

AmCham's General Election Update



General Election 2025: 34th Dáil Complete as all 174 Seats Filled

Following the General Election on Friday, all of the 174 members of the next Dáil have been elected.

Fianna Fáil have emerged as the largest political party in the next Dáil, with 48 seats. They are followed by Sinn Féin who have won 39 seats. Meanwhile, Fine Gael have emerged as the third largest party with 38 seats.

The full shape of the next Dáil can be seen below, with Independents securing 16 seats, Labour 11, Social Democrats 11, Independent Ireland four, PBP-Solidarity three, Aontú two, Green Party one and the 100% Redress Party has one seat.



Political parties have been meeting this week to agree their negotiating position before potentially entering government formation talks with other parties. As such, it is expected that this process may be ongoing for a number of weeks. However, the most likely outcome is that Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael re-enter government together, with both parties having expressed that this would be their preferred option. This will likely require the inclusion of a third, smaller party, or a number of independents.

An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin and An Tánaiste Simon Harris are due to hold informal government formation talks today in Edinburgh where they are attending a British-Irish Council meeting .



Under Article 18.8 of the Constitution a general election for the Seanad must take place not later than 90 days after a dissolution of the Dáil.

What Next?

Until such time as a new government is formed, the outgoing government will remain in office, and outgoing Ministers will continue to run and manage their Departments. The main political parties will also appoint negotiating teams to engage with other parties with a view to forming a government and developing a programme for government.

As outlined, Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael are viewed as most likely to form the next government, alongside a third, smaller party, or independents. The other potential option to meet the number of 88 seats to form a majority in parliament would be for Fianna Fáil and Sinn Féin to enter government, again with a third party or independents, however, throughout the campaign, Fianna Fáil ruled out any possibility of forming a coalition with Sinn Féin.

While the incoming Dáil is scheduled to meet for the first time on December 18th, it is unlikely that TDs will be in a position to elect a new government at this point. AmCham will continue to monitor the progress of government formation talks over the coming weeks.



Leinster House - the seat of the Irish parliament

Key points:

- Ireland's civil service does not change with the election of a new government, meaning only a small number of individuals in any given Department change following an election. This allows for greater stability and certainty for business during, and following, a transitional period.
- Successive Irish administrations have implemented enterprise-friendly policies.
- The impact and importance of FDI was recognised throughout the election campaign.
- At least one of the outgoing government parties will be required to re-enter government in order for an incoming administration to form a majority in parliament.



Exit polls following Friday's General Election indicated that the preferred option for the next government amongst voters was a return of a coalition of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael.