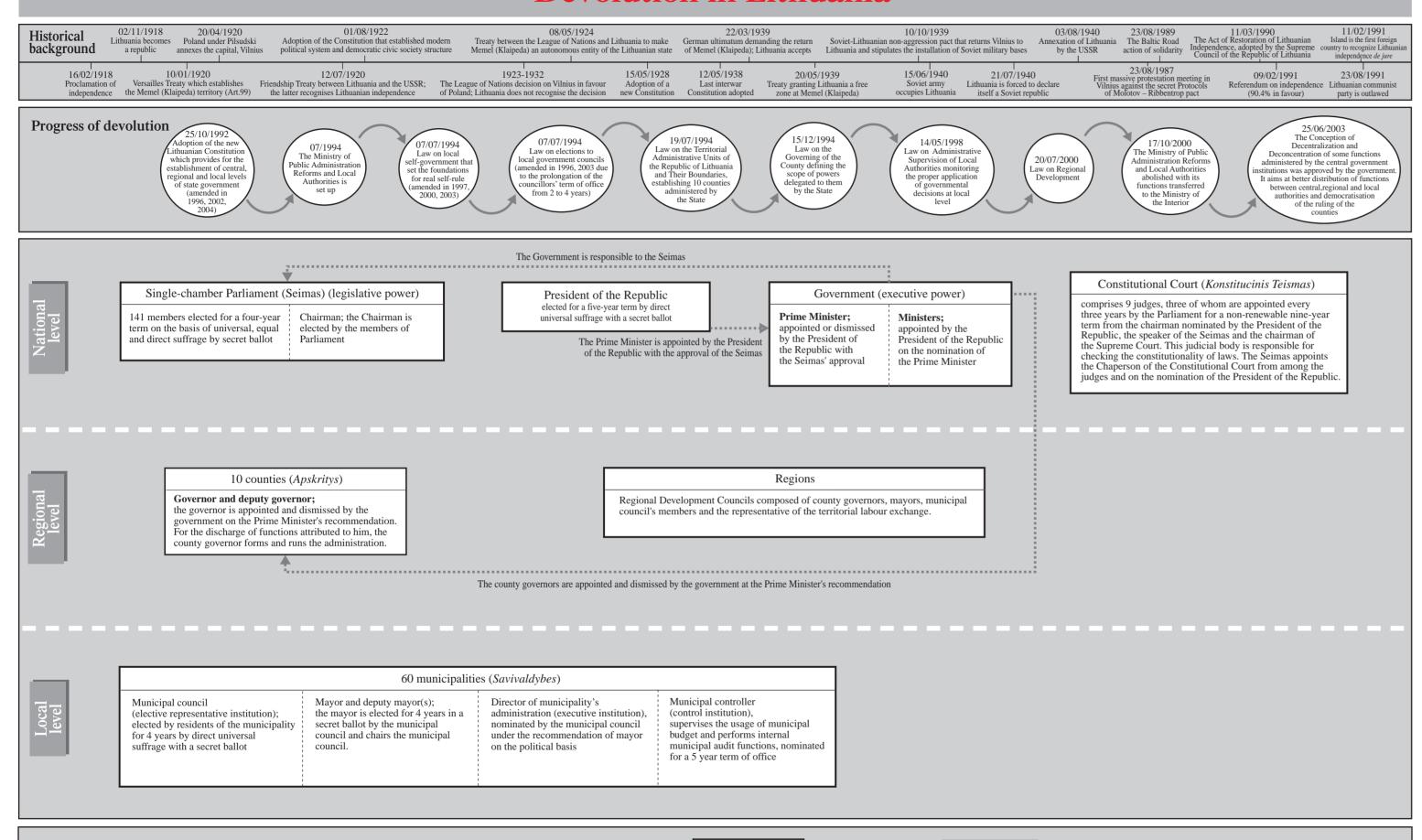
EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions

CoR-Studies I - 1/2005 - 20 Brussels, January 2005

Devolution in Lithuania



Involvement of Lithuanian territorial authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

1991 Five Lithuanian cities (Kaunas, Vilnius, Panevezys, Klaipeda Siauliai) become members of the Union of Baltic Citi

Ratification of the European Outline Convention on Signature of the Transfrontier Cooperation etween Territorial Communities r Authorities (Council of Europe (entry into force: 14/07/1997)

27/11/1996 Ratification of the European Charter of Local Self-government of the Council of Europe entry into force 01/10/1999 Kaunas, Siauliai, Taurage, Utena, Vilnius members of Assembly of European Regions (full membership of unas county from 1999

Kaunas and Klaipeda stablished, members counties become Lithuania (Alytus, members of Baltic Marijampole, Vilniu Sea States Subregiona Cooperation Poland, Russia (BSSSC) (Kaliningrad region

Euroregion "Baltija established, member - Lithuania (Klaipeda ounty), Poland, Latvia and Russia

Euroregion "Saule members - Lithuania counties and cities of iauliai and Taurage) Latvia and Russia

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation



28/04/2004 development

Responsibilities

National legislative responsibilities in all areas.



County responsibilities consist in the implementation of state policy in the following areas:

- Social security
- Education (vocational and technical training)
- Culture
- Health
- Spatial planning

- Protection and maintenance of monuments
- Land use and protection
- Environmental protection
- Administration of national and inter-regional programmes
- Civil defense

Kraštas" establishe

nembers - Lithua

(Ignalina, Zarasai, Švenčionys

municipalities), Belorus, Latvia

Municipal responsibilities According to the law on Local Self-Governance, local authorities have a general administrative competence: they can exercise every task not explicitly reserved to the State. According to the freedom of decision-making, the functions of the municipalities are divided into independent, attributed (limited independence), state (delegated to the municipalities) and contractual functions.

highways and public areas

• Education (pre-school,

Local health centres and

primary and secondary)

• Adult education (vocational

In particular, they are responsible for: • Maintenance of local

- Local development Spatial planning
- Environmental protection
- Housing
- Local public transport • Public utilities, public
- sanitation Household waste
- Cemeteries

- Libraries Local cultural centres and
- hospitals

 Civil registration Agriculture

Tourism and recreation

Social assistance

Public safety

Fire-fighting

• Administration of registers

• Rural development

Establishmen Utena, Klaipeda, of four regional development Taurage counties gencies (Vilnius selected as target gions for Phare 2000 conomic and Social Klaipeda, Siaulia

Cohesion Initiative

2000

oregion "Bartuva tablished, members Lithuania (Skuodas Kretinga, Palanga Latvia

Ratification of the

Protocol No. 2 to the Euroregion "Šešupe' established, member European Outline Lithuania (Pagegia Vilkaviškis, Kazlų, vention on Transfront Co-operation between Rūda, Kalvarija, Territorial Communities Poland, Russia ter-territorial cooperati (entry into force 2003)

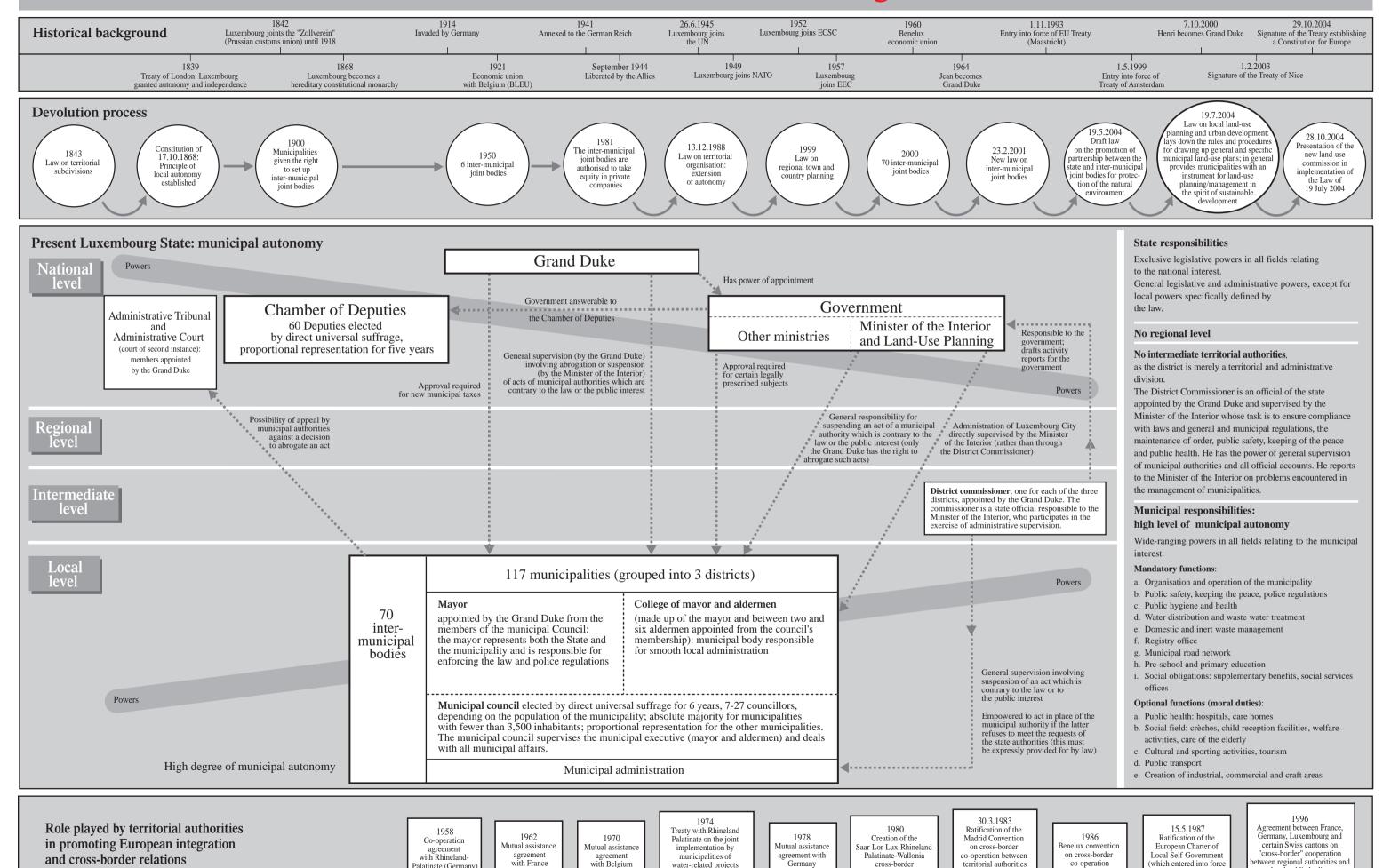
Devolution in Luxembourg



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Luxembourg



water-related projects

such as water purification

Germany

cross-border

cooperation area

territorial authoritie

(which entered into

force on 1 July 1983)

co-operation

which entered into force

on 1 September 1998)

local public bodies

(for information)

