

In the plenum

Members have agreed on procedural arrangements for the plenary session in the Rules of Procedure of the *Landtag*. The *Landtag* President or one of her deputies presides over the meeting to ensure that the rules are duly observed. Two members assist her as recording clerks. The following basic procedure is followed for the plenary session:

1. Debate of matters of topical interest ('Aktuelle Stunde')

The members discuss a current political topic in depth. The right of petition alternates between the parliamentary groups.

2. Question time

The duty of the *Land* government to answer questions from members helps to monitor the work done by the *Land* administration. This gives members of the *Landtag* the opportunity to air any grievances in public at short notice.

3. Reading of draft bills

Priority is given to laws on which a final vote is needed after being debated by the committees. Newly introduced draft bills are then dealt with.

4. Major interpellations and reports by the *Land* government

The *Land* government reports on a subject in detail. The report is then discussed in the plenum.

5. Motions and independent motions for a resolution

By using motions, the parliament attempts to move the *Land* government towards a specific course of action. Opposition groups often use motions to make it clear that, should they come to power, they would implement the measures in question in a different way to the government.

The **speech times** of the parliamentary groups are determined by the procedural arrangements. Extra time is given to someone introducing a subject for debate.

Parliamentary groups

The members of a party form a parliamentary group. Each group consists as a general rule of at least 5 members. Smaller groups of 3–4 members may be formed, although their special status does not provide the full set of rights and funding larger parliamentary groups enjoy. Groupings enable members to specialise in certain subjects and give structure to the work done by parliament.

The *Land* government

The members of the *Landtag* elect the Minister-President. He or she defines the guidelines for government policy and leads the *Land* administration together with his or her ministers. The *Landtag* monitors the work of the government. The members also decide on the *Land* budget. During the seventh legislative period, the *Land* government is supported by the SPD, CDU and GRÜNE/B90 parliamentary groups. Dr. Dietmar Woidke, SPD, was re-elected as Minister-President in November 2019.



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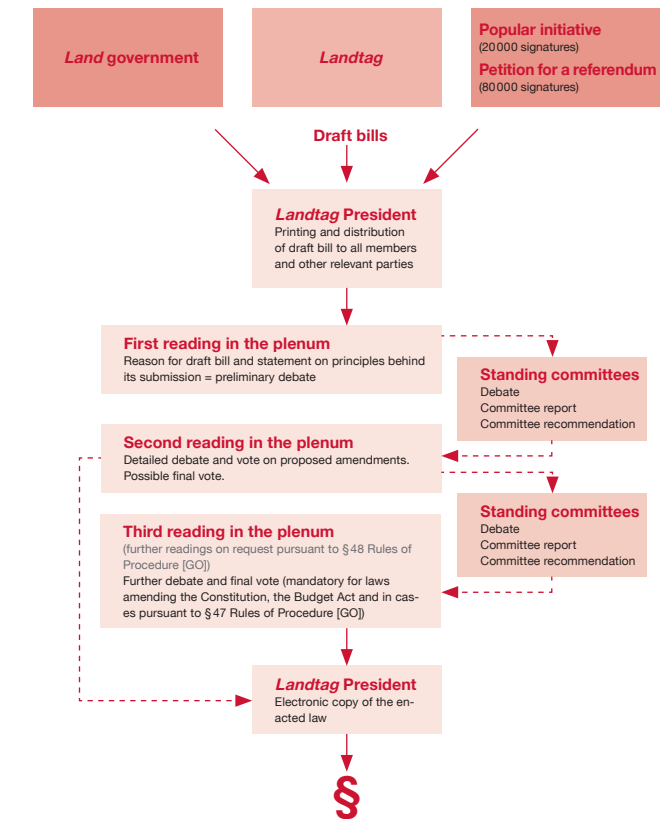
Seventh legislative term
2019–2024



The *Land* parliament

The seventh Brandenburg *Landtag* consists of 88 members who were elected to serve a five-year term in the *Landtag* in 2019 by voters in 44 electoral districts and by means of lists of candidates at *Land* level. In Germany, jurisdiction is shared between the authorities at federal (*Bundestag*) and state (*Landtag*) level, as well as the local authorities (*Kreistag* [county council], *Stadtverordnetenversammlung* [city assembly] and *Gemeindevertretung* [municipal council]). Examples of issues dealt with by the Brandenburg *Landtag* are schools and nurseries, the police, the courts and penal system, economic development, transport infrastructure, and consumer protection.

