

Treaty ratification: state of play

(as at 5 February 2008)

Country	Lisbon Treaty ratified?	Timetable for ratification	Referendum?	Parliamentary/ chamber threshold	Position of main parties	Comments	Outcome of CT* ratification
Austria	No	Expected to be completed by June 2008	No	2/3 in both chambers; (i.e 121 out of 183 in Lower Chamber and 42 out of 62 in Upper Chamber)	Lower Chamber: SPÖ (68): For; ÖVP (66): For; Greens (21): For; FPÖ (21): Against; BZÖ (7): Against	The Bundeskanzler has stressed his opposition to a referendum. The government is considering passing a bill in December to accelerate ratification processes in general. The required parliamentary majority expected to be easily reached, with the only opposition from right-wing FPÖ and BZÖ.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Belgium	No	Expected to be completed before summer 2008	No	Simple majority in the seven regional and federal chambers	National Parliament: CD&V/NV-A (30): For; MR (23): For; PS (20): For; Open VLD (18): For; Vlaams Belang (17): Against; sp.a (14): For; CdH (10): For; Ecolo (8): For; Groen (4): For; LDD (5): Not yet decided; FN (1): Against	The required majority expected to be reached in all chambers, but the Belgian government crisis is creating some uncertainty. Most parties expected to take similar positions as on the Constitutional Treaty, which was endorsed by a large majority (with opposition only from the extreme right). Possible abstentions by some Green Parties' members (Groen and Ecolo).	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Bulgaria	No	Expected to be completed in the first months of 2008	No	Simple majority	Coalition for Bulgaria (82): For; National Movement Simeon II (53): For; Movement for Rights and Freedom (34): For; National Union Attak (21): Undecided (Eurosceptic); Union Democratic Forces (20): For; Democrats for a strong Bulgaria (17): For; Bulgarian People's Union (13): For	The required majority expected to be easily reached.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Cyprus	No	Ratification bill passed to Parliament on 17 December 2007. Now to be discussed in Parliament	No	Absolute majority in Parliament, President and Council of Ministers can veto Parliament's decision	Progressive Party of Working People (AKEL) (18): Undecided (demands referendum); Democratic Rally (DISY) (18): For; Democratic Party (DICO) (11): For; Movement for Social Democracy (EDEK) (5): For; European Party (3): For; Ecological Movement (1): For	The required majority expected to be easily reached.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)

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Czech Rep.	No	Not yet announced	No	Simple majority if no transfers of powers, or else 3/5 of votes in both Parliament (i.e. 121 votes out of 200) and Senate (49 votes out of 81)	Civic Democratic Party (ODS) (81): For, with some dissenters; Social Democratic Party (CSSD) (72): For; Communist Party (KSCM) (26): Against; Christian and Democratic Union (KDU-CSL) (13): For; Greens (SZ) (6): For; Non-attached (2): For	The required majority expected to be reached regardless of which of the two decision rules is applied.	Put on hold after Dutch and French 'Nos'
Denmark	No	Expected to start by mid-January and to be completed by the end of March/early April 2008	No	Simple majority in the Parliament with at least 50% of the members present	Liberals (46): For; Social Democrats (45): For; Danish People's Party (25): Against; Conservative People's Party (18): For; Social Liberal Party (9): For; New Alliance (5): For; Socialist People Party (23): Split; Red-Green Alliance (4): Against	The government has declared that the Treaty does not require a referendum or a 5/6 majority in Parliament, on the grounds that it does not involve further transfer of sovereignty to the EU. The resulting simple majority requirement can be easily reached.	Parliamentary ratification put on hold after Dutch and French 'Nos'
Estonia	No	Ratification bill forwarded to Parliament on 31 January for final adoption by May 2008	No	Simple majority	Estonian Reform Party (31): For; Estonia Centre Party (29): For; Union Pro Patria and Res Publica (19): For; Social Democratic Party (10): For; Estonian Greens (6): For; People's Union of Estonia (6): For	The required majority expected to be easily reached and all parties have declared their support for the Treaty.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Finland	No	Expected to start in Spring 2008 and last three months	No	2/3 majority in Parliament (i.e. 134 votes out of 200)	Centre Party (51): For; National Coalition Party (50): For, but with some dissenters; Social Democratic Party (45): For; Left Alliance (17): Against; Green League (15): For; Swedish People's Party (10): For; Christian Democrats (7): Against; True Finns (5): Against	The required majority expected to be reached, although most parties have not yet announced official positions. The Parliament's composition changed after the 2007 elections, but the large majority that voted in favour of the Constitutional Treaty appears unchanged.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
France	No	Positive vote in Congress on 4 February 2008. Final ratification expected on 6 February 2008	No	Simple majority needed in each chamber, then a 3/5 majority in Congress, (i.e. 545 out of 908), which brings together the National Assembly and Senate. Abstentions do not count	UMP (313): For (few MP's from the right-wing of the party might abstain or vote against); Parti Socialiste (186): Abstention (but with opposition of the left-wing of the Party); Nouveau Centre (22): For; Communist Party (15): Against; Greens (4): For/Abstention; MoDem (3): For	Modification of the Constitution agreed in Congress (560 For; 181 Against; 152 Abstentions). Opposition came from a few UMP " <i>souverainists</i> ", the left-wing of the Socialist Party and the Communist Party. The official position of the Socialists was to abstain as they asked for a referendum although they did not want to block the ratification.	Rejected (referendum)