Palatinate (German

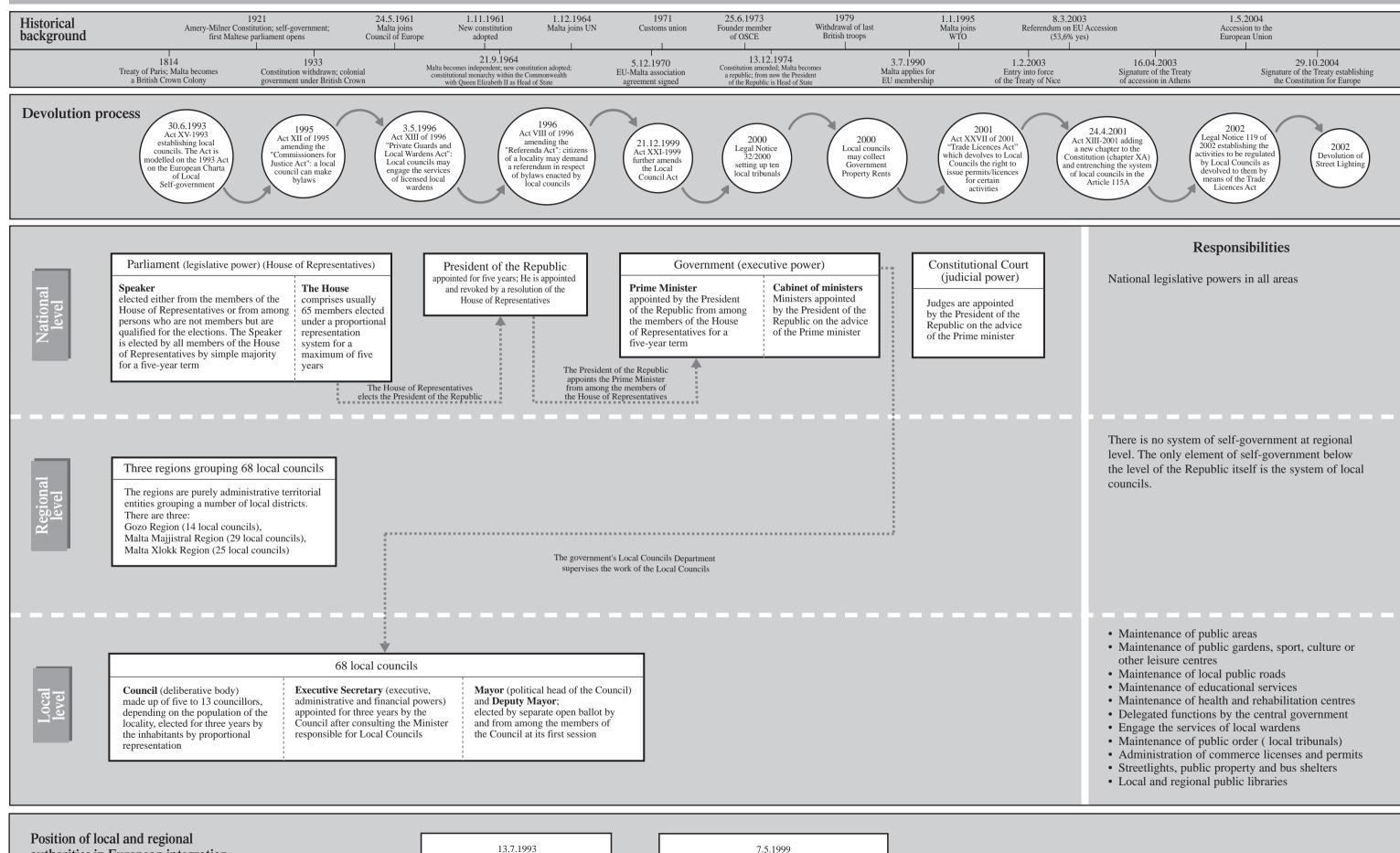
Devolution in Malta



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Malta



authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

13.7.1993

Malta signs the European Charter of
Local Self-Government of the Council of Europe
(entry into force: 1.1.1994) and ratifies
same on 6.9.1993

Malta signs the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities (the "Madrid Convention" of 21.5.1980) of the Council of Europe (not ratified)

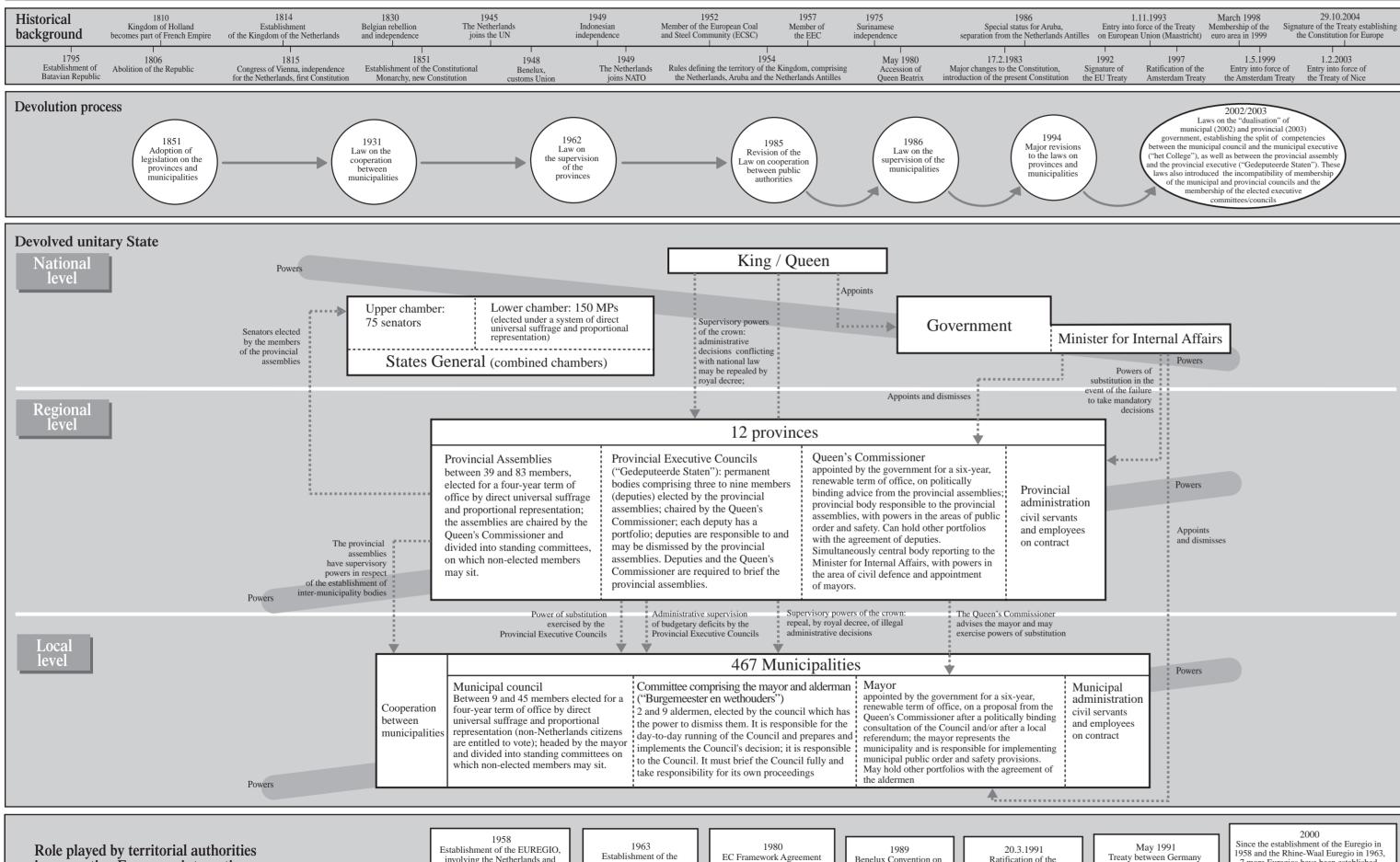
Devolution in the Netherlands



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in the Netherlands



Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

in promoting European integration

and cross-border relations

(for information)

involving the Netherlands and

Germany; this was the first

cross-frontier structure in

three regional associations

Europe and comprises

Rhine-Waal Euregio,

(Germany-Netherlands)

ross-frontier public bod

Treaty between German and the Netherlands ncorporating a framework eement on cross-frontier cooperation

Ratification of the

European Charter of

ered into force 1 July 199

Local Self-Governmen

Benelux Convention on

ss-frontier cooperation

force on 1 April 1991

on cross-frontier

peration between territor

uthorities, signed in Madri

958 and the Rhine-Waal Euregio in 1963, 7 more Euregios have been established between local and/or regional partners across the Belgian-Dutch and the German-Dutch frontier. Together, the nine Euregios cover the entire land frontier of the Netherlands

Responsibilities

Both provinces and municipalities have the autonomy to develop policy that is not in conflict with national legislation. State responsibilities

Legislative power in all fields rests exclusively with the national government, which exercises this power via the States-General.

Administrative power rests with the central government, insofar as it is not exercised by the provincial and municipal authorities, which thus complement the work of national level.

The provinces and municipalities may issue provincial and municipal regulations, as long as they are in compliance with national law.

level

Responsibilities exercised by the Provinces

- spatial-planning and urban development: the Provincial Assemblies draw up guideline plans for spatial development; the Provincial Executive Council is responsible for endorsing municipal land-use plans
- housing: the provinces are responsible for allocating quotas with regard to social housing and they decide on the grants awarded
- to the municipalities • public order and safety: the Queen's Commissioner is responsible
- for district coordination between police forces • culture and recreation: the provinces are responsible for the
- promotion of tourism and culture • transport: the provinces are responsible for the development and maintenance of provincial roads

- the environment: the provinces draw up and implement environmental protection plans
- economy: the provinces stimulate the regional economic development
- employment: the provinces establish investment boards and are responsible for cooperation between the public authorities and
- youth care : the provinces establish offices offering support to children and young people in (potential) crisis situations, and are responsible for the planning of institutions and programmes providing such support.
- public order and safety: the queen's commissioner has a coordinating role in case of disasters

Responsibilities of the municipalities:

- spatial planning and urban development: the municipalities draw up land-use plans for land within the municipalities and give
- housing: the municipalities build and manage social housing and manage land belonging to the community
- tourism and recreation: the municipalities take part in the promotion of tourism and manage sports grounds
- public works, transport: development and maintenance of municipal streets and roads, traffic and parking regulations, provision of public transport and school buses
- public health: each municipality has a public health and hygiene department and the municipalities are also responsible for the vaccination of children
- culture: the municipalities take part in the promotion of culture
- employment and economy: the municipalities have a shared

- responsibility for the labour market and for the maintenance and development of local economy and employment
- education: the municipalities manage public primary schools and subsidise all the expenses of private primary schools in their
- welfare: the municipalities are responsible for social welfare and measures to help the unemployed, people with disabilities and the elderly
- environmental policy: municipalities are responsible for the implementation of national and European environmental policy
- safety policy and public order: the municipalities have a responsibility in the implementation of safety policy and are responsible for public order and local police
- youth care: municipalities have a responsibility in the implementation of youth care policy.

