

Analysis And Comparison Of The Greek Parliamentary Electoral Systems Of The Period 1974-1999

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Abstract

The most fundamental element of representative democracy is the Electoral System, as it translates vote totals into parliamentary seats. An important topic is the choice of the electoral system, which will be applied in the elections, because parliamentary seats distributed to political parties differ when a different system is used.

In Greece the last 25 years five different electoral systems have been applied in the Parliamentary Elections. The aim of this thesis is to describe and analyse, in detail, the operation of Greek Parliamentary Electoral systems of the period 1974-1999 and to present the rules of the allocation of the seats.

Furthermore our purpose is to evaluate and compare these systems. In particular, we provide and implement a quantitative analysis of Greek electoral systems, using some measures of disproportionality. Disproportionality is the deviation of the parties' seat from their vote shares. For the evaluation of the Greek systems we apply the Rae, Loosemore-Hanby, Least Square Adjusted Loosemore-Handy, Lijphart, Saint-Lague, d'Hont and the Regression index.