



## National Identity in the Political Party Flags in Croatia

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### Abstract

In 1989 the first new political parties were formed in Croatia after almost half a century of the single-party system and in 1990 the multiparty elections were held. The re-born democracy quickly produced dozens of new parties, most of which started using logos and symbols and many of them flags. In the last 20 years some of the parties were disbanded, others newly established, some have united, others split—the total number of parties registered at any given time has averaged about 100, although probably only a score or two had any significant influence in the country's political life. With the different ideologies and interests, parties chose different flags and emblems depicted in them, some based on the national flag, on the chequy arms, on other national symbols, while other chose elements of regional and local identity, European and global symbols as well as other more particular ones. This paper systematically presents the flags of various parties in Croatia in the last 20 years with an emphasis on the identity symbols they use.



A Flag of the Croatian Peasant Party, ca. 1927  
(Croatian History Museum, HPM/PMH 11865)

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## Introduction

Political parties are the interest political organizations in democratic political systems, representing programs and interest of various social layers. In their competitive role, they enable competition between different programmes, and by having integrative role, they enable balance in the functioning of the political system. Political parties emerge with the rise of the middle class, for example in England at the end of 17<sup>th</sup> century, while the modern sense of meaning they achieved prominence in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century with the widening of the electoral base. With the development of the parliamentary democracy in most of the European states, political parties became main mean of the political organization of the societies.

Political parties are formed around certain interests of the political body they intend to represent, thus forming a specific set of goals and methods through which they intend to achieve them, forming ideologies around which those goals and methods are grouped. Parties are usually grouped into some half a dozen types based on their ideological reference, in classical terms ranging from the left to the right of the political spectrum, while other classifications have evolved in modern political theory.

In communication with their members, supporters, and the entire society, parties develop specific symbols of identity which are, as a rule, closely linked with the ideology they represent. The flags form an important part of that visual identity, conveying the message in simple and clear graphical and colour codes in which certain syntax may be observed.

With the reintroduction of the multi-party system in Croatia in 1990, the newly formed spectrum of a wide range of political parties developed flags which are used in their activities. The development of mass media and the modern technologies only enhanced these trends, so that it may be said that every single active party in Croatia now uses a flag.

## Overview of Political Parties in Croatia before 1990

Political parties started to be formed in Croatia in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. After the Napoleonic wars and the Metternich absolutist period in the Habsburg Monarchy, and with the development of the Croatian (Illyrian) National Renaissance movement in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a part of the Croatian nobility was not ready to accept the Illyrian ideas, having interests closer to the Hungarian nobility and against the centrism imposed from Vienna. Therefore in 1841 they organized the *Horvatsko-vugerska stranka* (Croatian-Hungarian Party), popularly known as *Mađaroni* (“Hungarists”), although since 1860 the formal name was *Stranka unionista* (Unionists Party). Soon an opposition party formed as the *Narodna ilirska partaja* (People’s Illyrian Party), which gained an overwhelming majority in the 1842 elections. The Illyrian ideas, although being supportive, seemed to be dangerous to the Vienna court and the

Illyrian name was forbidden in 1843, the party being known from then on as the *Narodna stranka* (People's Party). As a reaction to the "pro-Vienna" and "pro-Pest" positions of the two, in 1861 a new party was formed by Dr. Ante Starčević, with a pro-independence programme based on the "ancient rights of Croatia for self-determination", the *Stranka prava* (Party of Rights), known since 1903 as the *Hrvatska stranka prava, HSP* (Croatian Party of Rights).

As a reaction to the incorporation of the Military Frontier, with its considerable Serb population, into the Croatian-Slavonian civil jurisdiction, in 1881 the *Srpska samostalna stranka, SSS* (Serbian Independent Party) was formed. With the relatively slower industrialization in Croatia towards other parts of the Monarchy, the *Socijaldemokratska stranka Hrvatske i Slavonije, SDP* (Social-Democratic Party of Croatia and Slavonia) was formed relatively late, in 1894, with Austro-Marxist ideas and was mostly marginalized.

In 1904 Stjepan Radić established the *Hrvatska pučka seljačka stranka, HPSS* (Croatian Popular Peasant's Party). In the same year, a group of youth, mostly the Prague students influenced by activities of the Czech national leader Tomáš Masaryk, formed the *Hrvatska napredna stranka, HNS* (Croatian Progressive Party). In 1905 a wide front of parties in the opposition formed the *Hrvatsko-srpska koalicija, HSK* (Croatian-Serbian Coalition) based on South-Slavic ideas and opposition to strong Hungarian oppression, as they saw it. The Coalition included the HSP, HNS, SSS, SDS and the *Srpska narodna radikalna stranka, SNRS* (Serbian People's Radical Party, gathering mostly Serbs in Vojvodina and eastern Slavonia, under strong the influence of the Serbian Orthodox Church).

With the fall of Austria-Hungary and the formation of the new South-Slavic state, the focus of political life changed. The HPSS favoured republican federalized organization of the new state in opposition to the Serbian royalists, so in 1920 the name was changed to the *Hrvatska republikanska seljačka stranka, HRSS* (Croatian Republican Peasant's Party) and in 1925 (due to the legal requirements of the new regime) to the *Hrvatska seljačka stranka, HSS* (Croatian Peasant's Party). The HRSS, later HSS, managed to obtain almost unanimous support of the Croatian people, often winning with over 90% of votes in the Croatian-populated territories.

In 1919 the worker's parties from all Yugoslav lands together established the *Socijalistička radnička partija Jugoslavije (komunista), SRPJ(k)* (Socialist Workers Party of Yugoslavia – Communists), soon changing its name in 1920 to the *Komunistička partija Jugoslavije, KPJ* (Communist Party of Yugoslavia), winning much popularity in some cities (e.g. it won the local Zagreb elections, although it was prevented from forming of a local government). The royal decree (*Obznana*) of 30 December 1920 proclaimed communist propaganda illegal and the party was forced to continue its activities underground for the rest of the period. In accordance to the communist ideology of solving the national issues, it formed national branches, so in 1937 the *Komunistička partija Hrvatske, KPH* (Communist Party of Croatia) was formed (underground).

In 1924 the leader of Serbs in Croatian territories, Svetozar Pribičević left the Yugoslav integrists, the (*Jugoslavenska*) *Demokratska stranka*, *JDS* (Democratic Party), and established the *Samostalna demokratska stranka*, *SDS* (Independent Democratic Party), forming a coalition with HSS known as the *Seljačko-demokratska koalicija*, *SDK* (Peasants-Democratic Coalition) which functioned until 1941.

On 6 January 1929 King Alexander disbanded parliament and prohibited work of all parties and trade unions, introduced strong censorship and political terror, introducing the so-called 6<sup>th</sup> of January Dictatorship. The dictatorship lasted until the assassination of Alexander in 1934, after which the regime slowly allowed some level of political party activity.

As a result of the dictatorship, in 1929 a number of right-winged political emigrants, led by Dr. Ante Pavelić, formed in exile in Italy the *Ustaša – Hrvatska revolucionarna organizacija*, *UHRO* (“Insurgent/Rebel” – Croatian Revolutionary Organization), renamed in 1933 the *Ustaša – Hrvatski revolucionarni pokret*, *U-HRP* (Ustaša – Croatian Revolutionary Movement), operating with the ambiguous support of the Italian regime.

With the breakup of Yugoslavia after the attack of the Axis powers on 6 April 1941, the puppet state of Croatia was formed on 10 April. The government was offered to the HSS leader Dr. Vlatko Maček, who refused it, so the power was given to the small Ustaša movement and its leader Dr. Ante Pavelić, who proclaimed himself the *Poglavnik* (*Führer*). The Movement was then renamed the *Ustaša – Hrvatski oslobodilački pokret*, *U-HOP* (Ustaša – Croatian Liberation Movement). The numerous pre-war HSS officials divided into three fractions: the “central part” professing passivity and waiting, the right wing actively participating with the regime, and the left wing, which joined the national liberation movement. The National Liberation Movement (*Narodnooslobodilački pokret*, *NOP*) was organized and led by the illegal Communist Party, however it encompassed ever-larger numbers of people of various political inclinations opposing the fascist regime.

In the liberated territories under their control, the political organizations were establishing a new system which peaked with formation of the *Zemaljsko antifašističko vijeće narodnog oslobođenja Hrvatske*, *ZAVNOH* (National Anti-Fascist Council of the People’s Liberation of Croatia) as the highest governing body of the anti-fascist movement. The political options were united into the *Jedinstveni narodnooslobodilački front Hrvatske*, *JNOFH* (Single People’s Liberation Front of Croatia) which included representatives from KPH, HSS, SDS as well as other independent intellectuals, clerics, and other activists. In 1945 this became the *Narodni front Hrvatske*, *NOFH* (People’s Front of Croatia).

In the newly formed Socialist Yugoslavia, Croatia thus gained the status of a federal state. Although NOFH initially had representatives from various political persuasions, it was eventually organized as an umbrella organization chartered as a national arbitration forum for competing, cross-regional interests, formally outside the Communist Party. In 1953 it was renamed the *Socijalistički savez radnog naroda Hrvatske*, *SSRNH* (Socialist Alliance of Working

People of Croatia). In 1952 the Communist Party was renamed the *Savez komunista Hrvatske, SKH* (League of Communists of Croatia).

### **The Formation of the Modern Parties**

In 1989, on the eve of the break-up of Yugoslavia, new political organizations in Croatia were being created, initially as parts of the existing prescribed socialist political organizations. On 20 May 1989, within the *Savez socijalističke omladine Hrvatske, SSOH* (League of Socialist Youth of Croatia), the *Hrvatski socijalno liberalni savez, HSLS* (Croatian Social-Liberal League) was established as the first democratic party in the communist regime (soon to be renamed the *Hrvatska socijalno-liberalna stranka, Croatian Social-Liberal Party*). On 17 June 1989 a group led by Dr. Franjo Tuđman established the *Hrvatska demokratska zajednica, HDZ* (Croatian Democratic Union) and on 4 November 1989 a group of dissidents led by Dr. Marko Veselica established the *Hrvatski demokratski savez, HDS* (Croatian Democratic League, soon the renamed the *Hrvatska demokratska stranka, Croatian Democratic Party*). It was followed on 16 December 1989 by the *Socijaldemokratska stranka Hrvatske, SDSH* (Social Democratic Party of Croatia, soon renamed *Socijaldemokrati Hrvatske, SDH, Social-Democrats of Croatia*) led by Antun Vujčić, on 20 December 1989 by the *Radikalno udruženje za Sjedinjene Europske Države, RUSED* (Radical Association for the United European States), and on 11 January 1990 by the *Hrvatska kršćanska demokratska stranka, HKDS* (Croatian Christian Democratic Party). After constitutional changes of 15 February 1990 allowed a multi-party system, the Ministry of Administration registered these six parties and re-registered two existing political organizations holding power at the time – the SKH and SSRNH. By 9 April, 33 parties were registered.

In the last 20 years—through the first multi-party elections, the proclamation of independence, the international recognition, the defence from the rebellion and the aggression—the multi-party system in Croatia has evolved. Within a few years the number of registered parties exceeded 100. In the course of time some of the parties were disbanded, others newly established, some have united, others split—the total number of parties registered at any given time has averaged about a hundred (2001: 76, 2002: 97, 2003: 89, 2004: 101, 2005: 104, 2006: 103, 2007: 100, 2008: 102, 2009: 109, 2010: 109 [Političke stranke, vol. 5–14]) although probably only a score or two had any significant influence in the country's political life. The Registry of Political Parties maintained by the Ministry of Administration numbers 109 active parties as of 6 March 2011, while the total number of parties that were registered at any point was 218 [Registar, 2005]. Detailed data on the active political parties in Croatia is maintained by HIDRA and is available on-line [Središnji portal, 2009], from where the majority of textual data for the Appendix was obtained. Other sources for this paper were party web sites, statutes issued in the official gazettes and newspapers, articles in the media, and other publicly available sources as well as the web site of the Croatian Parliament [Hrvatski sabor, 2011].

Today 12 parties are represented in the Croatian Parliament (in alphabetical order: HDSSB, HDZ, HL-SR, HNS, HSD, HSP, HSS, HSU, IDS-DDI, SDA, SDP and SDSS), yet

another 19 parties had representatives in the parliament at some point in the last 20 years (ASH, DA, DC, HB, HČSP, HDS, HIP, HKDU, HND, HSD, HSP-1861, IDF-FDI, LIBRA, LS, MDS, PGS, SDU, SNS and S-BHS) and two more were considered parliamentary parties since independent representatives were elected from their party lists (HDSS, ZDS), so a total of 33 parties have participated in parliamentary life since 1990. Adding the parties and lists that won seats in assemblies at the county, city, and community level would probably double that number, however, that analysis is outside the scope of this paper.

