

# Development of democracy in our country

Evolution of elective franchise in  
Hungary

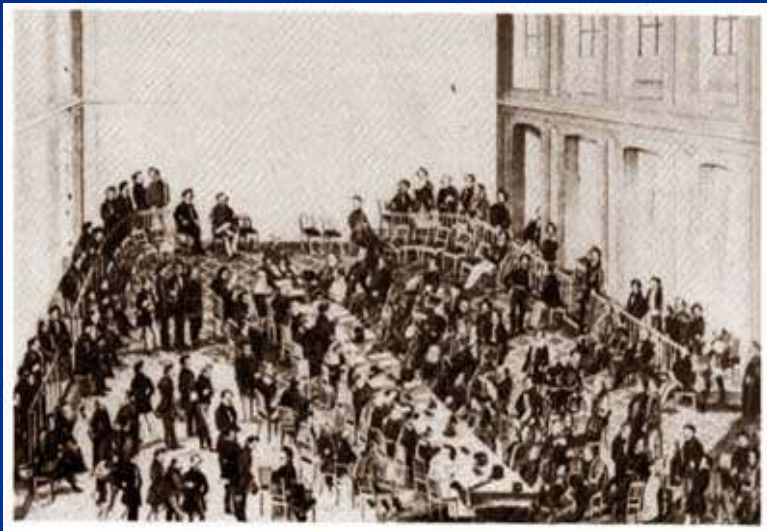
# Election principles

- Generality of elective franchise: expresses that every adult citizen – except natural disqualifying reasons - has a vote.
- Equality: equal worth of all eligible voters should have the right to vote.
- immediacy of the vote: the voters vote directly for nominees during elections
- secrecy of the vote: a voter votes for the contents of the disclosure without specific permission may cast their votes. The choice to guarantee the confidentiality of legally.

# The beginnings...

- In the Middle Ages, initially only the urban inhabitants elected the members of the government and its first representative to the judge, who had the decisive voice in administrative and judicial matters
- Especially during the period, which surrounded the form of the National Assembly, nobles, priests, and their personal appearances were dominant.
- From 1608, nobility (and the counties and cities, etc ...) was deputy by representatives.

- Before 1848, the members of the Hungarian National Assembly table for arms and Estates envoys Assembly were delegated by the majority of counties.



- Until 1848, only to vote who were privileged.

- 1848 Hungary elective franchise development (those men had the vote who had filled the 20th years of age).



- later it depended on the size of the land, who had the right to go to vote: (it was concluded to have with minimum  $\frac{1}{4}$  serf or HUF300 immovable properties)

- In Hungary, the era of Dualism (1867 - Austro-Hungarian Empire) the administrative court was established.



- 1874: the election was subject to taxation, it was being watched who taxed or how much tax was paid. So they tried to impress those, who did not pay tax.
- Twentieth century, change in the law: as men were in the war, therefore women were in the production. Thus, women had the right to vote in Hungary from 1920.



- After the fall of the Empire, the Karolyi government introduced the universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage, including women.
- According to the law, men had to be over 21 years old and have Hungarian citizenship, while women had to be over 24 years old, had citizenship and literacy also was required. In addition, all property and income tax Censuses were abolished.





- The beginning of the Suffragette movement, which achieved successes only in 1920.
- 1920: Margaret Slakta: the first Representative woman in the Parliament.



- After the World War I, the general, equal, direct and secret elective franchise was introduced.
- List Selection System: it emerged from 1945-1947's elections and lasted till 1967. National-level elections. So many parties start, so many lists are built up.  
Drawback: it ceases to be a direct connection between the selector and the representative.

- This was followed by the new electoral law (1989: XXXIV.), equal, direct and universal elective franchise to all adult Hungarian citizens.