Devolution in Poland



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Poland

		_ = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =					
Historical 17.3.1921 Adoption of a democratic constitu	25.7.1932 26 January 1934 1939-1 Soviet-Polish German-Polish Germany and Ri ion Non-Aggression Pact Non-Aggression Pact and partition	ssia invade Poland becomes a Adoption of a new constitution	Outbreak of strikes forces the Acts	is granting amnesty First non-communist Foun	nder member First fully free elections Poland	mber 1991 1992 1996 joins the Baltic Council Poland member of Europe of OECD	
28 June 1919 Treaty of Versailles defining the western borders of the country	Marshal Pilsudski; period German-Soviet Adoption of a Yalta	ebruary 1945 Conference reshapes e map of Europe Communists manipulate the elections in order to take power Communists manipulate the elections in order to take power Communists manipulate the of the Warsaw	nber German-Polish Treaty; Germany Martial law; Sol	lidarity is banned and Round Table Debate Lech Wa	alesa President EC	Compared to the Republic Poland Poland President of the Republic President o	
autonomy at local authority	May 1990 Distribution Powers Act 27 May 1990 First free election to Gminas' Councils Councils January 1991 Local Taxation Act Act October Local Taxation Act	991 December 1991 Reform of public administration mixed administration line of public administration gmin.	January 1994 Pilot programme, fuced in 64 large cities, the preparation to the next sas of decentralization of asks. Within this program ask were endowed with a.g. education tasks chools maintenance) 2 April 1994 Adoption by Parliament of a post-communist con program asks. Within this program administration based on of subsidiarity — gmin competences — and a creation of self-gov at the regional	the a new anstitution. The beginning of self-governments at the regional level and creation of public in the principle in a salleged allowing for vernments The beginning of self-governments at the regional level and creation of the Poviat self-government at Voivodship self-government. October 1998, in general election of the Poviat councils and sejmiks (regional parliaments)	nd In units to join international associations of local and	15 March 2002 aw on the reform of government of the Capital City of Warsaw 20 June 2002 Law on the direct election of mayors by direct universal ballot	
National Level	Bicameral parliament (legislative powers) Senat (upper chamber): 100 senators elected by simple majority for a four-year term in 40 constituencies. There are 2-4 senators in each constituency. Sejm (lower cham 460 deputies elected for term in 41 constituency than 7 deputies must be each constituency.	elected by direct universal suffrage for a allowed to serve for two consecutions. No fewer elected in The Government of the Republic for a suffrage for a s	ive-year term, prime Minister the members of Gov	The government is responsible for conducting the Republic's internal and external policy Prime appoint Presider Republic	e Minister; Ministers; nominated and revoked by	Courts and Tribunals • Supreme Court (court of highest verdict) • Common Courts • Administrative Courts • Military Courts • Constitutional Court (responsible for ruling on the constitutionality of laws and treaties)	
Regional	16 Województwa (Voivodships or regions) (introduced 1 January 1999) Sejmik Województwa (assembly or council of voivodships, or voivodal diet); members are elected by direct suffrage. Wojewoda (Voivod or provincial governor) and Vice-Wojewodzi (vice-voivods or vice-governors); Wojewoda is the representative of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland in the region. He is appointed and dismissed by the Prime Minister upon proposal by the minister responsible for public administration. Wojewoda represents central government at regional level Zarząd (Executive committee) (5 members); elected by the sejmik, headed by the elected Marshal. It exercises executive authority at regional level. Marszałek (Marshal); elected by the sejmik, president of the executive committee.						
Local	315 powiaty (counties or districts) Rada powiatu (Council, decision-making body); directly elected by list for a four-year term in the system of proportional representation. Zarząd powiatu (executive commi responsible for enacting council's decisions.	/*		These authorities of large powers usually granted to They operate in the same municipalities.	er towns have o the districts.		
	2489 gminy (rural communes) Rada Gminy (Municipal council) elected every four years by direct secret vote. The number of members variaccording to the municipality's population. The Gmina Council is elected i gminas over 20,000 inhabitants in the system of proportional representation Chair and vice-chair(s) of the Municipal council are elected by the member council. There may be between one and three vice-chairs. Villages; municipalities are formed by a number of villages. The leg	general elections and in item 984, and No. 127, item 1089) ele (wôjt) is en executive organ in rural a less than 100,000, and the president (100,000.	nt) 2002, on the direct election of mayors (Journal of Law Norted by direct universal suffrage. The head of the municereas, the mayor (burmistrz) in municipalities with a population of rezydent) in urban municipalities with a population of received the sufference of the sufference	Vo. 113, sipality ulation of	the capital City of Warsaw (Journal of Law No. 41, item 361) City of Warsaw is a <i>gmina</i> with the status of a city. It enjoys the rights of a		
	An executing authority is a soltys (head) supported by the council, both el	ected by direct, secret ballot by the local population					

Role of territorial authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

26 November 1991 Poland becomes a member of the Council of Europe

19 January 1993 Signature of the European Outline nvention on Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Communities or Authorities (cf. Council of Europe) (came into force on the 20 June 1993)

19 February 1993

Signature of the European Charter of Local Self-Government (cf. Council of Europe). the Charter came into force on 1 March 1994)

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions

12 March 1999 Poland joins NATC		16/17 April 2003 Signature of the Treaty of accession in Athens	1.5.2004 Poland joins European Union	
2 April 1997 Adoption of a new Constitution	1 February Entry into fo the Treaty of	rce of Referendum o	n EU Accession Signature of	 0.2004 of the Treaty nstitution for Europe

Responsibilities



Legislative power, and supervision of local authorities as stipulated by the constitution and other relevant legislation.

- Internal security and public order
- External security of the state
- Management of the national budget



Voivodship

- regional development policy
- spatial planning
- promotion and health care planning (hospital net management)
- higher education
- promotion and economic development support
- planning and implementing the management of operational programs of the EU structural funds
- social policy
- labour market policy
- regional roads management
- environment protection

Voivod

- representative of the Government in voivodship
- supervises government administration at voivodship level and in *poviats* (police, social care, inspections of environment protection)
- supervises local self-government in the scope of legality



Poviat

responsible for local issues which cannot be ascribed to gminas such as

- public net services
- secondary education
- environment protection general hospitals
- construction supervision

- civil protection fire protection
- consumer protection (Poviat Consumer Spokesman)
- social welfare
- employment (*Poviat* Labour Office)
- poviat roads management

Gmina

According to the Constitution of the III Republic of Poland the rule of gmina's alleged competences is the obligatory one, i.e. if no other law determines the public competences then they belonged to *gmina's* own tasks, i.e.:

- spatial development
- real estate management
- environment protection
- local roads
- maintenance of landfills
- water supply and sewage treatment
- public education
- maintenance of cemeteries • electricity, gas and heat supply
 - *gmina* 's promotion

• local public transport

health care services

social welfare

• gmina's housing

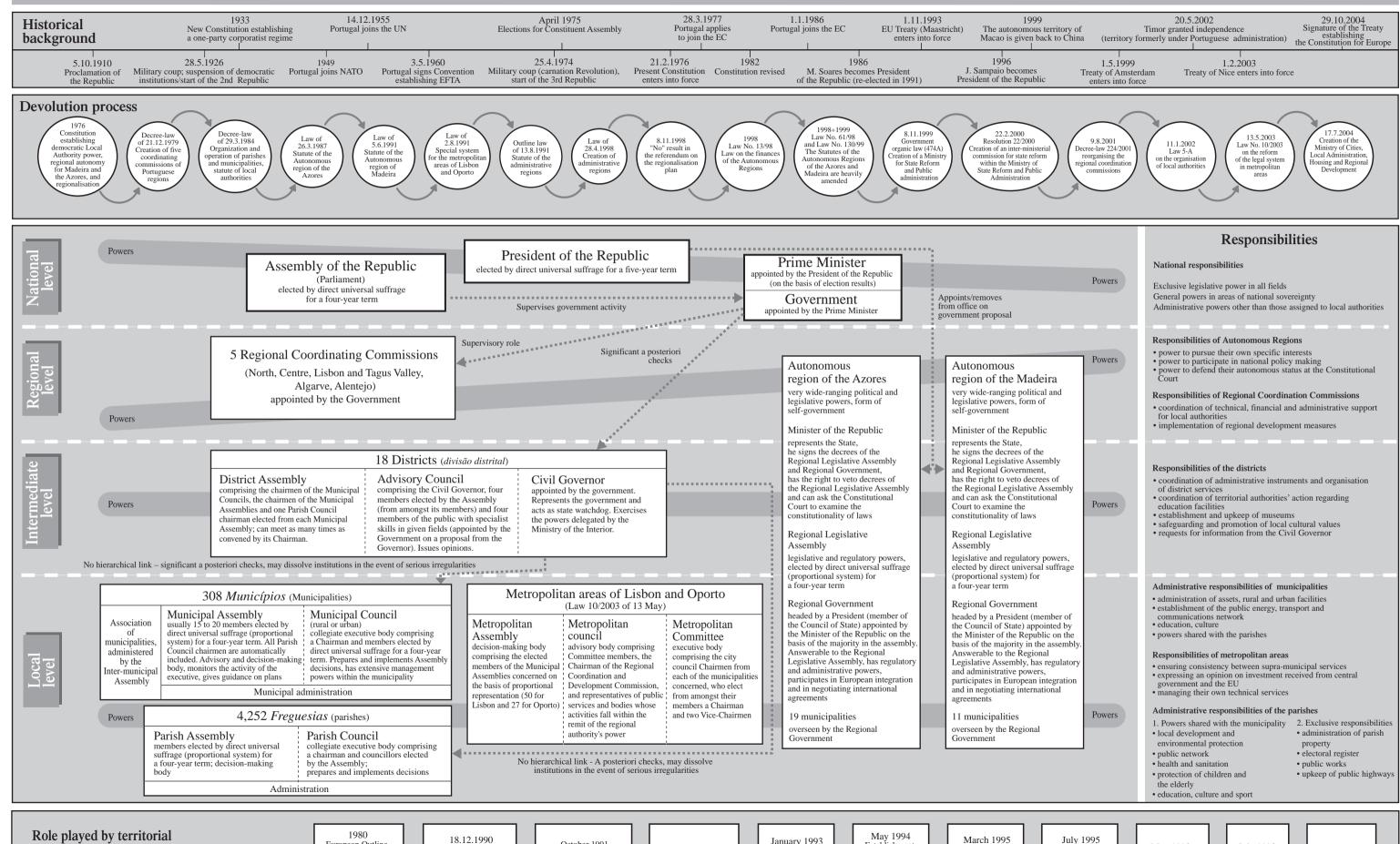
Devolution in Portugal



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Portugal



European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

authorities in promoting

European Outline
Convention on
Transfrontier
Cooperation
between Territorial
Communities or
authorities Madrid