### **Flags of Political Parties before 1990**

When the modern Croatian tricolour flag of red, white, and blue emerged in 1848 it was first and foremost used as the flag of a political movement, although at the time the movement was not yet organized as a party. At the time of the national revival it was widely accepted as the flag of the newly emerging Croatian political nation. As this flag (or actually the crownland colours – *Landesfarben*) was not a flag of an internationally recognized state, it was used more or less freely by various Croatian political groups until the end of the Dual Monarchy. Thus a number of Croatian parties used the tricolour ornamented not only by the national coat of arms and its variations, but also with other ornaments added to it, such as floral, allegorical, and other ornamentation as well as various inscriptions, mottoes, and so on. It seems that the variously ornamented tricolour was used by many chapters of various Croatian parties without any particularly established design, not only until the end of the World War I, but especially in the newly formed South Slavic state until the beginning of the World War II, although during certain periods any such national flags were forbidden in public use.

Therefore such tricolours were used by the Croatian Party of Rights and its various factions, as well as by the Croatian Peasant's Party, which was the largest mass organization in Croatia between the two World Wars. There must have been a large number of such flags; however, it seems that only a small fraction of them is preserved today. No doubt numerous examples were destroyed, lost, or left to neglect during World War II and in the post-World War II period. A number of these flags were taken abroad by political leaders who left Croatia in 1945 and have been preserved in exile. (The author knows about at least one such flag preserved in Argentina, but no details are available at this time.)

Only four such flags from the period between the two World Wars are preserved in the collection of the Croatian History Museum [Borošak Marijanović, 1996, p. 140–143]: two flags identified as the flags of the Croatian Peasant Party (HSS) chapters (see page 1), a flag of the Party of the Croatian State Right, and a flag identified simply as a “flag with Croatian state symbols”, that must also have been a flag of a HSS chapter (cf. the seal of the HSS in Jareb, 2010, pp. 192-193).

It may be that an occasional example of such flags is preserved in other Croatian local and regional museums, but some such flags were hidden away and preserved by individuals, to

be produced, in some cases, only after 1990. One such example from the town of Vrbanja is described by Jareb in his book [Jareb, 2010, p. 228] as well as a number of party flags in use in 1920's and 1930's [Jareb, 2010, p. 196-197, pp. 222-233]

Some of these party flags, with red five-pointed stars added to them, were used as flags of Croatia by the Partisans during the World War II. The remnants of such defacement is obvious on the one of the flags in the Croatian History Museum, a number of examples of such flags on photos is shown by Jareb as well. [Jareb, 2010, p. 291]

The Communist party, when it was legal in 1920s, used red flags in its events, and while underground still used them as much as was possible. These red flags emerged as the revolutionary symbols in the National Liberation Struggle, initially without any emblems, and gradually with the emblems—adding a gold-outlined red five-pointed star, the hammer and sickle emblem, and inscriptions and mottoes in many variations of the same theme.

The Ustaša party, during its rule in Croatia during the World War II, did not use any particular flag as the party flag, nor did it have any flags for its chapters and organizations, although some organizational forms, such as the Youth Organization (Ustaška mladež) used an intricate set of flags [Naredba o zastavama Ustaške mladeži, 1943].

After the World War II, in the new Yugoslavia the red flags of the Communist Party became the only official party flags, and they were prescribed for the public to displayed together with the flag of Yugoslavia and the subdivision republic. The other party flags, defaced with the red star used during the War, were gradually removed from use in the first few years after the War. The Communist Party was reorganized as the League of Communists in 1952 and the particular Croatian party flag was formally introduced in 1968 when separate Croatian League of Communists statutes were first adopted. It differed from the Yugoslav party flag (SKJ) only in the initials under the red star (SKH), otherwise it was the same: a red flag in a 1:2 ratio with the gold-outlined red five-pointed star in the canton, containing a sickle and a hammer. Above the star stretching to the right is the motto “Workers of the World, Unite!” written in any of the official or minority languages and scripts, and below the star the party initials. [Statut SKJ, 1979, Čl. 107-108]

### **Flags of Political Parties after 1990**

The various party flags thus developed in Croatia only after the breakdown of the socialist single-party system. Legislation in Croatia requires all political parties to have an emblem defined with their statutes, which are to be published in either the official gazette or in public newspapers [Zakon, 1993]. Although not explicitly stated in the legislation, all of the parties also need to have a seal. However, there is no legal requirement for a party to have a flag. Nevertheless, the vast majority of parties also have a flag determined by their statutes, and even those that do not have a flag prescribed often choose to use one anyway. Only a few parties, especially those which are less politically active, do not have a flag. Out of 109 current

parties, flags of 54 of them are registered in this paper. All of the 33 parliamentary parties have or have had a flag. It may be noted, however, that Istrian parties (IDS-DDI, IDF-FDI) apparently used them very scarcely, if ever, preferring different presentation methods (stationary billboards and panels of virtually the same design).

The design identity of the modern parties may be best observed considering the political heritage of Croatia. Thus a number of modern parties claims heritage to five influential historical parties of various periods which may be ranked from political left to right: the Communist Party of Croatia, the Social-Democratic Party of Croatia, the Croatian Peasant's Party, the Croatian Party of Rights, and the Croatian Liberation Movement. There are two more modern political ideas (or ideologies) which serve as basis for identity design: Social-Liberal and Christian-Democratic, while other parties form their identity by representing particular interest groups (such as farmers, pensioners, youth, women...), regions or local areas, or ethnic (minority) groups.

While it has been traditional to consider the party spectrum in Europe using Klaus von Beyme's categorization of European parties into types based on ideology (left to right): communist, socialist, green, liberal, Christian-democratic, conservative, libertarian [Beyme, 1985], Alan Ware adds two more types: agrarian and regional/ethnic parties, whose position in the left-to-right scale may vary [Ware, 1996:22]. To these can be added the Islamic parties emerging in Europe.

For the purpose of this paper and consideration of the flags of political parties in Croatia, it has proven convenient to modify the categorization into:

- Left,
- Social-Democratic (Left-Centre),
- Social-Liberal,
- HSS heritage,
- Christian-Democratic (Right-Centre),
- HSP heritage (Right), and
- Far Right.

The last do not appear among the flags in this paper. In addition there are 5 types that are out of the classical left-to-right scope:

- Regional/Local,
- Interest,
- Ecological (Green),
- Ethnic (Minority), and



- “Desideologized”.

The last is catch-all group typical for splinter parties formed around charismatic leaders which left some larger party. While they typically have similar ideological base as the “mother” party (for which they typically claim has strayed from the “right path”), they are often ideologically confused in an attempt to provide consistent difference from them—which in turn result in “neutral” identity symbols. The name of the type should not necessary imply that such parties do not have strong affiliation to one of the von Beyme types.

Ideology type Design \	Left	Soc.-Democratic	Soc.-Liberal	HSS heritage	Chr.-Democratic	HSP heritage	Regional/Local	Interest	Ecological	Ethnic	Desideologized
<b>Flag field</b>											
R-W-B tricolour		ASH, HNS, SDH, SSH		A-HSS, HDSS, HSS		A-HSP, HP-HPP, HSP, HSP-1861, HSPdr.A.S.	<b>ZDS</b>	HSB, [SU]			
Bicolour							MS, PSS, SBHS, ZS	BHP, HSRN		HRDS	
Monocolour - white		<b>HL-SR, SDP</b>				HČSP*	ISDF-FSDI, LISTA-RI, MDS, PGS	DSŽ, HSU, SU		BDSH, SDA	GS*, HGS, HIP, HND
- blue - light								HSPD		NSS, SDSS	
- blue - dark			LIBRA, LS							PPS	
- red	<b>HSD, LJEVICA, SRP</b>						<b>HDSSB</b>				
- yellow			HSLs [HSLs]			HČSP*					
- green							<b>IDS-DDI</b>		Zeleni		
- orange					HDS		DKS				
- silver/gray					[HDZ]		LzB				
Other					JH-PzH					SNS	

Ideology type Design \	Left	Soc.-Democratic	Soc.-Liberal	HSS heritage	Chr.-Democratic	HSP heritage	Regional/Local	Interest	Ecological	Ethnic	Desideologized
<b>National symbol</b>											
R-W-B pattern		<b>HNS, [SDP], SDH</b>	[HSLs]	A-HSS, HSS	GS*, HB, <b>HDZ, [HDZ]</b> (HDZ), HDS, HD, HKDU, HN, HPS	A-HSP, HČSP*, HP-HPP, HSP, HSP-1861, HSPdr.A.S.	<b>HDSSB,</b> SBHS, LzB, MDS*	DSŽ, HSRN, HSU, SU, [SU]		BDSH, SNS	GS*, HGS, HIP, HND
Chequy pattern		<b>SDP [SDP]</b>	LIBRA, HSLs, [HSLs], LS	A-HSS, HDSS, HSS	GS*, HB, <b>HDZ, [HDZ]</b> (HDZ), HDS, HN, HPS, HZ, JH-PzH, HB	A-HSP, HČSP*, HP-HPP, HSP, HSP-1861, HSPdr.A.S.	<b>HDSSB,</b> SBHS, PSS, ZDS	DKS, DSŽ, HSRN, HSU, SHB	Zeleni	BDSH, HRDS, NSS	GS*, HGS, HIP
Triple wattle					<b>HDZ, [HDZ], HZ</b>	A-HSP, HČSP*, HP-HPP, HSP, HSP-1861, HSPdr.A.S.	<b>HDSSB</b>	BHP, SU			
<b>Individual symbol</b>											
Flower		SSH, SDH					ISDF-FSDI			BDSH	
Star - 5-points	LJEVICA, SRP						<b>HDSSB</b>			PPS	
- 6-points							<b>HDSSB*</b> , MDS*				
Hills/rivers							<b>HDSSB</b> , MS, PSS, PGS, <b>ZDS</b>				
Marten							<b>HDSSB</b> , SBHS				
Goat							<b>IDS-DDI</b>				
Glagolitic letter			LIBRA		HD						
Tick (check)							LISTA-RI				
Church							DKS				
Bell					HZ						
Heron							LzB				
Dove								HSU			
Food products								BHP			
Maiz				HDSS			<b>HDSSB</b>				
Justitia								HSPD			
Tree									Zeleni		
Wheel										HRDS	
Portrait				HDSS						SNS	
Hand	LJEVICA						SHB				
Crescent										SDA	
Heart							SHB				

Ideology type Design \	Left	Soc.-Democratic	Soc.-Liberal	HSS heritage	Chr.-Democratic	HSP heritage	Regional/Local	Interest	Ecological	Ethnic	Desideologized
<b>Inscriptions</b>											
Full name	<b>HSD, LJEVICA</b>	ASH, <b>HL-SR, SDP, [SDP]</b>	HSLs	HDSS	GS*, (HDZ), HD, HKDU, HPS, HN, HZ, HB		DKS, <b>HDSSB,</b> ISDF-FSDI, LzB, LISTA-RI, HSPD, PSS, PGS, SHB, ZDS, ZS	BHP, DSŽ, HSPD, HSU, SU, [SU]	Zeleni	BDSH, NSS, PPS, SDSS, SNS	GS*
Initials	<b>HSD, SRP</b>	ASH, <b>SDP, [SDP], SDH</b>	LIBRA, HSLs, [HSLs], LS	A-HSS, HSS	GS*, <b>HDZ, [HDZ]</b> , HDS, HKDU, HPS, HN	A-HSP, HČSP*, HSP, HSP-1861, HSPdr.A.S.	DKS, <b>HDSSB,</b> ISDF-FSDI, MDS, PSS, PGS, SBHS, SHB, ZDS, ZS	BHP, DSŽ, HSRN, HSPD, HSU, SU, [SU]		BDSH, NSS, PPS, SDSS, SNS	GS*, HGS, HIP, HND
Motto				HDSS	HZ	HČSP*	SHB				
Non-Croatian inscriptions							ISDF-FSDI			NSS, SDSS, SNS	
<b>Ratio</b>											
Non-1:2 ratio	SRP	<b>HL-SR</b>			HDS, GS*			HSPD			

**Table 1. Analysis of the identity elements in party flags: Bold** – parties represented in Parliament; Normal – parties previously represented in Parliament; *Italic* - Non-parliamentary parties; (youth) - party organizations, [party] – flags previously used, \* indicates that one of the several flags used by the party fall into the category.

## Analysis of Design Elements

The analysis of design elements provides insight into the identity of political parties. It shall be seen that similar design elements may provide a basis for identity of parties belonging to different types and yet result in comprehensible political message to the potential voters. Thus the same or similar elements combined in different syntactic structures communicate different messages (more on these concepts, noted already by de Saussure, cf. [Cerulo, 1995, pp. 35–54])

The design elements that are considered in this paper are: the basic flag field division (Croatian tricolour, bicolours, various mono-coloured flags), the elements of national symbols (Croatian tricolour, chequy shield, triple wattle ornament), the supranational symbols of identity (such as flowers, 5-pointed stars etc.), and finally other particular symbols that appear in a few flags or in a single flag each. The inclusion of inscriptions (full name, initials, motto, and inscriptions in other languages) and the flag's proportions were also analyzed. The break-up of party flags by these elements, sorted in the types of ideologies as proposed above, is given in Table 1.

The Croatian tricolour flag serves as the basis of the party flag for five different types of parties: those of HSS heritage (HSS, A-HSS, HDSS) as well as of HSP heritage (HPS, A-HSP, HSP-1861, HSP dr. Ante Starčević), but also by some parties of the left centre (ASH, SSH, SDH, HNS), regional (ZDS), and interest (SHB) wishing to highlight their national element.