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Germany	No	Expected to be completed between the end of May and early July 2008	No	Simple majority in both chambers	CDU/CSU (224): For; SPD (222): For; FDP (61): For; The Left (Die Linke) (53): Against; Greens (51): For; Independent (2): Unknown	The required majority expected to be easily reached in both chambers.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Greece	No	Not yet announced	No	Simple majority	New Democracy (152): For; Panhellenic Socialist Movement (102): For; Communist Party (22): Against; Coalition of the Radical Left (14): Still unclear; Popular Orthodox Rally (10): Against	The required majority expected to be easily reached in the Parliament.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Hungary	Yes	Ratified on 17 December 2007	No	A 2/3 majority of the elected members of Parliament (i.e. 255 out of 386)	Hungarian Socialist Party (MSZP) (190): For; FIDESZ-Hungarian Civic Union-(Fidesz-MPSZ) (139): For; Christian Democratic People's Party (KDNP) (22): For; Alliance of Free Democrats (SZDSZ) (20): For; Hungarian Democratic Forum (MDF) (11): For	The required majority easily reached in the Parliament. The Hungarian government was the first to ratify the Treaty.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Ireland	No	Likely to be either in May 2008 or else aim to be the last to ratify in December 2008	Yes	Simple majority in Parliament and over 50% of votes in referendum	Fianna Fail (77): For; Fine Gael (51): For; Labour Party (20): For; Greens (6): For; Sinn Fein (4): Against	Ireland is the only country legally bound to hold a referendum. Latest opinion polls show 25% in favour; 13% against, and 62% 'don't know'. The Eurosceptic Green Party will remain neutral while in government. A less favourable economic outlook and some dissatisfaction with the government may negatively influence the outcome.	Referendum put on hold after Dutch and French 'Nos'
Italy	No	Not yet announced	No	Simple majority in both chambers	Virtually all parties belong to one of two coalitions. Lower House: The Union (348): Mostly for; House of Freedoms (281): Mostly for. Upper House: The Union (148): Mostly for; House of Freedoms (153): Mostly for; Life-time Senators (7): For	The required majority expected to be easily reached, as there is a broad consensus on EU integration that spans from left to right. The only parties that are still undecided (and that voted against the Constitutional Treaty) are the Northern League on the right and Communist Refoundation on the left.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)

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Latvia	No	Expected to start January 2008	No	Simple majority in two readings	People's Party (21): For; Union of Greens and Farmer (17): For; New Era (18): For; Concord Centre (17): For; First Party-Latvia's Way (10): For; For Fatherland and Freedom (7): For; For Human Rights in a United Latvia (6): For, unaffiliated MEP (4): Unknown	The required majority expected to be reached in the Parliament. No party has formally signalled opposition to the Treaty.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Lithuania	No	Expected before next year's elections in October 2008	No	Simple majority in the Parliament	Lithuanian Social Democratic Party (31): For; Homeland Union (25): For; Labour Party (24): Split; Peasants and People's and Civil Democracy (21, incl. Seimas Speaker) : For; Order and Justice (Liberal Democrats) (11): Split; New Union (Social Liberals) (10): For; Liberal and Centre Union (9): For; Liberal Movement (9): For;	The required majority expected to be easily reached in the Parliament.	Ratified (parliamentary vote) and signed by the President
Luxembourg	No	Expected to start January and be completed by June 2008	No	Simple majority in the Parliament	Christian Democrats (CSV) (24): For; Socialists (LSAP) (14): For; Parti Démocratique (10): For; Greens (7): For; ADR (4): Not announced; Independent (1): Undecided	The required majority expected to be easily reached in the Parliament.	Ratified (consultative referendum and parliamentary vote)
Malta	Yes	Ratified on 29 January 2008	No	Simple majority in the Parliament	Nationalist Party (35): For; Labour Party (30): For	Parliament unanimously in favour. Third Member State to ratify the Treaty.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Netherlands	No	Not yet announced	No	Simple majority in both Parliament and Senate	Christian Democratic Appeal (CDA) (41): For; Labour Party (PvdA) (33): For; Socialist Party (SP) (25): Against; People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) (21): For; Party for Freedom (PVV) (9): Against; Green Left (GL) (7): For (but insists on referendum); Christian Union (CU) (6): Probably against; D66 (3): For; Staatkundig Gereformeerde Partij (SGP) (2): Against; Party for the Animals (2): Not announced	The opposition in Parliament has put forward a referendum bill, but this is expected to be rejected in a parliamentary vote as the Council of State has concluded that a popular vote is not necessary.	Rejected (consultative referendum)