18.12.1990
Ratification of the
European Charter of
ocal Self-Governmen
(entry into force
in Portugal on
1 April 1991)

October 1991 Working Community Galicia - North-Portuga (cross-border cooperation between Portugal and Spain)

January 1992 Working Community Extremadura -Alentejo (Spain-Portugal) January 1993 Establishment of an office for cross-frontier initiatives between Extremadura and the Alenteio May 1994
Establishment
of an office for
cross-frontier
initiatives between
Spain and Portugal
(ExtremaduraCentral Portugal)

March 1995 Establishment of an office for cross-frontier initiatives between Castilla-Léon and Central Portugal

July 1995
Establishment
of an office for
cross-frontier
initiatives between
Andalucia
and the Algarve

May 1998
Working
Community
Extremadura Central Portugal

July 1998 Working Community Andalucia Algarve June 1999 Working Community Castilla-Léon -Central Portugal

Devolution in Romania



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Romania

Historical background	1862 The united principalities officially assume the name of "Romania"	1881 Romania is proclaimed kingdom	1920 Peace Treaty of Trianon; Romania receives Basarabia, Transilvania and Bucovina	1934 Balkan Entente (Turkey, Greece, Yugoslavia)	7.9.1940 Romania cedes southern Dobrogea to Bul and north-western Transylvania to Hung				21.8.1965 Adoption of a new Constitution	1965-1989 Dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu
1859 Unification of the principalities of with Bucharest as		in; Independence from the Ottoman Transy	1918 1920-21 Ilvania joins Little Entente (with Poland, omania Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia)	1923 Adoption of the Constitution legislating the universal suffrage			1947 ion of the monarchy and proclamation the People's Republic of Romania	1952 Adoption of a new socialist Constitution wi	1958 Soviet army ithdraws Romania	25.12.1989 Collapse of the communist dictatorship
Devolution process 1991 Law No. 18/1991 on local public administration, amended in 1996 and 2001 abrogated by the Law No. 17/2004 who 67/2004 who										
The Government is appointed by the President of the Republic, following a vote of confidence in the Parliament										

Bicameral parliament (legislative power)

Chamber of Deputies (Camera deputaților) comprises 332 deputies elected by universally, equally, directly, secretly and freely expressed suffrage on a list system for a four -year term. Out of them, 18 deputies represent national minorities' organisations that did not obtain the number of votes needed for the election within the Parliament.

Senate (Senatul) comprises 137 senators elected by universally, equally, directly, secretly and freely expressed suffrage. The President of the Senate is elected by secret ballot by the member of the Senate

President of the Republic

elected for a five-year term of office by universally, equally, directly, secretly and freely expressed suffrage. A second ballot is organised if majority is not reached. No president may serve more than two terms of office, whether or not the terms of office are consecutive

Government (executive power)

Prime Minister The President of Romania appoints a candidate to the office of Prime Minister. The candidate seeks the vote of confidence of the Parliament

The Prime Minister is appointed by the President of the Republic

Constitutional Court

Comprises nine judges appointed for a non-renewable nine-year term of office; the Constitutional Court guarantees the supremacy of the Constitution. Three of the judges of the Constitutional Court are appointed by the Chamber of Deputies, three by the Senate and the remaining three by the President of the Republic

Prefects are appointed by the Government

The 8 Development Regions (Law No.315/2004 with further modifications and completions)

The development regions are the areas that comprise the territories of specified counties, respectively of Bucharest Municipality, in the case of Bucharest-Ilfov development region, that are set up upon conventions concluded between the representatives of the county councils, and, depending on the case, of General Council of the Bucharest Municipality. The development regions are not administrative and territorial units, have no legal personality. They represent the framework for the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of the regional development policy, and for collecting the specific statistical data according to European regulations issued by EUROSTAT for NUTS 2 level territorial classification available in the European Union.

The Regional Development Boards are the deliberative regional bodies, without legal personality, which are established and operate on partnership principles at the level of each region, in order to co-ordinate the activities of elaboration and of monitoring resulting from the regional development policies; they are made up of the presidents of the county councils and, one representative for each category of municipal, town and village local councils from each county of the region. In the case of Bucharest-Ilfov development region, the Regional Development Board is made up of the President of Ilfov county council, of the general mayor of Bucharest Municipality, of one representative from each local sector council and of representatives of Ilfov local county councils.

The National Board for Regional Development is a national partnership based structure having decisional role over the design and implementation of regional development policy objectives. The National Board for Regional Development is made up of the Presidents and Vice-presidents of the Regional Development Boards and, of the representatives of the Government appointed by governmental decision.

The candidate to the office of

is approved by the Parliament

Ministers and their complete list

Prime Minister proposes

42 counties (*judet*) including the capital, Bucharest

County Councils

are elected for a four-year term of office by universally, equally, directly, secretly and freely expressed suffrage.

President (*Presedinte*) and Vice-President(s) of the County Councils elected from amongst the members of the County Councils, by a simple majority

Prefects

These officials are appointed by the government and serve as representatives of the Government at local level, managing the ministries' and other central bodies' deconcentrated public services within the territorial and administrative units. Prefects are charged with the control of the legality of acts issued by county councils, local councils and mayors. There is, however, no hierarchical link between prefects and local councils, county councils and mayors. According to the provisions of the Law No. 340/2004, the Prefects will become High Civil Servants beginning with January 1, 2006.

2820 communes (comune), 210 cities (orase) and 103 municipalities (municipii)

Local Councils (deliberative bodies) are elected for a four-year term of office by universally, equally, directly, secretly and freely expressed suffrage.

Mayors (executive power) they are elected for a four-year term of office by universally, equally, directly, secretly and freely expressed suffrage using a system of voting for a single candidate. A second ballot is organised if majority is not reached.

Involvement of territorial authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

1 10 1994 Signature of the European arter of Local Self-Govern (cf. Council of Europe) ratified by Law No 199/1997

27.2.1996 gnature of the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities (the "Madrid Convention" of 21.5.1980) of the Council of Europe, ratified by the Government Ordinance No 120/1998

16 9 1996 reaty of understan cooperation and good neighbourly relations with Hungary ratified by Law No 113/1996

19.2.1997 Romanian-Hungarian Agreement on Military Cooperation and the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement to combat Organised Crime, Drug Trafficking and Terrorism pproved by Government Decision No 271/1997

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of the Mission of Romania to the EU

1.2.1990 22 6 1995 10-12.12.1999 1.2.2003 16 12 2004 EU-Romania umption of power by the Provisional Council of the National Union Helsinki European Council; Traian Basescu becomes Entry into force of ciation Agreement to join the EU EU accession negotiations opened the Treaty of Nice President of Romania 21.11.1991 7.10.1993 12-13.12.1997 20.12.2000 17.12.2004 Romania joins 17.12.2004 Closure of the accession Adoption of a new Constit Romania becomes a member Luxembourg European Council: adoption

Ion Iliescu becomes of the Council of Europe of the general strategy on EU enlargement President of the Republic negotiations with the European Unio

2004 Law No. 373/2004 Emergency No. 370/2004 on the Election fo 2004 No. 1 256/2004 on the election 2004 the Chamber of No. 111/2004 ling the appr Deputies and for the Senate, modified and of the President of aw No. 340/2004 on the Statute approving the EGO no.45/2003 No. 399/2004 of the Framework Regulation on settin modifying and omania, modified of the local completing the Law No.315/2004 of the Prefect completed by Government on local publi ip and functionin on regional development in Romania Emergency Ordinance

Responsibilities

Fields in which legislative power is exercised at national level:

• Budget, finances Agriculture, forestry

• Public administration and territory planning

Culture

• Ecological equilibrium • Labour and social protection

• Maintenance of law and order

Energy

• Urban transport

 Housing • Economic development

• Education

 Health • Many other areas: internal and external security, foreign

County responsibilities

The County Council is the Public Administration authority coordinating the activity of commune and town councils, to carry out the public services of county interest (art. 121 (1) of the Constitution).