Bicolour flags are apparently used by agrarian type of parties, whether regional (SBHS, ZS, PSS, MS) or interest (HSN, BPH), and therefore most often including a green stripe (the second stripe is then most often blue, symbolically for the skies above the green land). A blue over green bicolour is also used by Roma party, being based on the national flag of the Roma people (HRDS).

Mono-coloured flags may fall into one of the four basic colours: white, (light) blue, red, and yellow; while green, orange, and silver/gray are unusual (with 2 examples each).

White flags, the largest group (18 examples) are used by variety of party types. The left and left-centre parties (SDP, ISDF-FSDI, HL-SR) seem to choose white over the traditional red for to indicate distance from the Communist Party which ruled the county in the previous regime. The regional parties (LISTA-RI, MDS, PGS) and the interest parties (HSU, HGS, DSŽ, SU) probably use it for its supposed neutrality, which is also the likely cause of its preference by the desideologized parties (HIP, HND, HD, GS). Among the ethnic parties, those representing the Bosniak-Muslim population use white, following the previous national flag of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The HSP heritage party of HČSP seems to be an exception here, as following the “established” syntax it should probably have a tricolour similar to other ideologically close parties. It also probably uses white to differentiate itself from the similar parties, much as it is preferred by the desideologized parties (and this may also be reason for this party to use an alternative golden flag).

Blue flags (10 examples) usually use a light blue (the dark blue of the national flag might have been expected, but it may be that it is avoided for its “visibility gravity”, i.e. a dark blue background would provide for much less readable designs). Blue is used by the majority of parties with a Christian Democratic ideology (HDZ, HKDU, HB, HPS, HN, HZ), following the European tradition on one hand, and by the ethnic-Serbian parties (NSS, SDSS, PPS). The latter may have derived by subtraction of the distinctly Croatian colours (red-white of the chequy shield) from the Serbian national colour, leaving the blue (similar identification of the blue with Serbian community happens in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where the red is identified as “Croatian” and green and/or white as the “Bosniak” colour, when a single colour is required to signify the three groups).

Yellow flags (4 examples) are typical for the parties of Social-Liberal flavour (HSLs, LS, LIBRA), which actually combine yellow and blue (and in fact some of these include more blue than yellow, however, as yellow is the mean of identification they are counted here as one group). These all derive from the original HSLs colours, chosen probably following the European colours (inverting them).

Red flags are used by the parties on the left end of the political spectrum (LJEVICA, HSD, SRP), following the European political tradition. However red is also used by the regional HDSSB party, possibly used as contrasting colour, a colour of defiance, and as an attempt to “rehabilitate” one of the three national colours “appropriated” by the left, the party being confident that the misidentification with the communist ideology could not pose a threat in its case.

A green flag is used by one of the ecological parties (Zeleni); apparently other green parties are so marginal in Croatia that they do not use flags at all. This use is hardly unexpected, although it is not entirely clear why green was also chosen by the strongest regional party, IDS. It might have been simply because green was the only “free” basic colour in the spectrum at the time (i.e. unappropriated by any other “significant” party).

Orange is used by one local party (DKS) probably as kind of a “neutral” colour, and since recently by a new alliance of smaller Christian Democratic parties (HDS), probably in an attempt to differentiate the new party from the numerous Christian Democratic parties using a light blue identity. It may be noted that the colour orange was employed in the 2000 elections to represent the alliance of the SDP and the HSLs (combining the parties’ identities of red and yellow, respectively), however this alliance was not formalized as an organization and flags were not used.

A gray flag appears in one regional case (LzB) as “fancy” replacement for the colour white (as is obvious since the gray there also serves as replacement for the white in the national tricolour symbolic on the flag). The gray variation of the HDZ flag was also initially produced as a silver metallic reflection surface field, although the blue variation is prescribed in all the statutes. This silver variation may still be found in use occasionally. Influenced by it, the silver-gray is also found in the flag of the HDZ youth organization.

A single flag does not fall into the tri-, bi- and monocoloured categories: the 3×3 chequy flag of JH-PzG, being a simplified banner of arms of Croatia. Also, the Serbian party SNS reportedly uses the Serbian tricolour with the party emblem, but it seems that such use is extremely rare (and not mentioned in the party statutes).

The inclusion of national symbols seems to be rather a rule than an exception. Most party flags include at least one of the national symbols (the Croatian tricolour, the chequy shield, or the triple wattle ornament). The exceptions are several regional parties (IDS-DDI, MS, MDS, PGS, LISTA-RI), some left parties (SRP, HSD, HL-SR, LJEVICA), some interest groups (HSPD), and some, but by no means all, ethnic minority parties (SDA, PPS). In many cases including just small elements in red, white, and blue seems to be enough for national identification, just as is the inclusion of one or two red squares. In other cases parties feel the need to express their national identity by using all three symbols, e.g. the flags of the HSP heritage parties which use the three colors, a shield containing chequy fields, and triple wattle. In other cases, only a hint of the wattle (SU), tricolour (Liga za Brod), or square elements (NSS) seems enough.

Supranational symbols (other than flag field colours which are themselves part of the almost globally recognizable code) are used comparatively less. Flowers are used by some left-centre parties in according to the European Social-Democratic traditions (rose – SDH, clover – SSH, carnation – ISDF-FSDI), and in the form of the fleur-de-lys as the Bosniak symbol that emerged in the 1990s (BDSH). The five-pointed star appears in two forms – yellow, following the EU flag, symbolizing the proclaimed European orientation of the party (MDS, HDSSB, PPS) and red, following the communist tradition (SRP, LJEVICA). The six-pointed star appears only in designs as the heraldic mullet from the coat of arms of Slavonia (HDSSB).

Among the other symbols, the most frequent is representation of hills, usually accompanied by the symbolic representation of a river/sea, in regional party flags (ZDS, PSS, MS, PGS). The marten appears in regional party flags in Slavonia (SBHS, HDSSB) and the goat in Istria (IDS-FDI), heraldic elements from their respective historical coats of arms. Two parties use Glagolitic letters as their main symbol (D – HD, L – LIBRA).

Other symbols are used only once: regional/local parties: tick – check mark (LISTA-RI), church (DKS), heron (Lista za Brod); interest parties: dove (HSU), food products (BPH), Justitia (HSPD); ecological parties: tree (Zeleni); and ethnic parties: wheel (HRDS). Notably, and somewhat surprisingly, the cross does not appear as a symbol on any of these flags—although a cross pattern obtained by combining chequy fields may be found on some Christian democratic parties (HKDU, HDS). There is also a cross atop the bell in the HZ flag, but it may be considered a part of the bell design.

A wheat ear is used as part of the party emblem of HDSS, based on the pre-World War II seal of the HSS and also as the main emblem in the regional party of HDSSB. Portraits are found in the HDSS flag as well (Stjepan Radić and Ante Starčević), but also in the emblem of the SNS (Nikola Tesla).

It should be noted that nearly all party flags include inscriptions—either the full name of the party, or its initials, or both (only a half-dozen flags have no inscriptions). In a few examples, beside the name and/or initials, a party motto is also inscribed, and in one case the party name is inscribed as part of the web address. Inscription in languages other than Croatian appear in flags of Serb parties (which include inscriptions in both Croatian and Serbian, the later in Cyrillic script, otherwise being the same text, and in one case also the name in English is included) or of the regional Istrian parties where the name or initials appear in both Croatian and Italian (the latter being official language in the Istrian county). Nearly all of the parties include in their statutes a provision to use the official name in English in international use, although it does not appear on flags.

There seems to be no particular significance in flag orientation, so some parties have designed horizontal flags, with attachments on their shorter edge as the hoist, while others have vertical flags, for use as banners. The proportions of a majority of flags are either explicitly prescribed or used by default as 1:2, conforming to the ratio of the Croatian national flags, with which they are most often displayed together. The flags in other ratios are those of SRP, HL-SR, HSPD, parties that tend not to use national flag in their events (and that are on the left of the political spectrum). The flags in proportions longer than 1:2 are probably exceptions, intended for vertical use, e.g. HDS (2:5 is recorded, but 1:2 may be prescribed and actually used) and GS (1:3 is explicitly prescribed, but the actual preferred flags in use seem to be 1:2).

## **Conclusion**

The multi-party system introduced in Croatia in 1990 produced a broad spectrum of parties which developed symbols of their identity to effectively convey their ideologies. This paper records over fifty party flags used in Croatia since 1990. They often follow the established iconography of the European political spectrum, usually including one or more national symbols except in a few regional parties. The language used by the parties in their flags may be clearly read and understood, being “visually readable” within the political language developed in Europe. However, all parties apparently need to include inscriptions on their flags, in the form of full names or initials, for unmistakable identification. Such flags play a significant role in everyday public political communication in Croatia.

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Note: See also sources by particular flags quoted in the Appendix.

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## Appendix: Database of Political Party Flags in Croatia

### Structure

Short name: (party initials)

Party name (original): (full name in Croatian, and any other language if used)

Party name (English): (full name in English)

Seat: (city) Established: (year, place if different from the seat) Members: (\*)

Status: (parliamentary, non-parliamentary, defunct/successor for non-active parties)

Seats in the Parliament: (number of seats with years of occupancy, if any)

Party leaders: (names of party leaders with years of their presidency)

Previous names: (earlier names of the party, names of parties that united to form it etc.)

Notes: (if any)

Flag: (drawing)

Ratio: (explicitly determined, or as commonly used – indicated by tilde ~)

Year: (of adoption/introduction in use)


Source: (statutes or other document legally determining the flag)

Description: (quoted from the source, if possible, otherwise followed by author's description, in Croatian and [English])

Other flags used: (if any)

Parties sorted by the alphabetic order of the full party name in Croatian.

In order to save printing space, the vertical flags are depicted here rotated 90° counter clockwise.

Such drawings are indicated with this symbol: 

\* Number of members per latest available data at HIDRA web site. These appear to be figures reported by parties themselves and in some cases they seem to be unreasonably excessive.



Short name: **ASH**

Party name (original): **Akcija socijaldemokrata Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Social Democratic Action of Croatia**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1994**

Members: **6,300 (2009)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 4, 1995–1997: 1**

Party leaders: **Željko Mažar, 1990; Miko Tripalo, 1994–1995; Silvije Degen, 1995–2001; Zlatko Klarić, since 2001**

Previous names: **Jedinstvena narodnooslobodilačka fronta, 1944–1945; renamed Narodnooslobodilačka fronta Hrvatske, 1945–1953; renamed Socijalistički savez radnog naroda Hrvatske, 1953–1990; reregistered as Socijalistički savez - Savez socijalista Hrvatske, 1990; renamed Socijalistička stranka Hrvatske, 1992–1994**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **1994**

Source: **Čl. 4, Statut ASH, 1999**

Description: “[...] 2) ASH ima znak i zastavu. 3) Znak je četverolisna djetelina čiji su listovi srcolikog oblika, zelene, plave, žute i crvene boje, a povrh koje je u polukrugu napis ‘Akcija socijaldemokrata’ u gornjem redu i ‘Hrvatske’ u donjem redu, a u sredini ‘ash’ (malim slovima). 4) Zastava ASH je pravougaonog oblika, vodoravno podijeljena na tri polja. U sredini je bijelo polje koje zauzima 2/4 prostora, gornje je crveno, donje plave boje. U bijelom polju nalazi se znak ASH iz stavka 3) ovog članka, bez četverolisne djeteline.” [The flag is a red-white-blue tricolour, with the white field of double width containing the emblem: in a red, white, and blue bordered oval the arched name AKCIJA SOCIJALDEMOKRATA and HRVATSKE in line in the base with red lower-case initials “ash”.]

Other flags used: **see SSH for pre 1994 flag**

Short name: **A-HSS**

Party name (original): **Autohtona - Hrvatska seljačka stranka**

Party name (English): **Autochthonous Croatian Peasant Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2007**

Members: **121 (2007)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Jasenko Stipac, since 2007**

Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2007**

Source: **Čl. 3, Statut A-HSS, 2007**

Description: “Znak Stranke ima oblik štita s povijesnim hrvatskim grbom (25 kvadratnih polja sa početnim crvenim) iznad kojeg je bijelo polje s crvenom kraticom ‘A – HSS’, a od vrha bijelog polja niz lijevi i desni rub grba padaju trake hrvatske zastave. Zastava Stranke je Trobojnica od crvene, bijele i plave boje, sa znakom Stranke u donjoj trećini crvenog, bijelog i gornjoj trećini plavog polja.” [A red, white, and blue tricolour with the emblem in the centre of it entering a third of the red and a third of the blue field. The emblem is a 25-chequy shield starting with a red field, topped with a white field containing initials, with two tricolour flags flanking the shield.]