Country	Lisbon Treaty ratified?	Timetable for ratification	Referendum?	Parliamentary/ chamber threshold	Position of main parties	Comments	Outcome of CT* ratification
Poland	No	Expected to be completed by end February 2008	No	2/3 majority in the presence of at least 50% of the members of both chambers if defined as a transfer of powers, otherwise simple majority	Civic Platform (209): For; Law and Justice (166): For, depending on opt-out from the Charter for Fundamental Rights; Left and Democrats (53): For; Polish Peasants Party (31): For	New Prime Minister Donald Tusk wants to end Poland's opt-out from the Charter of Fundamental Rights, but it may remain in place as it is a highly contentious issue between the main parties. Law and Justice Party threatened to veto any change.	Referendum put on hold after Dutch and French 'Nos'
Portugal	No	Not yet announced	No	Simple majority of votes in the Parliament	Socialist Party (PS) (121): For; Social Democratic Party (PSD) (75): For; Communist Party (PCP) (14): Against; Popular Party (CDS-PP) (12): Probably for; Left Bloc (BE) (8): Against	The required majority expected to be easily reached in parliamentary ratification, but referendum not ruled out. A definitive position to be taken after end of 2007 Portuguese Presidency of the EU. Both PS and PSD appear to be in favour of parliamentary ratification.	Referendum put on hold after Dutch and French 'Nos'
Romania	Yes	Ratified on 4 February 2008	No	A 2/3 majority in a joint sitting of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate	Parliament: Social Democrat Party (152): For; Liberal Party (74): For; Democrat Party (70): For; Greater Romania Party (42): For; Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (31): For; Conservative Party (26): For	The required majority easily reached in the Parliament with 387 For; 1 Against; 1 Abstention.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Slovakia	No	Postponed until 7 February 2008	No	3/5 of members of Parliament (i.e. 91 votes out of 150)	SMER-Social Democracy (50): For; Slovak Democratic and Christian Union-Democratic Party (31): For; Slovak National Party (20): For; Party of the Hungarian Coalition (20): For; People's Party-Movement for Democratic Slovakia (15): For; Christian Democratic Movement (14): Against or abstain	The opposition is currently refusing to ratify the Treaty, unless the government withdraws a controversial press law that would restrict press autonomy. The ruling coalition (SMER/SNP/People's Party) lacks 5 votes to reach the 3/5 majority and thus needs the support of the opposition. Former prime minister Meciar threatened to ask for a referendum if no agreement is quickly found.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)
Slovenia	Yes	Ratified on 29 January 2008	No	2/3 majority (i.e. 61 votes out of 90)	Democratic Party (29): For; Social Democrats (14): For; Liberal Democracy of Slovenia (11): For; New Slovenia-Christian People's Party (9): For; SLS Slovene People's Party (7): For; Deputy Group ZARES (7): For; Slovene National Party (6): Abstention or against; Democratic Party of Pensioners (4): For; Others (3): Undecided	The required majority easily reached in the Parliament with 74 votes in favour and six against. Second Member State to ratify the Treaty.	Ratified (parliamentary vote)

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Spain	No	Unlikely before June-July or even September-October 2008	No	Absolute majority required in the Congress (i.e. 176 votes out of 350), a simple majority in the Senate. Congress can overrule a veto by absolute majority in the Senate.	Socialist Workers' Party (164): For; People's Party (148): For; Convergence and Unity (10): Against; Republican Left of Catalonia (8): Against; United Left (5): Against NB: It is necessary to know outcome of next elections	The required majority expected to be reached, although most parties have not yet announced official positions. Parliament's composition changed after the 2007 elections, but the large majority that voted in favour of the Constitutional Treaty appears not to have changed.	Ratified (consultative and parliamentary vote)
Sweden	No	Last target date for ratification set by the government is January 2009	No	Simple majority in the Parliament	Social Democratic Party (130): For; Moderate Party (97): For; Centre Party (29): For; Liberal People's Party (28): For; Christian Democrats (24): For; Left Party (22): Against; Green Party (19): Against	The required majority expected to be easily reached.	Parliamentary ratification put on hold after Dutch and French 'Nos'
UK	No	Ratification bill presented to Parliament on 18 December 2007	Unlikely	Simple majority in both houses. Rejection by the House of Lords would require an additional reading in the House of Commons	In the Commons: Labour (352): For; Conservatives (194): Against (mainly); Liberal Democrats (63): For (with some dissidents). In the Lords: Labour (217): For; Conservatives (202): Against; Liberal Democrats (78): For; Crossbench (201): Split	Prime Minister Gordon Brown is still resisting calls for a referendum from the Conservative opposition, many parts of the media and even some within his own party ranks. The government is likely to get the Treaty ratified, but it will be a gruelling and potentially damaging process.	Put on hold after Dutch and French 'Nos'

Note: these predictions are based on information supplied by national experts

* CT = Constitutional Treaty