Local responsibilities

• Registration of births, marriages and deaths Maintenance of law and order

 Management of property Household waste

 Maintenance of public areas Environment

Management of water resources and sewage disposal

 Roads Energy

Urban heating schemes

Urban transport

 Cemeteries Housing

 Economic development Education

 Health Hospitals

 Social assistance Culture Local taxes and duties

 Local budgets Land-use planning

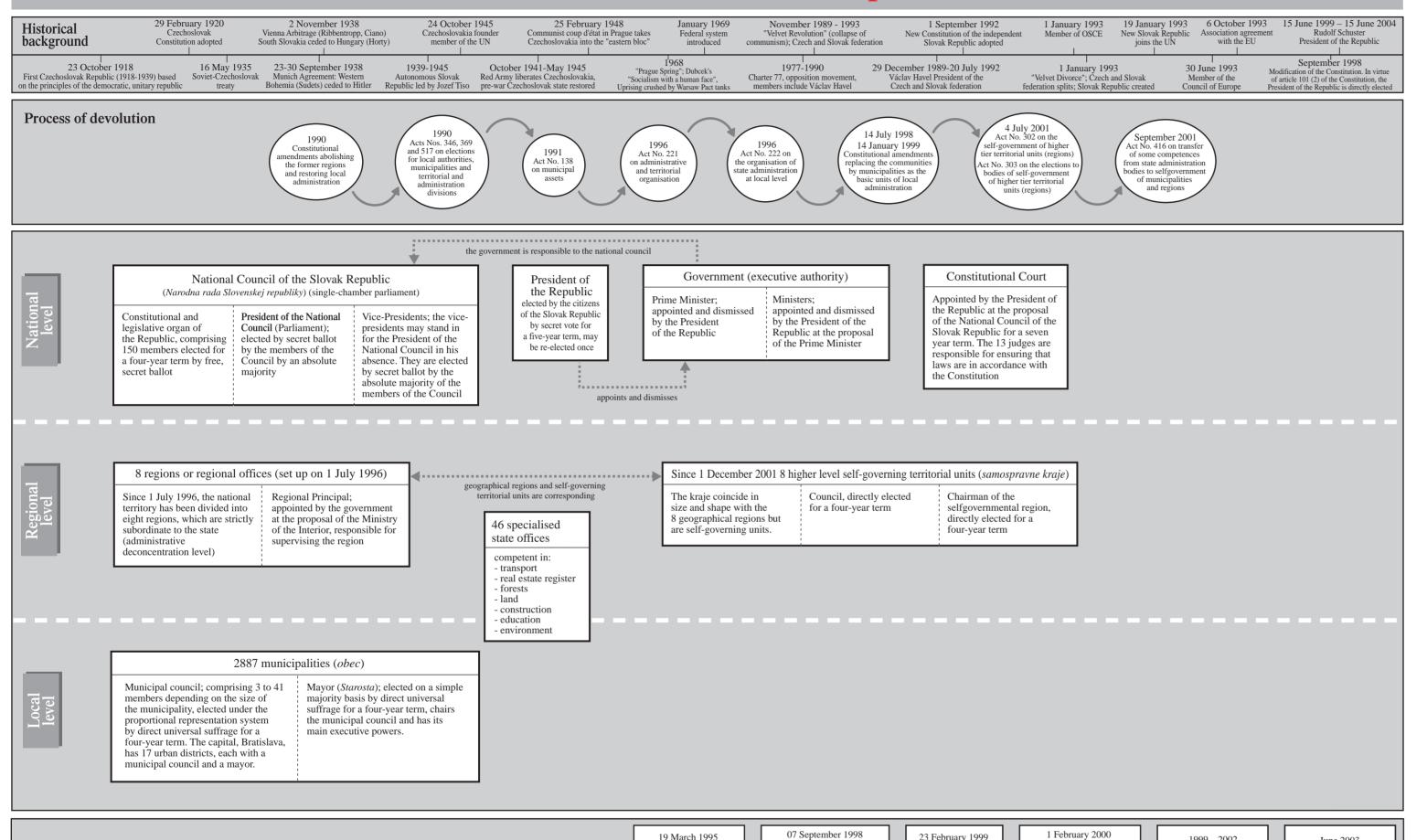
Devolution in the Slovak Republic



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in the Slovak Republic



Involvement of territorial authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

19 March 1995 Signature of a Treaty of Good-neighbourly Relations and Friendly the Slovak Republic and Hungary on issues relating to minorities in the two countries

07 September 1998 ature of the European Outlin Cooperation between territorial Communities or Authorities (including 1st Additional Protocol (Documents of Council of Europe) (entry into force on the 2 May 2000)

23 February 1999 Signature of the pean Charter of ocal Self-Government f. Council of Europe (entry into force on the 1st of June 2000).

conferences of the Slova Republic on support to with all individual neighbouring states Czech Republic, Hungary Poland, Ukrajine, Austria

Signature of the 2nd

Additional Protocol to

vention on Transfrontie

the European Outline

Cooperation between

erritorial Communities o

Authorities (Document of

ouncil of Europe) (entry int

orce on the 1 February 2001)

lovakia and its neighbour with all neighbouring further perspective of ansfrontier cooperation in Central Europe

June 2003

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation



Responsibilities

National level: administrative responsibilities

National legislative responsibilities in all areas.

 National police • Fire-fighting and prevention Road maintenance

 Health Hospitals

Waste processing

 Maintenance of parks, open spaces Environmental protection

• Education (pre-school, primary, secondary and higher)

 Foreign affairs Economy

 Defence · Domestic affairs

• Finance • Culture

 Justice · Labour, social affairs, family

 Agriculture • Transport, Posts and

Telecommunications · Construction and Regional

- Regional development (conceptual

Education (secondary education)

works, projects cofinanced from the EU)

- Civil defence (in cooperation with state

Development

offices were abolished. Their competences were devolved at the regional level to 8 regional offices and 46 newly created state special offices. It is necessary to describe the competences of state regional authorities (regional offices - krajské úrady and specialised state officesšpecializovaná štátna správa) separately from the competences of the self-governing regions (samosprávne kraje).

Regional authorities may issue general ordinances applicable to all natural and legal persons within their jurisdiction. In December 2003 the district

Regional offices (8):

- Domestic affairs (citizenship, register, administrative affairs such as registration of some legal persons)

- Tradesman affairs

- Civil defence

Specialised state offices (46) (under the supervision of Ministry):

Local management

Enterprise start-up

Spatial planning

Local taxes

 Transport - Real Estate Register Construction - Education

Land

Environment

- Forests

bodies) - Health (health care)

– International cooperation (transregional cooperation)

- Culture (museums, etc.) - Social affairs (retirements homes)

Self-governing regions: - Transport and management of road

infrastructure (second and third level

- Spatial planning

Municipalities may issue general ordinances applicable to all natural and legal persons within their jurisdiction. Except where otherwise provided by law, local authority bodies are not subject to state supervision (political decentralisation level).

Selfgovernmental bodies on local level have determining competence in following areas:

Protection of nature

Housing

 Civil defence • Local road building and maintenance • Maintenance of municipal property Local economy

Local police

 Public areas Markets

Cemeteries

Local public transport

Water and waste management

• Local health centres

• Street lighting Sport

• Fire

Tourism

• Culture

• Education (primary education and kindergardens)

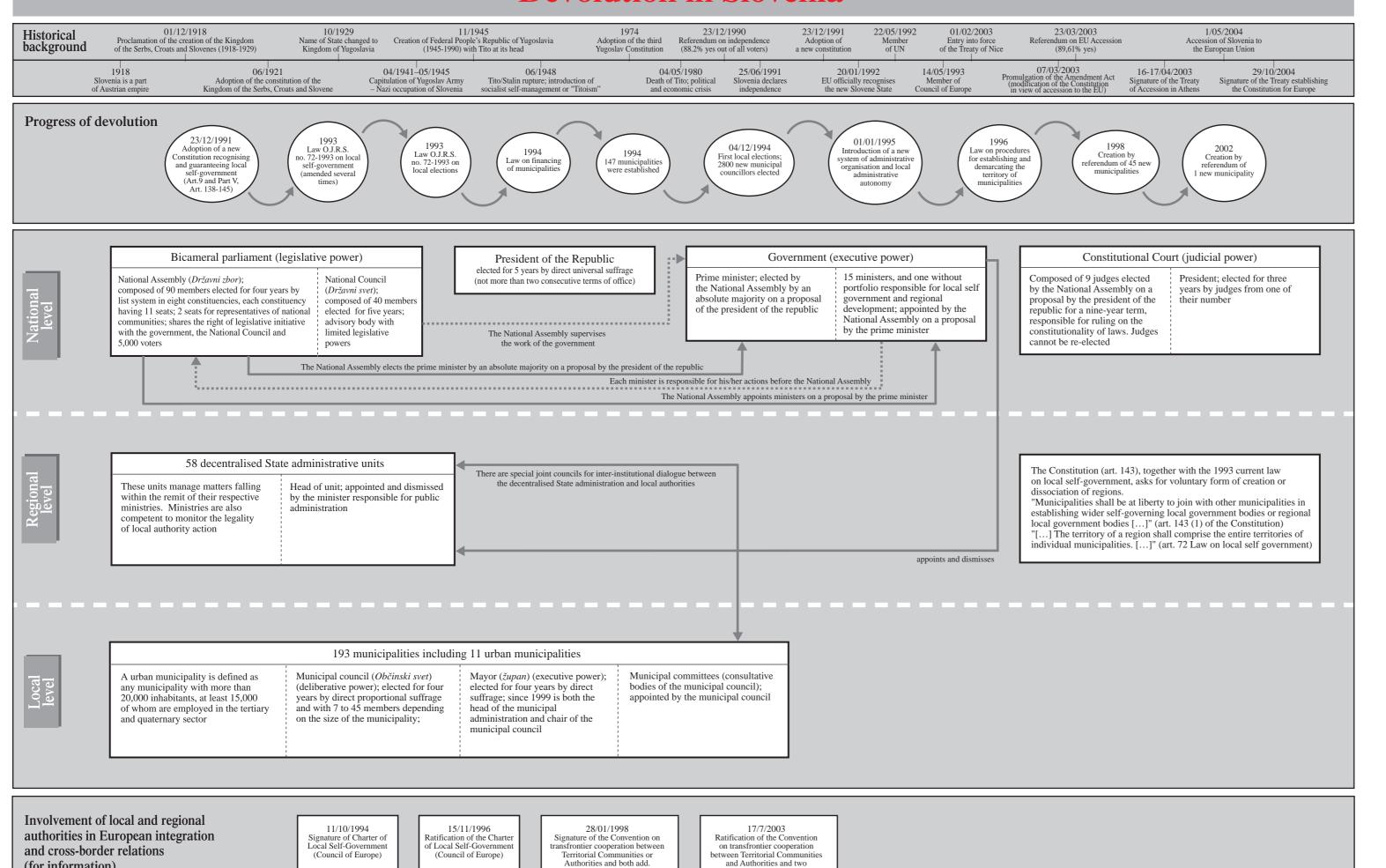
Devolution in Slovenia



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Slovenia

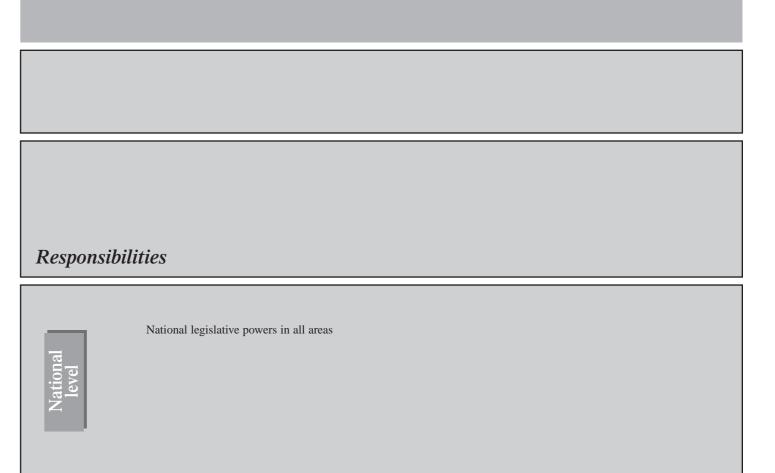


Protocols (Council of Europe)

additional protocols

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

(for information)



Municipalities may integrate into regions to regulate and exercise local matters of wider interest The State may, by agreement with the regional local government bodies, vest specific duties and functions.

These voluntary regions have not been established except in some few cases which are hardly efficient, especially as

State responsibilities exercised at regional level by decentralised State bodies.

Urban municipalities have wider responsibilities than ordinary municipalities

Responsibilities devolved to ordinary municipalities Firefighting Social security

- Civil protection
- Primary health care
- Vocational training
- Childminding facilities
- Family and youth assistance
- Rest homes
- Housing • Education (pre-school, primary) • Town planning

Cemeteries

Household refuse

- Sport and leisure Spatial planning Gas supplies Water and sewage
 - Promotion of agriculture, forestry and fisheries

• Culture (theatres, concerts,

museums and libraries)

• Economic promotion Promotion of tourism

Responsibilities devolved to urban municipalities

the State has not yet delegated any tasks to them.

Besides the abovementioned responsibilities, urban municipalities have the following additional responsibilities:

• Environmental protection

Urban transport

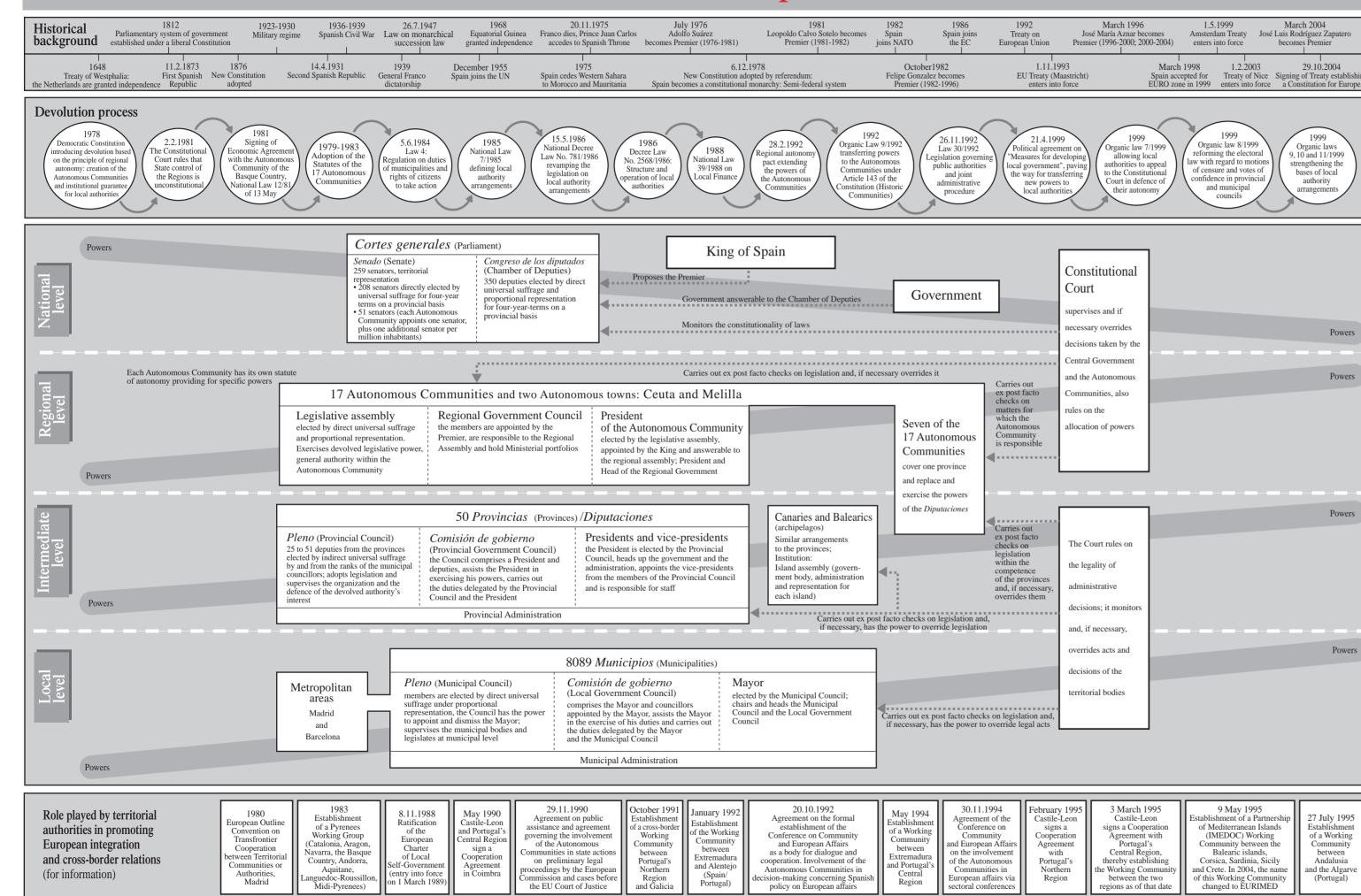
Devolution in Spain



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Spain



Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Central State

The State holds legislative power only in the areas for which the State is exclusively competent, as set out in Article 149 of the Constitution

- international relations
- defence
- administration of justice
- commercial, criminal, labour and civil legislation
- customs matters
- currency, general finance and state debt
- public health: basis and general coordination.

Responsibilities of the Autonomous Communities

Those matters which are not expressly vested in the State by the Constitution can be devolved to the Autonomous Communities.

The Autonomous Communities exercise legislative power via their assemblies but strictly within the limits of their devolved powers.

The powers of the Autonomous Communities are enshrined in Article 148 of the Constitution (the list is not exhaustive).

- Organisation of the institutions of autonomous government
- Spatial planning, town planning and housing
- Public works, railways and roads throughout the **Autonomous Community**
- Agriculture, waterways and forestries, fisheries
- Expansion of economic activity, culture and research
- Museums, libraries and monuments
- Tourism, sport and leisure activities throughout the autonomous community
- Social welfare, health and safety.

Article 148 also provides for the powers of the Autonomous Communities to be extended to other areas.

The powers vary from one community to another.

Responsibilities of the provinces

Autonomous management of the specific respective interests of local communities

- 1. Participate in the coordination of local administration with the Autonomous Community and the State.
- 2. Provinces' own powers:
 - coordination of municipal services in order to guarantee the provision of services coming under the municipal authorities
 - assistance, legal, economic and technical cooperation with the local authorities
 - provision of supra-municipal services
 - development and administration of the specific interests of the province.

Responsibilities of the Island Assemblies

The Statute of Autonomy of the Balearic Islands sets out the responsibilities of the three Consells. The most important of these

- Archaeological, historical and artistic heritage
- Welfare and social services
- Environmental protection, urban policy and spatial planning
- Roads, public works and public transport
- Tourist information, culture and promotion of sports and leisure activities
- Fixing dates of Island holidays.

The responsibilities Island Assemblies hold for institutional representation are substantial. The Assemblies exercise administrative power, but strictly within the limits of the powers granted by the laws drafted in the Balearic Parliament.

Responsibilities of the municipalities

Own powers:

- public safety
- planning and cooperation on education
- traffic control
- civil defence, fire services (mandatory for any municipality with over 20,000 inhabitants)
- town planning
- historical and artistic heritage
- environmental protection (mandatory for any municipality with over 50,000 inhabitants)
- public health
- consumer protection
- social promotion and integration (mandatory for any municipality with more than 20,000 inhabitants)
- water supply and public lighting
- cleaning and waste disposal (for any municipality with more than 5.000 inhabitants)
- public transport (for any municipality with more than 50,000 inhabitants).

20.9.1996 reation of a po of advise for regional affairs in Spain Permanent Representation to the European

11.12.1997 greement on the volvement o ne Autonomou Communities in the EU Court

Comitology on regional at Council

19.1.2000 of a Working Castilla-Leór Northern Region

20 October 2004 vrenees Euroregio Vorking Comm etween Aragon, th Balearic islands, Catalonia.

and Pyrenees South

December 2004 involvement of ities in the EU Co and in the corresponding podies for Employment ar Social Affairs, Agriculture

Culture and the Environmer

Working between and Portugal's Alentejo regio

1 January 2005

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

The Autonomous Communities

The 1978 Constitution mapped out three different avenues to autonomy, each with two sub-divisions in line with the initial level of powers.

1. Establishment of Autonomous Communities under Article 151 of the Constitution (special status)

The historical Autonomous Communities have enjoyed the most extensive range of powers from the outset. This option was available to the historical *nacionalidades*: Catalonia, the Basque Country, Galicia. Andalusia also took this route.

The powers of these communities are determined by Article 148(1) and, where appropriate, Article 149(1) of the 1978 Constitution.

2. Establishment of Autonomous Communities under Article 143 of the Constitution (general status)

Between 1979 and 1981 most of the regions became Autonomous Communities with limited powers, with the assent of the *Cortes Generales* (Asturias, Cantabria, Rioja, Murcia, Aragon, Castilla de la Mancha, the Canaries, Valencia, Extremadura, the Balearics). Article 144 of the Constitution applies to Madrid and Castilla-Leon. The powers of these Autonomous Communities are defined by Article 148(1) of the Constitution.

3. The Community of Navarra

The first additional provision of the 1978 Constitution recognises the historic rights of the *Foral* regions and grants them autonomy under a special procedure. This provision was enacted in order to establish the *Comunidad Foral de Navarra*.

28 February 1992: Autonomy pact, extension of the powers of the Autonomous Communities established under Article 143 and 144 of the Constitution.

Differentiation factors

In addition to the two-tier system of initial devolved powers, the 1978 Constitution provided for powers to differentiate between the various Autonomous Communities.

- Article 3(2) officially recognised the languages of certain Autonomous Communities
- Article 149(1)(8) provided for the maintenance of distinct civil legislation based on common (*foral* law) or special (Navarra, Catalonia etc.) practice.
- The *first additional provision* acknowledged the basis of the specific financial and fiscal systems in the Basque Country and Navarra. The Canaries have their own financial system.
- Some Autonomous Communities enjoy certain political powers, e.g. the right to establish their own police force (The Basque Country, Galicia, Navarra and Catalonia).
- In the Balearic Islands, each island has its own administration, called an Island Assembly. This type of administration is recognised in Article 141(4) and 141(3) of the Spanish Constituion and in Article 2 of National Law 8/2000 of 27 October on Island Assemblies. There are three Island assemblies in the Balearic Islands (one on Majorca, one on Ibiza and one on Formentera).