Short name: **A-HSP**

Party name (original): **Autohtona - Hrvatska stranka prava**

Party name (English): **Autochthonous Croatian Party of Rights**

Seat: **Koprivnica**      Established: **2003**      Members: **3,800 (2009)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Previous names: **Hrvatska demokratska stranka prava**, est. 1992 and **Hrvatski narodni pokret – Slobodna Hrvatska**, est. 1994, united in 2000 to **Hrvatski pravaški pokret**; united with **Hrvatski pravaši**, est. 2003 in 2005 as **Hrvatski pravaši - Hrvatski pravaški pokret**, renamed A-HSP in 2007

Party leaders: **Dražen Keleminec**, since 2003



Ratio: **1:2~**      Year: **2007**      Source: drawing at <http://www.hrvatskipravasi.hr>, visited 8 March 2011 (Čl. 7, Statut A-HSP, 2007, describes (see) HP-HPP emblem with changed initials)

Description: (Crveno-bijelo-plava trobojnica sa znakom u sredini: koso razdijeljen štit bijelom kosom gredom u kojoj je crnim ispisano A-HSP, gore šahirano bijelo-crveno, dolje plavo, štit nadvišen crno iscrtanim bijelim tropletom.) [A red-white-blue tricolour with the emblem in its centre: a shield divided by a white rising diagonal inscribed in black "A-HSP", in the top part chequy fields, bottom blue, topped with a white wattle ornament. The Statutes do not describe the flag but provide only for the party headquarters to determine it.]

Other flags used: **see HP-HPP for pre-2007 flag**

Short name: **BDSH**

Party name (original): **Bošnjačka demokratska stranka Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Bosnian Democratic Party of Croatia**

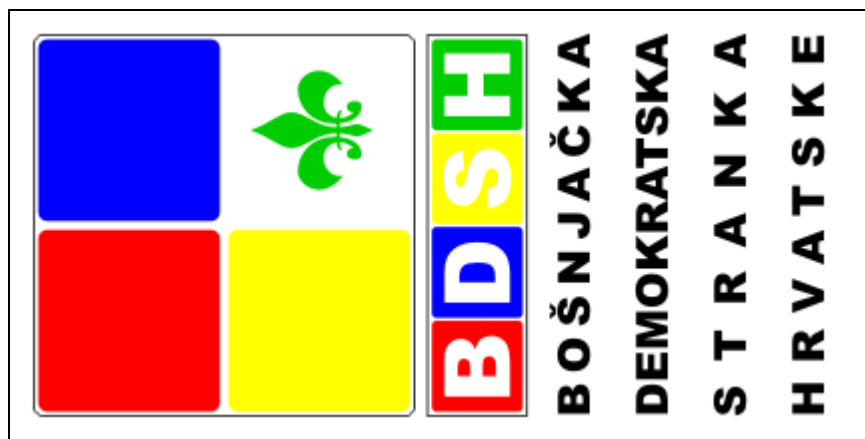
Seat: **Kastav**

Established: **2008**

Members: **1,100 (2010)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Nedžad Hodžić, since 2008**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2008**

Source: **Čl. 7 i 8, Statut BSDH, 2008**

Description: “Čl. 7. Znak stranke, odnosno njen logotip su četiri (4) kvadrata od kojih crveni i bijeli su raspoređeni po dijagonali s lijeva na desno od gore prema dole, a plavi i žuti po drugoj dijagonali s desna na lijevo i od gore prema dole. U bijelom kvadratu je ucrtan ljljan zelene boje.

Čl. 8. Zastava stranke je bijela sa logotipom odnosno znakom stranke u gornjem lijevom uglu i skraćenim nazivom BDSH ispisanim bijelom bojom u sredini zastave, unutar crvenog, žutog, plavog i zelenog kvadratića.” [A white flag with black outline emblem of four squares, red, blue, yellow, and white, the last containing a green fleur-de-lys. Beneath within a black outline, are found squares in a line, colored red, blue, yellow, and green, each containing a initial: BDSH. Beneath, in four lines, is the full name of the party in black.]

Short name: **BPH**

Party name (original): **Blok poljoprivrednika Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Croatian Farmers' Bloc**

Seat: **Đakovo**

Established: **2007, Čajkovci**

Members: **150 (2007)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Ivan Kovačević, since 2007**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2007**

Source: **Čl. 3, Statut BPH, 2007**

Description: “Znak stranke je četvrtastog oblika čiji rub simbolizira hrvatski grb. Znak je omeđen hrvatskim pletrom. Unutar znaka nalazi se skraćeni naziv stranke ispisan velikim slovima BPH. Ispod skraćenoga naziva

stranke BPH nalaze se dvije kockice koje simboliziraju hrvatski grb, a ispod toga nalazi se slika kruha, vina i ribe. Znak stranke je u boji zastave. Zastava Stranke je plave i zelene boje u omjeru po 1/1 sa znakom Stranke u sredini a ispod znaka stranke upisan je puni naziv stranke. Rubni dijelovi zastave označeni su sa hrvatskim pleterom. Veličina zastave je u omjeri 100 cm x 200 cm.” [A blue and green bicolour with the emblem in the centre: blue and green horizontally gradually divided shield, with a golden wattle ornament, the party initials BPH above two red squares above food products: bread, wine, and fish.]

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Short name: **DAN**

Party name (original): **Demokratska akcija naroda Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Democratic Action of People of Croatia**

Seat: **Pula, Marčana**      Established: **2003**      Members: ?

Status: **renamed HSN in 2005 and HSRN in 2008, see HSRN**

Party leaders: **Zoran Radolović, 2003-2005**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2003**

Source: **Čl. 5 i 6, Statut DAN, 2003**

Description: “Čl. 5. DAN ima znak koji se sastoji od kruga žute boje u kojem je bijelim slovima, obrubljenim plavom bojom, ispisano DAN. U pozadini žutog kruga vidljiva je valovita plavo-zelena traka. Čl 6. Zastava Stranke je u omjeru 1:2 sa znakom Stranke iz članka 5. Od lijevog ruba zastave po visini, od sredine plava boja se u radijusu spušta do žutog kruga, a od polovice visine ruba desne strane plava boja se u radijusu diže do ruba žutog kruga. Ispod plave boje i žutog kruga, zelena boja ispunjava zastavu.” [A blue-over-green wavy bicolour with a yellow disk containing the white initials DAN edged in blue.]

Other flags used: **post-2005 flags see HSRN.**

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Short name: **DKS**

Party name (original): **Demokratska kneginečka stranka**

Party name (English): **Democratic Party of Kneginec**

Seat: **Gornji Kneginec**      Established: **2002**      Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Damir Keretić, since 2002**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2002**

Source: **Čl. 6, Statut DKS, 2002**

Description: “DKS ima svoj pečat, štambilj, znak i zastavu. [...] Oblik, izgled i veličinu znaka i zastave ustanovljuje Glavna skupština stranke. Mjerodavni uzorak znaka i zastave pohranjen je u arhivu Ureda stranke.

Znak DKS-a ima oblik štita sa kneginečkom kulom i crkvom u prvom planu, na podlozi velikog sunca narančaste boje, dijelom grba Republike Hrvatske u donjem lijevom uglu, zelenom podlogom u donjem desnom uglu, nebom iznad siluete sunca na kojem se u desnom gornjem uglu ističe bijeli grozd sa listom, a u lijevom gornjem uglu ispisan je skraćeni i puni naziv Stranke – DKS. Demokratska kneginečka stranka.

Zastava DKS-a narančaste je boje, ukupnih dimenzija 200×100 cm sa znakom DKS-a u sredini. [...]” [An orange flag with the emblem in its centre: a shield depicting the tower and church of Kneginec on green base in front of a large orange sun and a portion of the Croatian chequy shield; in the dexter chief initials DKS and the full name of the party in an inescutcheon and in sinister a white bunch of grapes with a leaf.]

Short name: **DSŽ**

Party name (original): **Demokratska stranka žena**

Party name (English): **Women’s Democratic Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2004**

Members: **?**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Marija Jelinčić, since 2004**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2004**

Source: photos from <http://dsz.webstilus.net>, v. 8 March 2011

Description: (Bijela zastava sa stranačkim znakom: plava vrpca završava čvorom u obliku crvenog kosog križa bijelog središnjeg kvadratnog polja. Unutar petlje vrpce plavi inicijali DSŽ, duž donjeg ruba crni natpis imena stranke.) [A white flag with the party emblem: a blue ribbon ending with a knot forming a red saltire pierced with a

white square. Within the loop of the ribbon are the initials DSŽ blue, along the base is the full name of the party in black.]

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Short name: **GS**

Party name (original): **Gospodarska stranka**

Party name (English): **Economic Party**

Seat: **Zadar**

Established: **2006**

Members: **26,391 (2010)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Stjepan Gnječ, since 2000**

Ratio: **1:3**

Year: **2006**

Source: **Čl. 7, Statut GS, 2006**

Description: “Stranka ima svoj pečat, znak, zastavu, himnu i boju: [...] Znak Stranke su velika slova GS vrste slova Bremen Bd BT, pored kojih su tri kockice zarotirane na 90 stupnjeva boja crven, bijel, plav, ispod na narančastoj podlozi piše GOSPODARSKA STRANKA vrstom slova Zapffillipt BT. Zastava Stranke je u obliku kvadrata. Širina je 3 puta veća od njene visine. Na svijetlo plavoj (boje neba) podlozi u sredini zastave nalazi se znak stranke. [...]” [A sky-blue flag with the emblem in its centre: the letters GS in blue, next to each letter are three rotated squares coloured red, white, and blue, and in the base on an orange background the full name of the party in black.]



Other flags used: **white flags of the same basic design in a 1:2 ratio**



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Short name: **HČSP**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska čista stranka prava**

Party name (English): **Croatian Pure Party of Rights**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1992**

Members: **?**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1995–1999: 1**

Party leaders: **Ivan Gabelica, since 1992, Luka Podrug, Tadija Barun, Josip Miljak, since 2006**

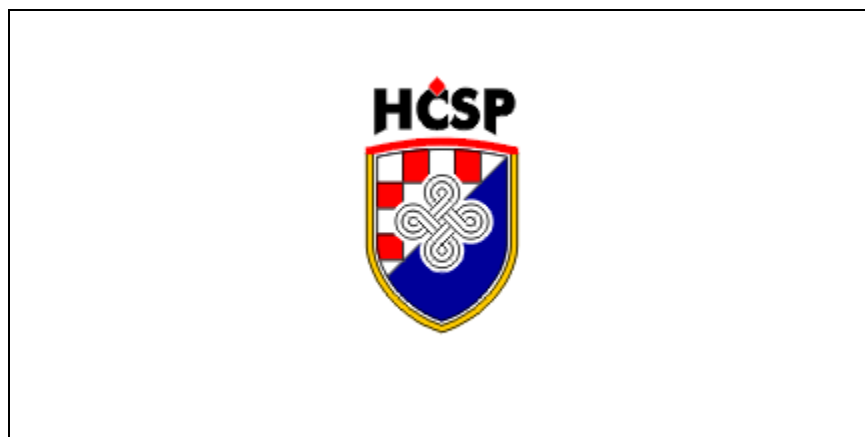
Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **1992**

Source: photos from <http://hcsp.hr>, visited 8 March 2011; **Čl.**

### **6, Ustav HČSP, 2006**

Description: “Hrvatska čista stranka prava ima svoj pečat, znak, zastavu i ostalo znakovlje. [...] Oblik i sadržaj znaka i elemente za njegovo grafičko rješenje utvrđuje Glavni stan. Glavni stan utvrđuje oblik i sadržaj i ostaloga znakovlja Stranke (zastave, zastavice, bedževi, članske iskaznice i sl.)” [A white flag with the emblem in its centre: a red-topped and yellow-flanked shield divided in a rising diagonal into (top) chequy and (bottom) blue fields with a white four-looped triple wattle ornament and above the shield in black the initials HČSP, where the hatcheck on the Č is made of a rotated red square. The Statutes do not describe the emblem or the flag but provide only for the party headquarters to determine them.]



Other flags used: **golden-yellow flag of the same basic design with a white ribbon inscribed with the motto “Za dom spremni” (For home - ready!)**



Short name: **HDSS**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska demokratska seljačka stranka**

Party name (English): **Croatian Democratic Peasant Party**

Seat: **Čakovec**

Established: **1994, Zagreb**

Members: **?**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **2003–2007: 1** (a non party MP elected on the HDSS list)

Party leaders: **Ivan Martan, 1994–**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 1994

Source: Čl. 4, Statut HDSS, 1994

Description: “[...] Zastava ima tri polja: crveno, bijelo i plavo. Na crvenom polju upisano je: Hrvatska demokratska seljačka stranka. Na bijelom polju je lijevo lik Stjepana Radića, u sredini skraćeni naziv stranke HDSS, a s desne strane lik Ante Starčevića. Na plavom polju upisano je VJERA U BOGA I HRVATSKA SLOGA.” [A red-white-blue tricolour. In the central stripe are the portraits of Dr. Stjepan Radić and Dr. Ante Starčević between a chequy shield within a green circular wreath of wheat ears. In the red stripe is the full name of the party in silver, and in the blue stripe the motto “Faith in God and Croatian Concord!”]. The Statutes describe the flag with party initials set between the portraits; the flags in use have design as shown.]