The legislative process

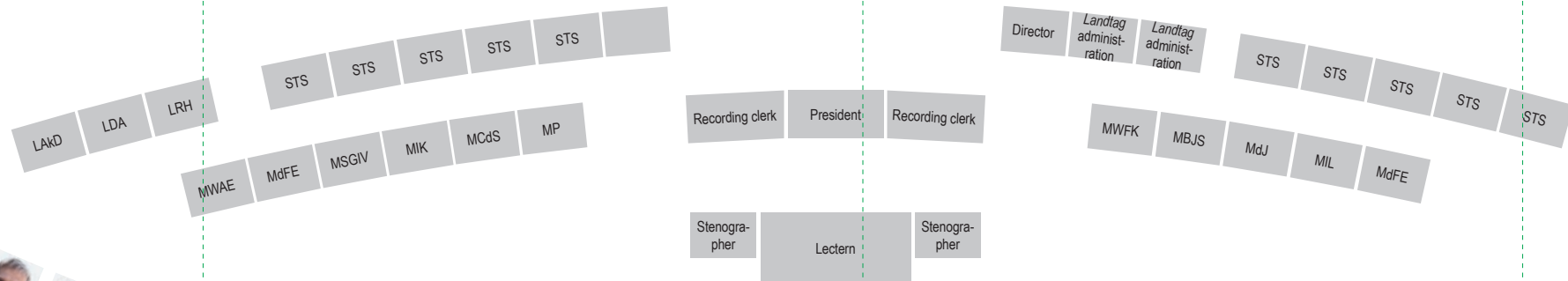


The fundamental principles of draft bills are discussed during the first reading. Politicians then debate possible amendments in standing committees whose meetings are open to the public. They listen to the representatives of interest groups at the same time. The laws, including any amendments, are then approved or rejected by all the members in the plenum.

Landtag Brandenburg – Seating Arrangements

- MP Minister President
- MCdS Minister and Head of the State Chancellery
- MIK Minister of the Interior and Municipals
- MSGIV Minister of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection
- MdFE Minister of Finance and Europe Minister
- MWAE Minister of the Economy, Labor and Energy
- LRH President of the Land Court of Audit
- LDA Land commissioner for data protection and the right to view files
- LAKD Commissioner of the Land of Brandenburg appointed to assess the consequences of the Communist dictatorship

- MWFK Minister of Science, Research and Culture
- MBJS Minister of Education, Youth and Sport
- MdJ Minister of Justice
- MIL Minister of Infrastructure and Regional Planning
- MLUK Minister of Agriculture, the Environment and Climate Protection
- STS State Secretary



23 members
 Parliamentary group chairman:
 Dr. Hans-Christoph Berndt
 Parliamentary secretary:
 Dennis Hohloch
www.afd-fraktion-brandenburg.de



5 members
 Parliamentary group chairman:
 Péter Vida
 Parliamentary secretary:
 Christine Wernicke



15 members
 Parliamentary group chairman:
 Dr. Jan Redmann
 Parliamentary secretary:
 Steeven Bretz
www.cdu-fraktion-brandenburg.de



25 members
 Parliamentary group chairman:
 Daniel Keller
 Parliamentary secretary:
 Ludwig Scheetz
www.spd-fraktion-brandenburg.de



10 members
 Parliamentary group chairman:
 Sebastian Walter
 Parliamentary secretary:
 Thomas Domres
www.linksfraktion-brandenburg.de



10 members
 Parliamentary group chairman:
 Petra Budke, Benjamin Raschke
 Parliamentary secretary:
 Marie Schäffer
www.gruene-fraktion-brandenburg.de