Devolution in Sweden



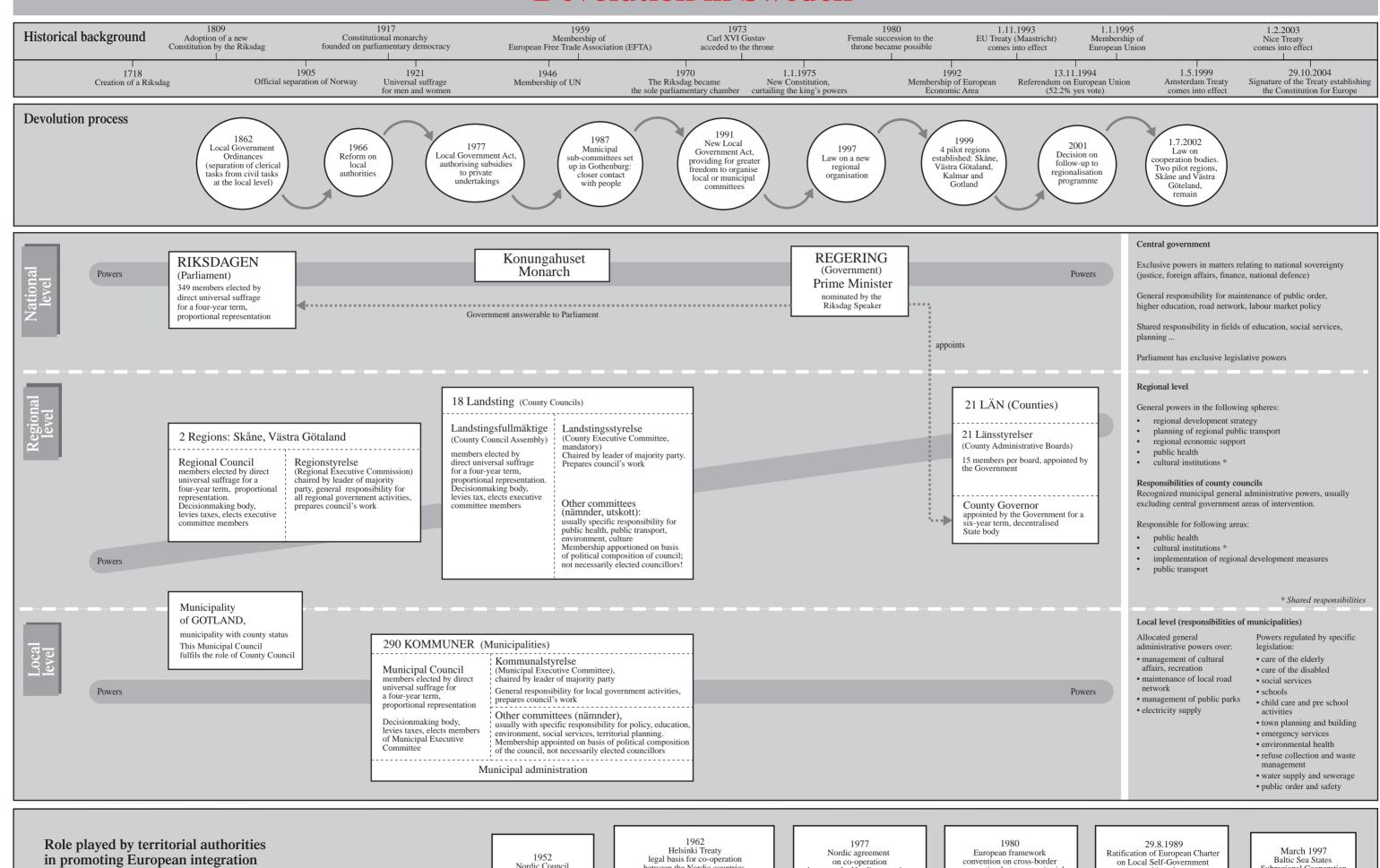
EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions

CoR-Studies I – 1/2005 – 6 Brussels, January 2005

Devolution in Sweden



between the Nordic countries

(legal, cultural, physical infrastructure

and environmental protection)

between the Nordic countries:

inter-municipal co-operation

co-operation between territorial

authorities, Madrid

Subregional Cooperation

(BSSSC)

(entered into force on 1 December 1989)

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation

and cross-border relations

(for information)

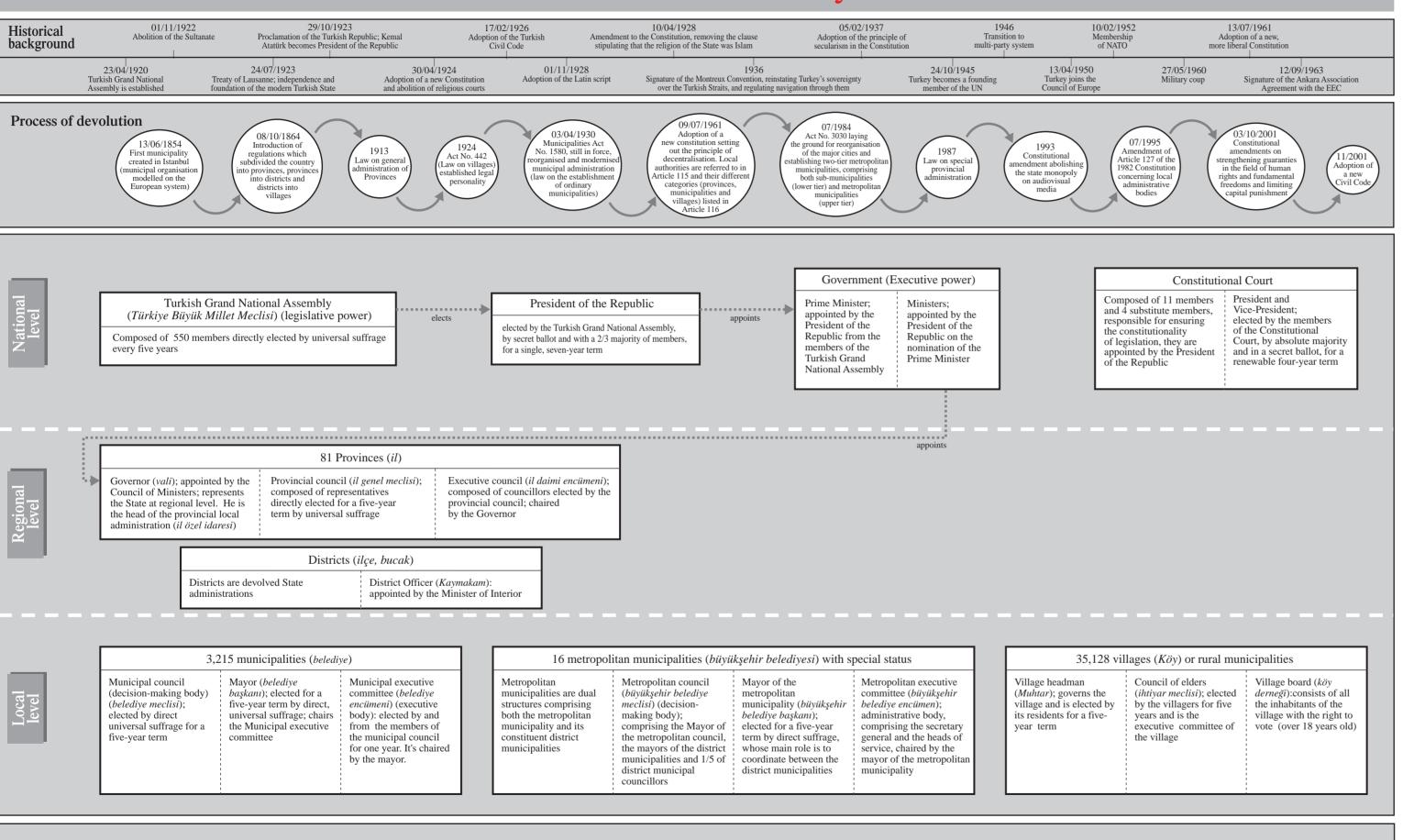
Devolution in Turkey



EUROPEAN UNION



Devolution in Turkey



Involvement of local and regional authorities in European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

21/11/1988 Signature of the Council of Europe's Charter of Local (which entered into force on 01/04/1993)

04/02/1998 nature of the Council of Europe's Europea operation between Territorial Commun or Authorities (known as the "Madrid" Convention of 21/05/1980) (entry into force 12/10/2001)

22/12/2003 between Greece and Turkey financed by the Community initiative INTERREG III was adopted by the European Commission

31/03/2003 enature of the Joint Programming Documen Turkey and Bulgaria.

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of the Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the European Union

Entry into force of the EU/Turkey Customs Union of Turkey's candidacy for EU membership Confirmation by Turkey of the Ankara Agreement and start of negotiations aiming at accession of Turkey to the E 12/09/1980 06/11/1982 14/04/1987 01/02/2003 Turkey applies for Military coup Adoption of a new Constitution Entry into force of the Treaty of Nice

Responsibilities

- Maintenance of public order Education
- Environment
- Hospitals • Culture

- Energy
- Telecommunications



Administrative responsibilities of the regional authorities

- Maintenance of public order
- Health
- Water management and
- Hospitals

- treatment
- Culture

Roads

Security

- Economic development
- Foreign policy

Municipal responsibilities

Registry of birth,
 Spatial planning

documents

- marriage and deaths, Waste management
- issuing administrative Environment Water management
- Law and order
- and treatment Cadastral register
 Heating
- Roads Urban transport