Short name: **HDZ**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska demokratska zajednica**

Party name (English): **Croatian Democratic Union**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: 1989

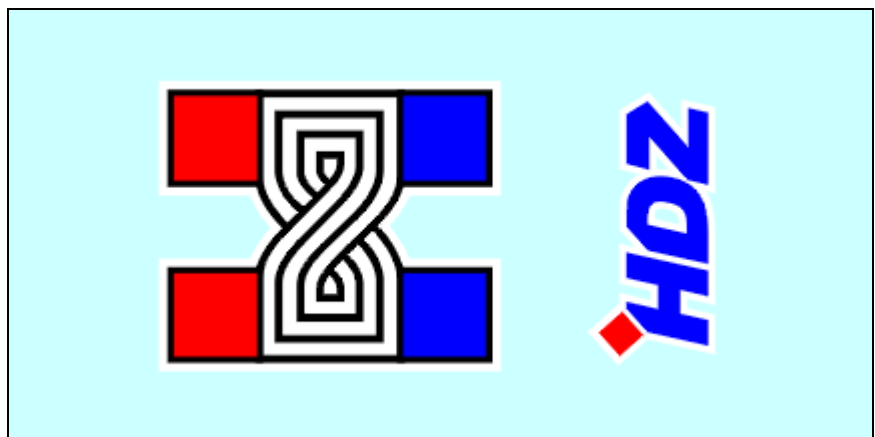
Members: 240,000 (2008)

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: 1992–1995: 79, 1995–1999: 76, 2000–2001: 41, 2002: 34

2003: 33, 2004: 66, 2005–2006: 63, 2008–: 66

Party leaders: **Franjo Tuđman, 1989–1999; Vladimir Šeks, acting, 2000; Ivo Sanader, 2000–2009; Jadranka Kosor, since 2009**



Ratio: 1:2~

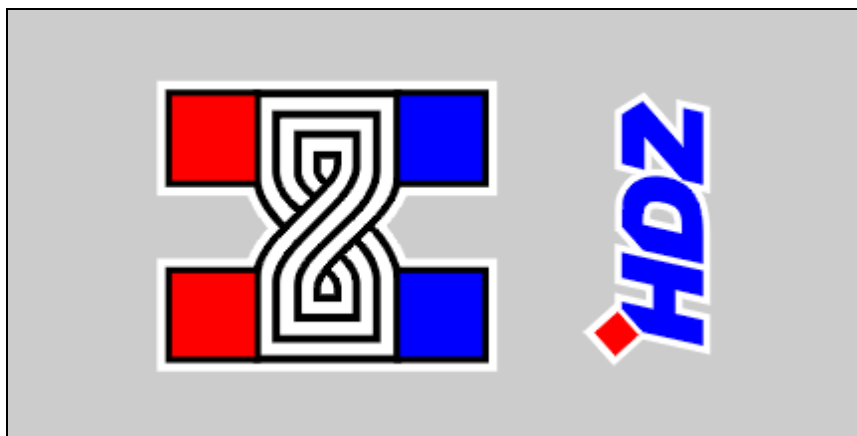
Year: 1989

Source: Čl. 4, Statut HDZ, 2000

Description: “Znak je HDZ-a u obliku velikoga latiničnog slova ‘H’ obojena crvenom, bijelom i plavom bojom, na isti način kao i hrvatska trobojnica, poprečnicu mu čine slova ‘D’ i ‘Z’, izvedena u obličju hrvatskoga tropleta. [...] Zastava je HDZ-a svjetloplave boje sa znakom HDZ-a u sredini, ispod kojeg piše ‘HDZ’.” [The flag is light blue with the emblem in shape of the capital letter H divided into red, white, and blue as the Croatian tricolour, the

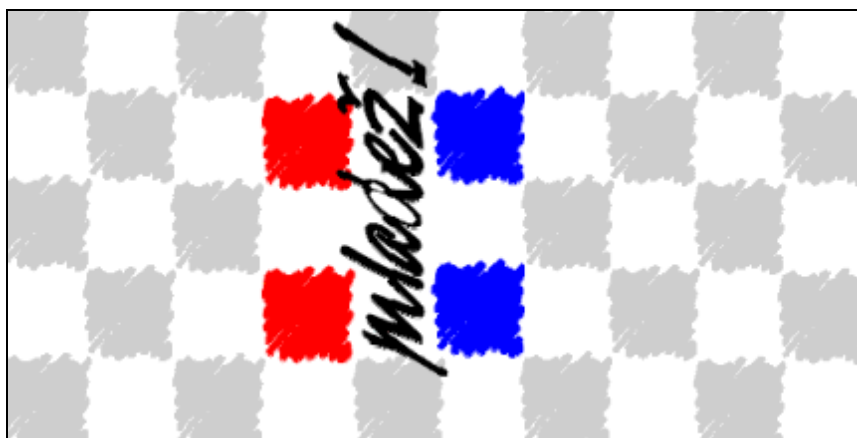


crossbar being made of stylized letters D and Z as a triple wattle. Beneath the emblem is blue logo HDZ with a red rotated square in front of it.]



Other flags used: in the first half of the 1990s the flag field used was silver-gray, such flags are still occasionally found. The flag containing only the large logo on light blue (or silver/gray) are also occasionally used.

Furthermore, the youth organization, Mladež HDZ-a, uses a particular flag prominently:



Short name: **HDS**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska demokršćanska stranka**

Party name (English): **Croatian Demochristian Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2009**

Members: **15,000 (2009)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Goran Dodik, since 2009**

Previous names: established by a union of three parties: **Hrvatska kršćanska demokratska stranka**, est. 1990;

**Hrvatski proljećari**, est. 2002 (renamed from **Stranka hrvatskog proljeća**); **Hrvatski demokršćani**, est. 2000

Notes: **not to be confused with HDS - Hrvatska demokratska stranka of 1990–1992, see HKDU**



Ratio: **2:5~** Year: **2009** Source: drawing from <http://demokrscani.blogger.hr>, visited 8 March 2011

Description: (Narančasta zastava sa znakom u dnu koji se sastoji od pet kvadrata koji tvore križ, gornji i lijevi kvadrat crveno prelazi u žuto prema desno, donji i desni kvadrati plavo prelazi u bijelo, središnji kvadrat bijelo prelazi u sivo. Ispod crveni kosi inicijali HDS.) [An orange flag with an emblem in its base consisting of five squares forming a cross, the top and left squares coloured red gradually turning into yellow towards the left, the bottom and right squares similarly gradually changing from blue to white, the central square white to gray. Under the emblem are the initials HDS in red.]

Other flags used: **see HD for pre-2009 flags**

Short name: **HGS**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska građanska stranka**

Party name (English): **Croatian Citizen Party**

Seat: **Split**

Established: **2009**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Željko Kerum, since 2009**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2009**

Source: **Čl. 2, Statut HGS, 2009**

Description: “[...] Znak HGS-a je u obliku nepravilne trodimenzionalne kocke ovalnih stranica. Kocka se sastoji od crveno, bijelog i plavog isječka – na isti način kao i hrvatska trobojnica. U plavom isječku nalaze se bijela slova HGS. Slovo H umjesto crtice ima znak HGS-a u bijeloj boji. [...] Zastava: Znak HGS-a na bijeloj podlozi.” [A white flag with the emblem in its centre: “in the shape of an irregular 3-D cube with oval sides ... composed of red, white, and blue sectors, the same as the Croatian tricolour. The letters HGS in white are set in the blue sector. The letter H has the white HGS emblem for its crossbar.”]

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Short name: **HKDU**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska kršćansko-demokratska unija**

Party name (English): **Croatian Christian Democratic Union**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2007**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **2000–2003: 1 (as HDS 1990–1992: 11)**

Party leaders: **Marko Veselica, 1992–2000; Anto Kovačević, 2000–2004; Petar Ćurlin, 2004; Željko Nujić, since 2007**

Previous names: established in 1992 by union of **Hrvatska demokratska stranka**, 1990–1992 (previously **Hrvatski demokratski savez**, 1989–1990) and **Hrvatska kršćanska demokratska stranka**, 1990–1992. Defunct in 2004, re-established in 2007.



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **1992**

Source: **Čl. 7, Statut HKDU, 1996**

Description: “[...] Znak HKDU je stilizirani crveno-bijeli osmerokut dobiven rotacijom kvadrata za 90° oko sjecišta dijagonala kvadratne osnovice istih dimenzija. Na gornjem kvadratu, kombinacijom bijelih i crvenih polja stiliziran je križ čiji su krakovi bijela polja a središte crveno polje. Zastava HKDU može biti različite veličine, ali dužina mora biti 1,5–2 puta veća od širine. Na argentinsko-plavoj podlozi, u sredini zastave nalazi se znak Unije ispod kojeg je tamnoplavim slovima ispisana kratica HKDU. Iznad donje kraće strane zastave velikim plavim slovima piše ‘HRVATSKI DEMOKRŠĆANI’. [...]” [A light blue flag with the emblem consisting of a red rotated square fimbriated in white superimposed over another red square, forming a regular eight-pointed star, in it a white cross pierced with a red square throughout. Under the emblem are the initials in the base of the flag the full name of the party, all in blue.]

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Short name: **HNS**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska narodna stranka – liberalni demokrati**

Party name (English): **Croatian People’s Party – Liberal Democrats**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1990**

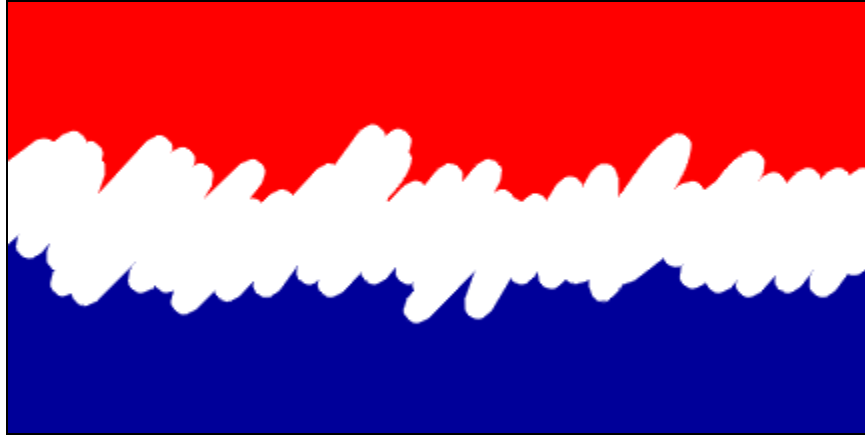
Members: **38,500 (2008)**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–2003: 2, 2004: 10, 2005: 12, 2006: 11, 2008–: 6**

Party leaders: **Savka Dabčević-Kučar, 1990–1994; Radimir Čačić, 1994–2000; Vesna Pusić, 2000–2008; Radimir Čačić, since 2008**

Previous names: established in 1990 as **Hrvatska narodna stranka**, renamed in 2005 after union with **LIBRA** (see)



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: ~1996

Source: **Čl. 6, Statut HNS, 2000**

Description: “[...] Znak HNS-a kvadratnog je oblika i sastoji se iz bijelih, rukom ispisanih i spojenih slova H, N i S, koja kvadrat dijele u gornje crveno i donje modro polje. Zastava HNS-a trobojna je, iz gornjega crvenog, srednjega bijelog, valovito oblikovanog, i donjega modrog polja, ukupnih dimenzija 200×100 cm. [...]” [A red-white-blue tricolour, with the white stripe artistically “wavy shaped”.]

Short name: **HPS**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska pučka stranka**

Party name (English): **Croatian Popular Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1997**

Members: **28,765 (2007)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

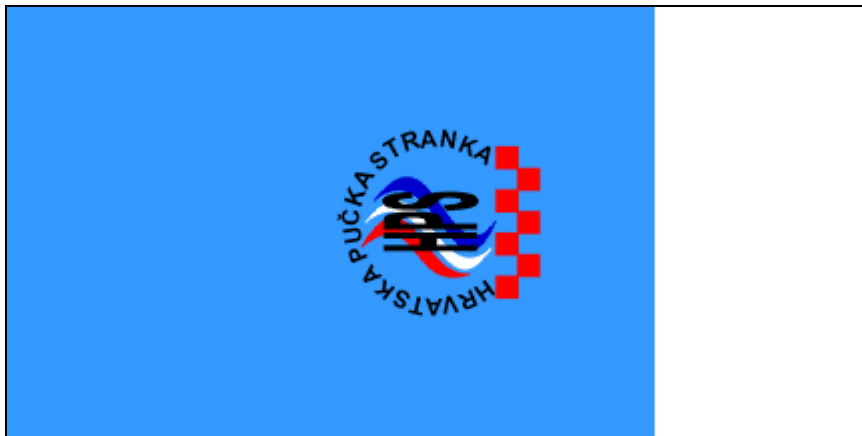
Party leaders: **Tomislav Merčep, since 1997**

Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **1997**

Source: **Čl. 4, Statut HPS, 2001**

Description: “[...] HPS ima osnovni znak i znak sa simbolikom. Opis osnovnoga znaka: - Osnovni znak sačinjen je u dvije boje – plavoj i bijeloj. - Gornje tri četvrtine znaka sačinjene su od kružnoga ispisa HRVATSKA PUČKA STRANKA u sredini kojega je ispis ‘HPS’. Donja četvrtina znaka sačinjena je od pravilno raspoređenih plavih i bijelih polja. Početno i završno polje u prvom redu plave je boje. [...] Opis znaka sa simbolikom: - Znak sa simbolikom sastavljen je od osnovnog znaka ispod kojeg je stiliziran plamen. [...] Barjak HPS je pravokutnoga oblika dužim dijelom podijeljena na dva polja (gornje polje čini  $\frac{3}{4}$ , a donje polje  $\frac{1}{4}$  širine). Gornje polje je plave, a donje bijele boje. U sredini barjaka je osnovni znak HPS bez kružnog ispisa HRVATSKA PUČKA STRANKA. Na barjaku se može istaknuti naziv organizacijskog oblika.” [A light blue vertical flag with a white stripe  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the length high along bottom. In the centre of the flag is the emblem: the initials HPS above two rows of chequy field, surrounded above with full name of the party in a circle and in the background three flames in red, white, and blue.]



Other flags used: **Variations of the design in colours and elements included and excluded were noted.**

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Short name: **HD**

Party name (original): **Hrvatski demokršćani**

Party name (English): **Croatian Demochristians**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2000**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **united into HDS**

Party leaders: **Ante Ledić, 2000–2009**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2000**

Source: **Čl. 8 i 10, Statut HD, 2002**

Description: “Znak Demokršćana čini grafičko likovni element iz glagoljičkog pisma, ravna ploha – crta na kojoj likovni element (slovo D) leži, te tipografski ispis Hrvatski demokršćani. Likovni element stiliziranog glagoljičkog slova D vrste Vatikanski misal (u glagoljici pod imenom ‘dobro’) obojen je kardinalsko crvenom bojom, a pozicionirano u središtu tipografskog ispisa Hrvatski demokršćani. Po horizontali znak D zauzima jednu trećinu dužine ispisa imena stranke. Ravna ploha – crta, obojena je istom crvenom bojom, a od znaka D odvojena je praznim prostorom koji iznosi dvije trećine debljine donje nožice znaka D. Ravna ploha – crta, dignuta je iznad ispisa imena stranke polovicom svoje debljine. Ime – naziv stranke ispisano je vrstom pisma (fonta) Myriad Bold Italic, a obojeno kobaltno plavom bojom. [...] Zastava Demokršćana se sastoji od znaka Demokršćana na platnu pravokutnog oblika dvostruko dužem od širine. Oblik, način i upotrebu te boju platna će odrediti Veliko vijeće svojom odlukom.” [The white flag with the emblem in its centre: a red Glagolitic letter D above a red horizontal line above the party name in blue. The Statutes do not prescribe the flag field colour but provide for the party central board to determine it. The white was used regularly.]

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Short name: **HRDS**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska romska demokratska stranka**

Party name (English): **Democratic Party of the Croatian Roma**

Seat: **Belišće, Bistrinci**

Established: **2006, Bistrinci**

Members: **650 (2009)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Ivan Jelenić, since 2006**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2006**

Source: **Čl. 5, Statut HRDS, 2006**

Description: “[...] Znak Stranke su slova HRDS ispisana preko međunarodnog romskog znaka (kotač) i šahovnicom u središtu Šahovnica je načinjena od 25 naizmjeničnih crvenih i bijelih kvadrata, 5 redova puta 5 stupaca. Zastava Stranke je plave i zelene boje sa znakom u sredini. Odnos širine i dužine zastave je jedan prema dva. Boje zastave su položene vodoravno: plava i zelena. [...]” [A blue-over-green bicolour with a red wheel ensigned with the chequy shield.]

Short name: **HSS**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska seljačka stranka**

Party name (English): **Croatian Peasant Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1989**

Members: **50,000 (2010)**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 2, 1995–1999: 10, 2000–2003: 16, 2004: 10, 2005–2007: 9, 2008–: 6**

Party leaders: **Nikica Novaković, 1989–1990; Drago Stipac, 1990–1994; Zlatko Tomčić, 1994–2005; Josip Friščić, since 2005**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **1989**

Source: **Čl. 6, Statut HSS, 2000**

Description: “[...] Znak HSS-a ima oblik štita s povijesnim hrvatskim grbom (25 kvadratnih polja sa početnim crvenim), iznad kojeg je zeleno polje s kraticom HSS, a od vrha zelenog polja niz lijevi i desni rub grba padaju trake hrvatske zastave. Zeleno polje, povijesni grb, njegova polja i sam štit obrubljeni su zlatnom bojom. Zastava HSS-a sastoji se od tri boje: crvene, bijele i plave sa znakom HSS u donjoj trećini crvenog, bijelog i gornjoj trećini plavog polja.” [A red, white, and blue tricolour with the emblem on the white stripe overlapping a third of the red and a third of the blue stripes. The emblem is the chequy shield with 25 fields starting with a red one, topped with a green

panel containing the initials HSS, from which the tricolour flags emerge, flanking the shield. All elements are bordered in gold.]

Short name: **HSLŠ**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska socijalno-liberalna stranka**

Party name (English): **Croatian Social-Liberal Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1989**

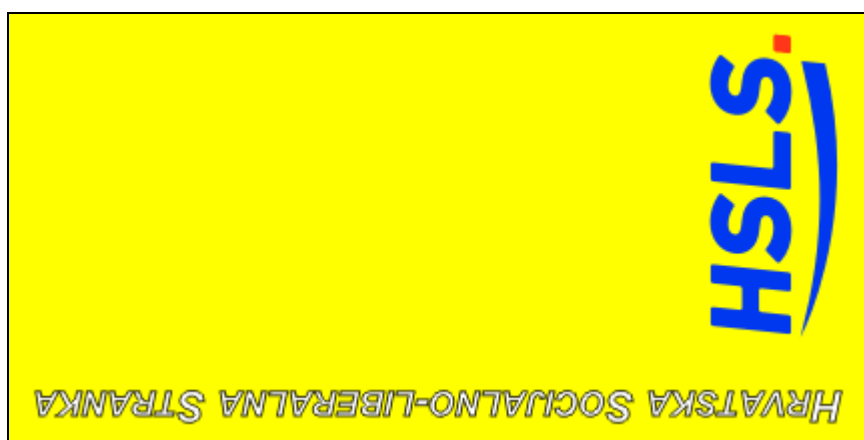
Members: **24,500 (2008)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 16, 1995–1999: 7, 2000–2002: 23, 2002: 15, 2003: 14, 2004–2005: 2, 2006: 3, 2008–2009: 2**

Party leaders: **Slavko Goldstein, 1989–1990; Dražen Budiša, 1990–1996; Vlado Gotovac, 1996–1997; Dražen Budiša, 1997–2004; Ivan Čehok, 2004–2006; Đurđa Adlešić, 2006–2008; Darinko Kosor, since 2008**

Previous names: established in 1989 as **Hrvatski socijalno-liberalni savez**, changed the same year to the current name. United in 2007 with **Liberalna stranka** (see **LS**), retaining the name.



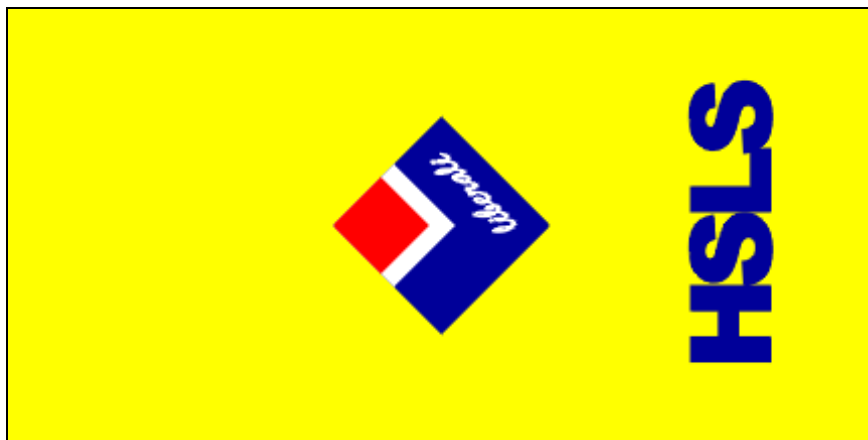
Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2007**

Source: **Čl. 6, Statut HSLŠ, 2009**

Description: “[...] Znak HSLŠ-a sastoji se od četiriju verzalnih slova H, S, L, i S plave boje, crvenog kvadrata koji se nalazi desno od slova S, poravnat s donjim rubom slova L. Slova i crveni kvadrat su blago zakošeni prema naprijed (u desnu stranu). Ispod slova nalazi se žuti element koji se širi slijeva nadesno, iz jedne točke poravnate s lijevim rubom slova H, do prostora omeđenog desnim rubom slova S. Zastava HSLŠ-a pravokutnog je oblika na čijoj se površini nalazi znak HSLŠ-a iz stavka 4. ovog članka.” [A yellow flag with the emblem: blue italic initials HSLŠ followed by a red square, under the letters an expanding arch. Along the left edge the full name of the party in white. The prescribed flag does not have the full name mentioned, nor the background colour prescribed – the arch is in the emblem when used outside flags should be yellow, but on the yellow flag it is depicted in blue. Some variations in the actual flag design are reported.]

Other flags used: **prior to 2007 a different design was used**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 1989

Source: Čl. 6, Statut HSL, 2000

Description: “Znak HSL-a sastoji se od slova ‘HSL’ modre boje ispisanih na podlozi žute boje, tip slova: HELVETICA HEAVY. Pored znaka iz stavka 3. ovog članka, znakovima HSL-a smatraju se i: 1. znak u obliku kvadrata, u kombinaciji crvene, bijele i modre boje, koji se, gledajući odozgo prema dolje, sastoji od: - manjeg kvadrata crvene boje koji čini vrh velikog kvadrata; - uže trake bijele boje koja se nastavlja na liniju crvenog kvadrata, a slijedi oblik vanjskog ruba velikog kvadrata u čijoj se sredini proporcionalno nalazi u obliku raširenog slova ‘V’; - šire trake modre boje u obliku raširenog slova ‘V’ koja slijedi vanjski rub i čini donji dio velikog kvadrata; 2. znak u obliku riječi ‘liberali’ ispisan pisanim slovima modre ili žute boje, tip slova: BRUSH SCRIPT. Zastava HSL-a pravokutnog je oblika žute boje, na čijoj se površini nalaze znaci HSL-a iz stavka 3. i 4. ovog članka.” [A yellow flag with all three party emblems combined: the blue initials HSL at the base, the tricolour rotated square (consisting of a red square at the top, fimbriated white towards the blue inverted chevron shaped filed), and the script type inscription “liberali”.]

Short name: **HSP**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska stranka prava**

Party name (English): **Croatian Party of Rights**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: 1990

Members: 39,082 (2008)

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: 1992–1995: 3, 1995–1999: 3, 2000–2003: 4, 2004–2006: 7, since 2008: 1

Party leaders: **Dobroslav Paraga, 1991–1993; Anto Đapić, 1993–2009; Danijel Srb, since 2009**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 1990

Source: Čl. 7, Statut HSP, 2001

Description: “[...] Grb Hrvatske stranke prava je u obliku štita, podijeljenog bijelom dijagonalnom gredom u dva polja. Na gredi je crnim slovima ispisano HSP. Gornje lijevo polje grba HSP-a sadrži dio hrvatskog grba, počevši s



bijelim kvadratom. Donje desno polje grba HSP-a je tamno plave boje. Iznad štita je trostruki hrvatski pleter. Hrvatska stranka prava ima i druge znakove Stranke, a oblike i veličine regulira zasebnom odlukom o biljezima i ostalom znakovlju. Tajništvo Hrvatske stranke prava, uz suglasnost predsjednika HSP-a, utvrđuje i oblik ostalog znakovlja Stranke, kao što su zastavice, članske iskaznice i drugo.” [A red, white, and blue tricolour with the emblem in its centre: a shield divided by white rising diagonal inscribed in black with the initials HSP, the fields (top) chequy and (bottom) blue, topped with a white triple wattle ornament. The Statutes do not describe the flag but provide only for the party secretariat to determine it.]

Other flags used: **Variations in the artistic and colour representation of the emblem are recorded.**

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Short name: **HSP-1861**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska stranka prava – 1861**

Party name (English): **Croatian Party of Rights – 1861**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1995**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 1**

Party leaders: **Dobroslav Paraga, since 1995**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **1995**

Source: photos from <http://www.hsp1861.hr>, v. 8 March 2011

Description: (Crveno-bijelo-plava trobojnica sa znakom u sredini: koso razdijeljen štit bijelom kosom gredom u kojoj je crnim ispisano HSP 1861, gore šahirano bijelo-crveno, dolje plavo, štit nadvišen crno iscrtanim bijelim tropletom.) [A red, white, and blue tricolour with the emblem in its centre: a shield divided by white rising diagonal inscribed black initials HSP 1816, the fields (top) chequy and (bottom) blue, topped with a triple wattle ornament in white.]