Public works

Lighting

Cemeteries

• Economic development

Education

Health

Welfare

Culture

Housing

Devolution in the United Kingdom



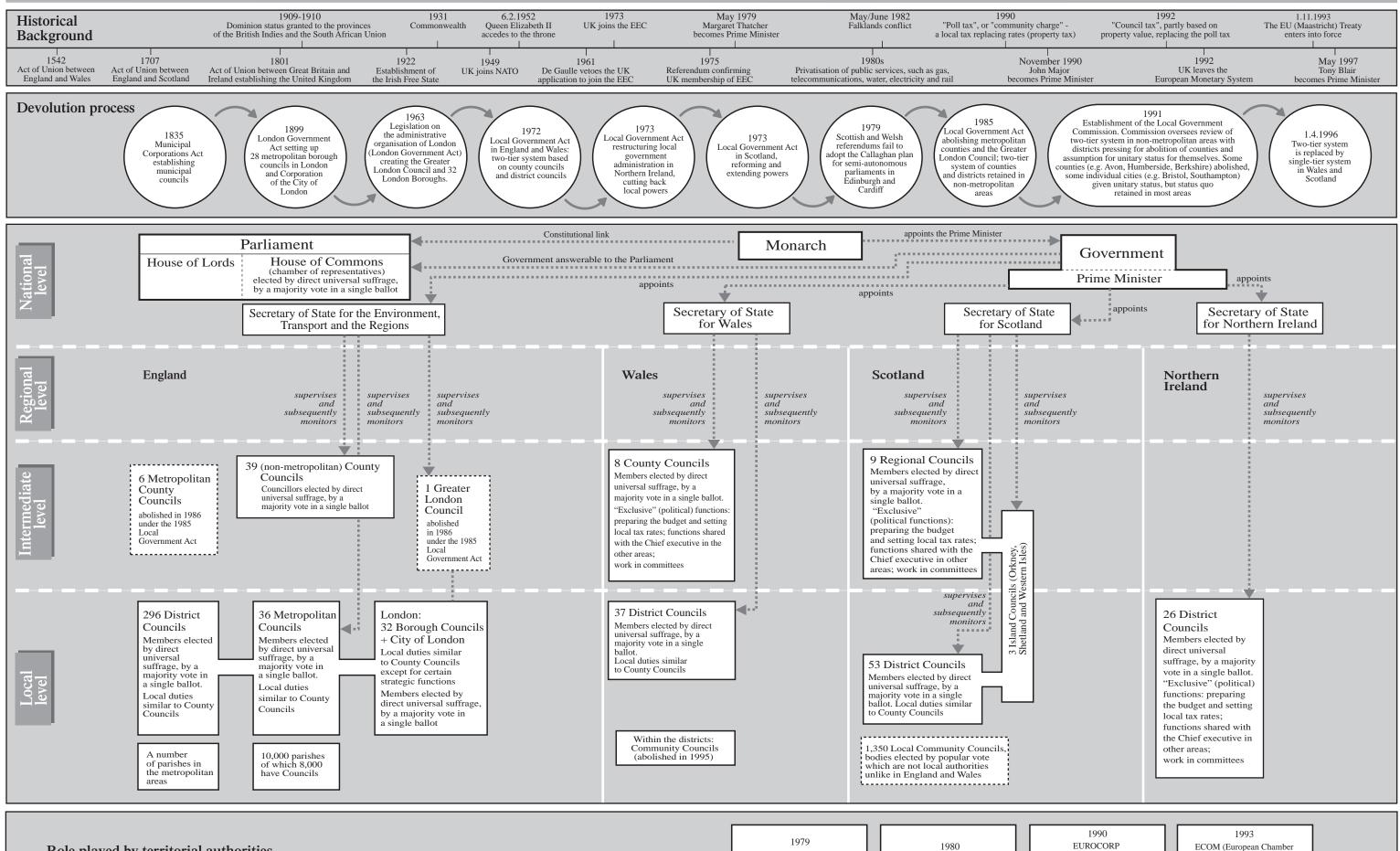
EUROPEAN UNION



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Devolution in the United Kingdom (before May 1997)



Role played by territorial authorities in promoting European integration and cross-border relations (for information)

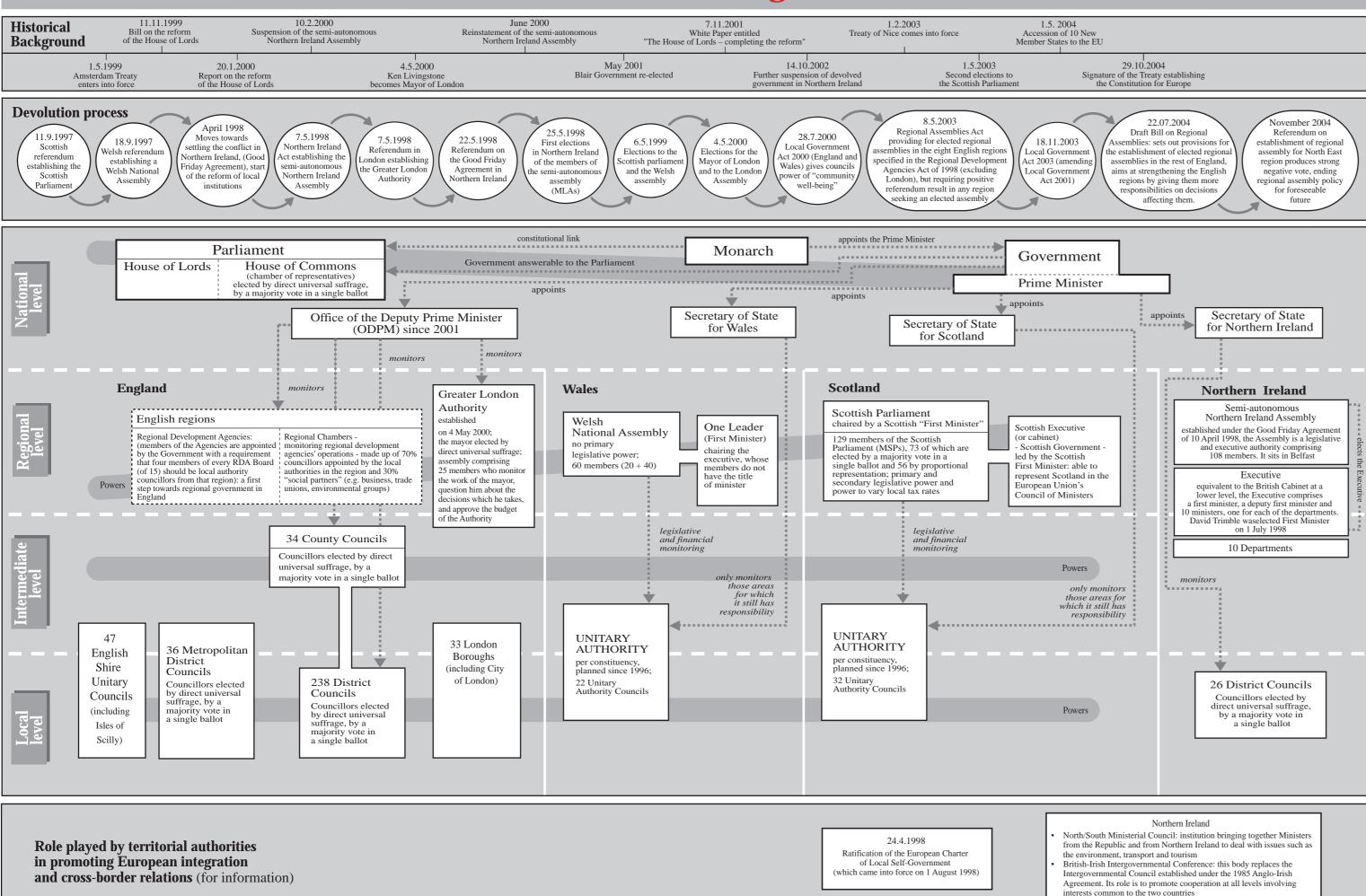
"Cooperation North". closer North-South links between commercial and industrial enterprises

Madrid European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities

European economic interest group (exchanging proposals etween Belgium, the Netherland France, Spain and the United Kingdom

of Commerce) European economic in promoting cross-border Ireland and the Republic

Devolution in the United Kingdom (Post May 1997)



Responsibilities

Central government legislative responsibilities

Parliament retains absolute sovereignty; this places it above all the administrative institutions at both central and local level

Legislative power lies solely with the Westminster Parliament, except for the legislative power allocated to the Scottish Parliament

Exclusive responsibilities at central level on

- foreign policy, including relations with Europe
- defence and national security
- tax stability
- · economic and monetary system

- market in goods and services
- employment policy
- social welfare

Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish legislative and administrative responsibilities

- 1. The Scottish Parliament has primary and secondary legislative power, in addition to the powers previously devolved to the Scottish Office, in the fields of:
- health education training
- The Scottish Parliament also has the power to influence internal tax rates (by approx. 3 pence in the pound)
- 2. The Welsh Assembly has no primary legislative powers, but is authorised to pass secondary legislation in those areas which usually were the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Wales. The Welsh Assembly has responsibility for those public services and policies previously dealt with by the Secretary
- Both these countries also deal with the usual local government responsibilities: housing, economic development, transport, internal affairs, environment, agriculture, fisheries, forestries, sport and the arts.
- 3. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland has the power to suspend the devolved institutions at any moment (c.f. February 2000). The Secretary of State's responsibilities cover:
- · law and order
- management of the national insurance scheme
- security policy • finance
- the penal system and prison administration
- telecommunications
- international relations

The semi-autonomous Assembly can legislate on internal affairs, notably in the following areas:

- cultural affairs heritage health education · local administration
- housing

Greater London Authority (GLA)

The main areas of responsibility of the GLA are as follows:

- strategic planning/spatial planning
- · regional aspects of economic development
- fire and civil protection services (emergency planning)
- police forces
- the environment/sustainable development • culture
- health

The Assembly also has the power to consider other issues of key importance to the population of London and to submit proposals to the Mayor.

County administrative responsibilities

The County Councils are responsible for:

- education
- traffic, transport and highways
- · social services
- refuse disposal
- libraries

- consumer protection
- fire services and emergency planning
- · urban planning*
- determination of planning applications • museums, parks and recreation facilities*
- consumer protection/trading standards
 - * shared responsibilities

District administrative responsibilities

District Councils are responsible for:

- housing
- · environmental health
- measures to combat pollution
- building regulations

- · refuse collection • urban planning
- museums, parks and recreation facilities*
- electoral registration
- * shared responsibilities

In certain areas, urban areas especially, a single "unitary" level of local government is responsible for these areas. These unitary councils (metropolitan districts, London boroughs, "new unitaries") are responsible for the full range of services of county and district councils combined

Parish Councils (England) and Community Councils (Wales) are responsible for:

- planning permission for housing estates, public buildings* and major roads* (right to be consulted by district council)
- urban planning*
- planning of open-air sports facilities*, other recreational facilities*, cemeteries*, and car parks*
- lighting and pavement maintenance*
 - * responsibilities shared with district councils

Limited responsibilities in Northern Ireland District Councils

Almost all District Council responsibilities were transferred to the nine area boards whose members are appointed by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

Current situation as of January 2005, updated by Studies Service of the Committee of the Regions with acceptance of National Delegation



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