Other flags used: **Variations in the artistic and colour representation of the emblem are recorded.**

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Short name: **HSP dr. Ante Starčević**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska stranka prava dr. Ante Starčević**

Party name (English): **Croatian Party of Rights Dr. Ante Starčević**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2009**

Members: **12,500 (2010)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Ruža Tomašić, since 2009**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2009

Source: Čl. 6, Statut HSP dr. Ante Starčević, 2009

Description: “[...] Grb HSP dr. Ante Starčević je u obliku štita, podijeljenog bijelom dijagonalnom gredom u dva polja. Na gredi je crnim slovima ispisano HSP dr. Ante Starčević. Gornje lijevo polje grba HSP-a dr. Ante Starčević sadrži dio hrvatskog grba, počevši s bijelim kvadratom. Donje desno polje grba HSP-a dr. Ante Starčević se sastoji od tamno plavih i bijelih kvadrata kao onih što se nalaze na Hrvatskom grbu, počevši sa prvim plavim poljem. Iznad štita je trostruki hrvatski pleter. HSP dr. Ante Starčević ima i druge znakove Stranke, a oblike i veličine regulira zasebnom odlukom o obilježjima i ostalom znakovlju. Tajništvo HSP dr. Ante Starčević, uz suglasnost Predsjedništva Stranke, utvrđuje i oblik ostalog znakovlja Stranke, kao što su zastavice, članske iskaznice i drugo. [...]” [A red, white, and blue tricolour with the emblem in its centre: a shield divided by white rising diagonal inscribed with the initials HSP in black, the fields (top) chequy red and white and (bottom) chequy blue and white, topped with a white triple wattle ornament. The Statutes do not describe the flag but provide only for the party secretariat to determine it.]

Other flags used: **Variations in the artistic representation of the emblem are recorded.**

Short name: **HSPD**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska stranka pravne države**

Party name (English): **Croatian Party of the State of Rights**

Seat: 2007

Established: **Virovitica**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Siniša Prpić, since 2007**



Ratio: 2:3~

Year: 2007

Source: Čl. 5, Statut HSPD, 2007

Description: “Znak stranke je božica pravde Justicija sa povojem preko očiju koja drži vagu u lijevoj ruci, a u desnoj oštri mač. Zastava je svijetlo plave boje sa otisnutim znakom stranke u sredini.” [A light blue flag with blue

drawing of Justitia, the goddess of justice, blindfolded, holding a raised sword in her right and scales in her left hand. Along the top are initials in dark blue, along the bottom the full name and the city of the party seat.]  
Other flags used: **Variations in the artistic representation of the emblem are recorded.**

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Short name: **HSRN**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska stranka radnika i nezaposlenih**

Party name (English): **Croatian Party of Workers and Unemployed**

Seat: **Čakovec**

Established: **2003, Pula, Marčana**

Members: **590 (2007)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Zoran Radolović, 2003–2005, Anto Anušić, 2005–2008, Branimir Bunjac, since 2008**

Previous names: established in 2003 as **Demokratska akcija naroda Hrvatske**, renamed in 2005 to **Hrvatska stranka nezaposlenih** and in 2008 to the current name.

Notes: **the new flag of HSRN is not recorded.**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2005**

Source: **Čl. 5 i 6, Statut HSN, 2005**

Description: “Čl. 5. Stranka ima znak koji se sastoji od kruga žute boje u kojem je velikim slovima ispisano HSN na način opisan u prethodnom članku, s time što je slovo H crvene, S bijele, a N plave boje. Boje slova nisu strogo odijeljene, već se prelijevaju iz jednog slova u drugo. Iz crvene boje izlazi do polovine slova S crveno bijela ‘šahovnica’. S lijeve i desne strane žutog kruga vidljiva je horizontalno valovita azurno plavo-travnato zelena traka. Azurno plava boja je u gornjoj, a travnato zelena u donjoj polovini trake. Čl. 6. Zastava stranke je vertikalni pravokutnik u omjeru 1:2, a u sredini se nalazi znak Stranke iz članka 5. Osnovu zastave, pozadi znaka, čine dvije boje: gornja polovina je azurno plava, a donja polovina je travnato zelena.” [A blue-over-green wavy bicolor with a yellow disk containing the initials HSN gradually changing from red to white to blue, the white part containing chequy fields.]

Other flags used: **see DAN.**

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Short name: **HSU**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska stranka umirovljenika**

Party name (English): **Croatian Pensioners Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1996**

Members: **?**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **2004-2007: 3, 2008: 1**

Party leaders: **Rudolf Mažuran, 1996–1999; Vladimir Jordan, 1999–2008; Silvano Hrelja, since 2008**



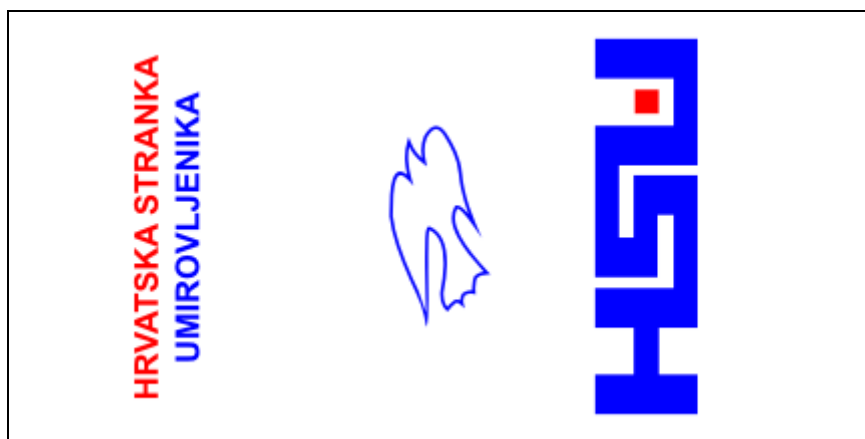
Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 1996

Source: Čl. 2, Statut HSU, 2001

Description: “[...] Znak HSU se sastoji od plave boje slova HSU na bijeloj podlozi, crvenog kvadrata u slovu U i lika golubice u letu iznad slova HSU.” [A white flag with the emblem: blue initials HSU with a red square within the letter U and a blue-outlined dove flying above the initials. Beneath is a red line over the party’s full name in blue. The 2001 Statutes do not prescribe the flag.]

Other flags used: **the 2010 Statutes adds description of a new flag design**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2010

Source: Čl. 3, Statut HSU, 2010

Description: “[...] Znak HSU se sastoji od slova plave boje HSU na bijeloj podlozi, crvenog kvadrata u slovu U i lika golubice u letu iznad slova HSU. Zastava je standardnih dimenzija bijele boje, s tekstom crvene boje “HRVATSKA STRANKA” i ispod toga tekstom plave boje “UMIROVLJENIKA”, u sredini zastave dominira golubica plave boje, a u donjem dijelu zastave znak HSU.” [A white flag with the full name “HRVATSKA STRANKA/UMIROVLJENIKA”, in two rows at the top, the first line in red, the second in blue; in the centre a blue-outlined flying dove and at the base the party’s initials in blue with a red square in the U.]

Short name: **Zeleni**

Party name (original): **Hrvatska stranka zelenih – Eko savez**

Party name (English): **Croatian Green Party – Ecological Alliance**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1996**

Members: **160 (2006)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Zlatko Sviben**

Previous names: established in 1996 as **Hrvatska stranka zelenih**, renamed in 2001 to **Hrvatski ekološki savez** and in 2002 to the current name



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 1996

Source: Čl. 5, Statut HSZ-ES, 2002

Description: “[...] Znak Hrvatske stranke zelenih-Eko saveza se sastoji od stiliziranog grba Republike Hrvatske u obliku okrenutog trokuta tako da se grb sastoji od 9 polja, od kojih je prvo crvene boje. Na grbu je postavljen stiliziran hrast lužnjak. S lijeva između krošnje i grba je napisano Hrvatska stranka zelenih-Eko savez, a s desna između krošnje i grba je napisana 1996., godina osnivanja stranke. Zastava Hrvatske stranke zelenih-Eko saveza je oblika pravokutnika, zelene boje, a u sredini zastave nalazi se romb bijele boje u čijoj sredini je znak stranke.” [The flag is green with a white vertical rhombus containing the emblem: a pedunculate oak tree (*Quercus robur*) rising from an inverted chequy triangle of nine fields. Between the tree and the triangle, to the left the full name and to the right the year 1996.]

Other flags used: **as the party changed names, the name in the emblem was amended.** (Čl. 5, Statut HES, 2001).

Short name: **HB**

Party name (original): **Hrvatski blok – Pokret za modernu Hrvatsku**

Party name (English): **Croatian Bloc – Movement for Modern Croatia**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2002**

Members: ?

Status: **renamed Jedino Hrvatska – Pokret za Hrvatsku in 2007**

Seats in the Parliament: **2002: 6, 2003: 5**

Party leaders: **Ivić Pašalić, 2002–2007**

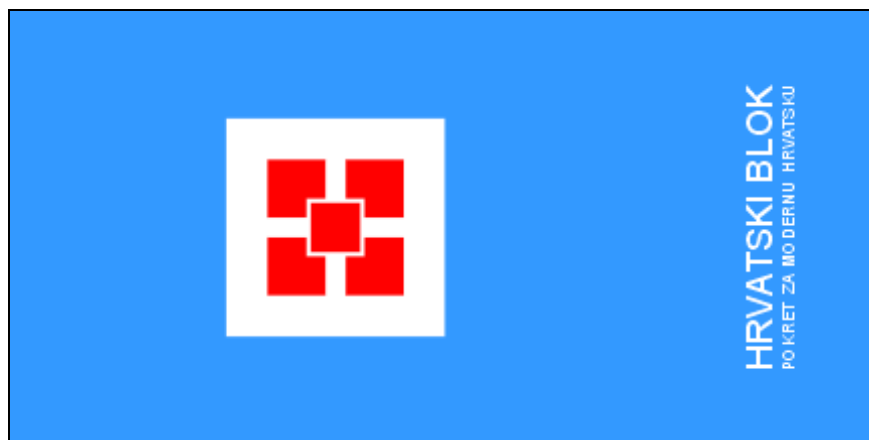
Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2002

Source: Čl. 4, Statut HB, 2002

Description: “[...] Znak Stranke predstavlja stilizirano slovo H sastavljeno od crvenih četvorina omeđenih bijelim poljima. Zastava Stranke sastoji se od crvenog, bijelog i plavog polja, gledajući odozgor prema dolje. [...]” [The Statutes prescribe the flag described simply as “red, white, and blue fields, top to bottom”. The flag used was light blue with the emblem in a white square panel and the white full name of the party in two lines at the base. The emblem is stylized letter H composed of five white-edged red squares.]

Other flags used: **see JEDINO HRVATSKA**



Short name: **HP-HPP**

Party name (original): **Hrvatski pravaši – Hrvatski pravaški pokret**

Party name (English): **Croatian Party-of-Right Movement Followers – Croatian Movement for Rights**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2005**

Members: **?**

Status: **renamed A-HSP in 2007**

Party leaders: **see A-HSP**

Previous names: **see A-HSP**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2005**

Source: drawing at <http://www.hrvatskipravasi.hr>, visited in

2006; **Čl. 7, Statut HP-HPP, 2005**

Description: “Oblik znaka stranke je okrugli vijenac, ispunjen zlatnim pletenom, s dijelom hrvatskog grba u obliku štita u unutrašnjosti u koji je upisan plavim slovima skraćeni naziv stranke HP. Središnji odbor utvrđuje oblik ostalog znakovlja stranke kao što su zastavice, bedževi, članske iskaznice i dr.” [The flag is a red-white-blue tricolour, with the chequy shield, starting with white field, covered partially with a white diagonal stripe inscribed with HP-HPP in blue, in a golden chief a triple wattle ornament. Along the hoist is a stripe with 3×6 chequy field separated from the tricolour by golden line. In the top hoist are the initials HP-HPP in gold. The Statutes do not describe the flag but provide only for the party central board to determine it.]

Other flags used: **HP used since 2003 the same flag with initials “HP” in the shield and the hoist.**

Short name: **HDSSB**

Party name (original): **Hrvatski demokratski savez Slavonije i Baranje**

Party name (English): **Croatian Democratic Alliance of Slavonia and Baranja**

Seat: **Osijek**

Established: **2006**

Members: **120 (2006)**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **since 2006: 3**

Party leaders: **Krešimir Bubalo, 2006; Vladimir Šišljagić, since 2007**

Previous names: in 2008 united with **S-BHS** (est. 1992) retaining the name



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2006**

Source: **Čl. 3, Statut HDSSB, 2006**

Description: “Stranka ima svoj znak i zastavu. Znak Stranke čini skraćena naziva Stranke sljedećeg izgleda: Ispod zlatom uokvirenih crvenih slova HDSSB upisano je manjim crnim slovima Hrvatski Demokratski Savez Slavonije i Baranje. Preko slova HD u skraćenici pruža se u heraldički desnu stranu koso položeni zlatni klas žita. Ispod imena Stranke u središtu se nalaze tri o vrh oslonjena kvadrata koji se preklapaju i to s lijeva u desno plavi kvadrat s tri zvijezde kao simbol zastave Europske unije, romb sa četiri vidljiva crvena kvadrata u bijelom polju kao simbol grba Republike Hrvatske te bijelom valovitom linijom podijeljeni kvadrat u čijem je gornjem crvenom polju zlatna kuna u pokretu u heraldički desnu stranu, a u donjem plavom polju u heraldički desnu stranu koso položeni zlatni klas žita. S lijeve i desne strane skupine rombova pruža se zlatni hrvatski pleter. Slova su upisana helvetica pismom. Grafički izvornik znaka utvrđuje Glavni odbor svojim aktom. Zastava Stranke je crvene boje u omjeru 2:1 s znakom Stranke u središtu zastave. [...]” [A red flag with the emblem: the initials HDSSB in red outlined in gold, over the letters HD enbowed to dexter a golden wheat ear. Below the initials are the party’s full name in black and below it three overlapping rotated squares with rounded corners, the dexter square blue with an arch of golden five-pointed stars, the central square a rotated chequy (3×3) field, and the sinister square divided by a wavy white line into a top red field with a white running marten and a bottom blue field with a golden embowed wheat ear. At each side of the squares is a line of golden-striped wattle ornaments.]

Other flags used: **the party also uses concurrently another flag, formally flag of a civic association affiliated to the party: Hrvatski demokratski sabor Slavonije i Baranje (Croatian Democratic assembly of Slavonia and Baranja)**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2006**

Source: **photos from <http://hdssb.hr>, visited 8 March 2011**

Description: [A red flag with the coat of arms of Slavonia bordered golden: azure on a fess gules fimbriated argent a marten sable and in the chief a mullet or.]

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Short name: **HIP**

Party name (original): **Hrvatski istinski preporod**

Party name (English): **Croatian True Revival**

Seat: **Zagreb**

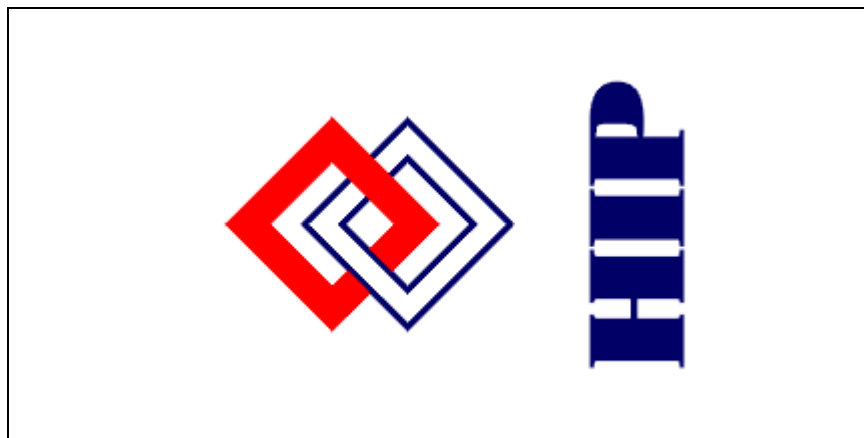
Established: **2001**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **2003: 3**

Party leaders: **Miroslav Tudman, 2002–2005; Barbara Kovačić Domančić, acting since 2005**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2001**

Source: **Čl. 5, Statut HIP, 2001**

Description: “[...] Znak je HIP-a u obliku dvaju pravilnih deltoida od kojih je gornji crvene boje, a donji sačinjavaju dva plava okvira s bijelom ispunom jednakih debljina. [...] Zastava je HIP-a pravokutnog oblika sa znakom HIP-a u sredini, ispod kojeg piše HIP. Podloge na zastavi su svijetlih boja. Širina znaka u odnosu na kraticu HIP je 4:3. [...]” [A white flag with the emblem above the initials HIP in blue. The emblem is composed of two interlaced “deltoids”, the top one red and the bottom one white fimbriated in blue. The Statutes do not prescribe the flag field colour other than “of light shades”, but white is apparently used nevertheless.]

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Short name: **HL-SR** (used in this paper for convenience, not used by the party)

Party name (original): **Hrvatski laburisti – Stranka rada**

Party name (English): **Croatian Labourists – Labour Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2010**

Members: ?

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **since 2010: 1**

Party leaders: **Dragutin Lesar, since 2010**





Ratio: **3:4~**

Year: **2010**

Source: **Čl. 3, Statut HL-SR, 2010**

Description: “[...] Znak je tipografski u dvije boje: plavoj i narančastoj. Riječi ‘Hrvatski laburisti’ u dva reda nalaze se iznad četverokuta i u plavoj su boji. Riječi ‘Stranka rada’ smještene su u dva reda unutar četverokuta narančaste boje. Slova ‘A’ u riječi ‘RADA’ sadrže obrise strelice koja pokazuje smjer prema gore.” [A white flags with the emblem being the party name in four rows, the two top blue and the two bottom white in an orange rectangular panel. The letters A in the word RADA include the shapes of upward-pointing arrows. The Statutes do not prescribe the flag at all.]

Short name: **HN**

Party name (original): **Hrvatski narodnjaci**

Party name (English): **Croatian Populists**

Seat: **Sesvete**

Established: **2004**

Members: **1,009 (2004)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Mislav Žagar, since 2004**



Ratio: **1:2**

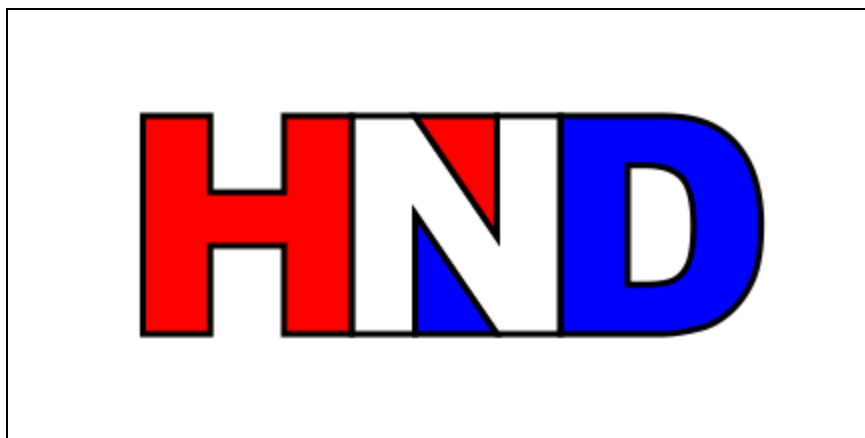
Year: **2004**

Source: **Čl. 7, Statut HN, 2004**

Description: “[...] HN ima znak koji se sastoji od slova HN. Zastava HN je plave boje u omjeru 2:1 sa znakom stranke iz stavka 2. ovoga članka. [...]” [A light blue flag with the emblem in its centre: two rectangular panels, a dark blue one oriented horizontally and a red one in front of it and to the left end rotated 120°. Over the central part of them are “hn” in white italic letters, along the right edge of the blue panel the full name of the party is inscribed in white in two rows and at the top of the red panel is part of a chequy field.]

Short name: **HND**

Party name (original): **Hrvatski nezavisni demokrati**  
Party name (English): **Croatian Independant Democrats**  
Seat: **1994**      Established: **Zagreb**      Members: **12,680 (2006)**  
Status: **non-parliamentary**  
Seats in the Parliament: **1994–1995: 9, 2000–2003: 1**  
Party leaders: **Stjepan Mesić, 1994–1997, Josip Manolić, 1997–2006, Ivica Gaži, since 2006**



Ratio: **1:2~**      Year: **1994**      Source:  
Description: (Bijela zastava sa spojenim crno obrubljenim inicijalima HND, prvo slovo crveno, drugo bijelo I treće plavo, trokuti koje tvori slovo N popunjena gore crvenim dolje plavim.) [The flag is white with the conjoined initials HND in red, white, and blue each respectively, outlined in black, the insets of the letter N are filled with red at the top and blue at the bottom.]

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Short name: **HSD**  
Party name (original): **Hrvatski socijaldemokrati**  
Party name (English): **Croatian Social Democrats**  
Seat: **Zagreb**      Established: **2004**      Members: **211 (2008)**  
Status: **parliamentary**  
Seats in the Parliament: **since 2010: 1**  
Party leaders: **Zdravko Tomac, 2004–2006; Jerko Zovak, 2006–2010; Ivica Pančić, since 2010**



Ratio: **1:2~**      Year: **2004**      Source: **Čl. 6, Statut HSD, 2004**  
Description: “[...] Znak (logotip) je crveni okomiti pravokutnik u čijem donjem dijelu bijelim slovima piše HSD. Zastava je vodoravni pravokutnik crvene boje u čijem srednjem dijelu bijelim slovima piše HSD, a lijevo iznad -

Hrvatski socijaldemokrati.” [A red flag with the white initials HSD in its centre and in the canton the full name of the party in white.]

---

Short name: **HZ** (used in this paper for convenience, not used by the party)

Party name (original): **Hrvatsko zvono**

Party name (English): **Croatian Bell**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2004**

Members: **1,000 (2004)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Nenad Ivanković, 2004–2006; Zdravko Tomac, 2006–2010; Ivan Valek, since 2010**

Previous names: established as **Samostalnost i napredak**, renamed in 2006 to the current name



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2006**

Source: **Čl. 4, Statut HZ, 2006**

Description: “Znak Hrvatskoga zvona sastoji se od četiri crvena kvadrata od kojih su tri donja manja po dimenzijama i s lijeve i s desne strane velikoga, glavnoga kvadrata. Preko glavnoga kvadrata nalazi se zlatno zvono, koje na površini ima ugravirane riječi OBITELJ, DOMOVINA, NAPREDAK i SAMOSTALNOST, a na donjemu dijelu još i riječi HRVATSKO ZVONO. Uz vijenac zvona proteže se ugraviran hrvatski pleter. [...] Zastava Hrvatskoga zvona pravokutnog je oblika, odnosa dimenzija 2 : 1, plave boje. U sredini je znak Hrvatskoga zvona, ispod kojega piše HRVATSKO ZVONO. Obrubljena je naizmjeničnim plavim i crvenim kockicama. [...]” [A light blue flag with the emblem in its centre: a golden bell in front of four red squares, one larger above three smaller ones in a line. The bell is engraved with the party motto in four lines “Family, Homeland, Progress, Independence” and along the bottom is the party’s full name. Along the top perimeter of the bell is a triple wattle ornament.]

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Short name: **IDS-DDI-IDZ**

Party name (original): **Istarski demokratski sabor-Dieta Democratica Istriana-Istrski demokratski zbor**

Party name (English): **Istrian Democratic Assembly**

Seat: **Pula**

Established: **1990**

Members: **4,000 (2007)**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 2, 1995–1999: 3, 2000–2007: 4, since 2008: 3**

Party leaders: **Ivan Pauletta, 1990–1991; Ivan Jakovčić, since 1991**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 1990

Source: Čl. 4, Statut HZ, 1997

Description: “IDS ima znak koji se sastoji od bijele kružnice na zelenoj podlozi; u kružnicu su pravilno raspoređene u kuteve zamišljenog ucrtanog jednakostraničnog trokuta i bijelom bojom profilno ucrtani likovi triju koza, okrenute ka lijevoj strani znaka. Na obodu kružnice ispisan je puni trojezični naziv IDS-a.” [A green flag with the emblem: three white goats, 1 and 2, within a circle edged in white. The Statutes do not prescribe the flag and the party rarely uses one.]

Short name: **ISDF-FSDI**

Party name (original): **Istarski socijaldemokratski forum-Foro Social Democratico Istriano**

Party name (English): **Istrian Social Democratic Forum**

Seat: **Pula**

Established: 1996

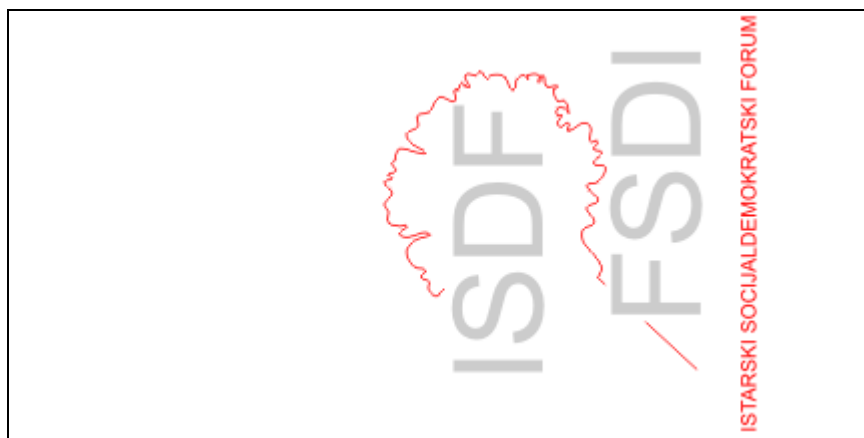
Members: **810 (2008)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1996–1999: 1**

Party leaders: **Luciano Delbianco, 1996–2008; Livio Bolković, since 2008**

Previous names: established as **Istarski demokratski forum-Foro Democratico Istriano**, changed in 2005 to the current name



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2005

Source:

Description: [A white flag with a carnation flower in red outline, set diagonally, the initials ISDF and FSDI in two lines across it in gray, and below the full name of the party in red.]

Short name: **JEDINO HRVATSKA**

Party name (original): **Jedino Hrvatska – Pokret za Hrvatsku**

Party name (English): **Only Croatia – Movement for Croatia**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2007**

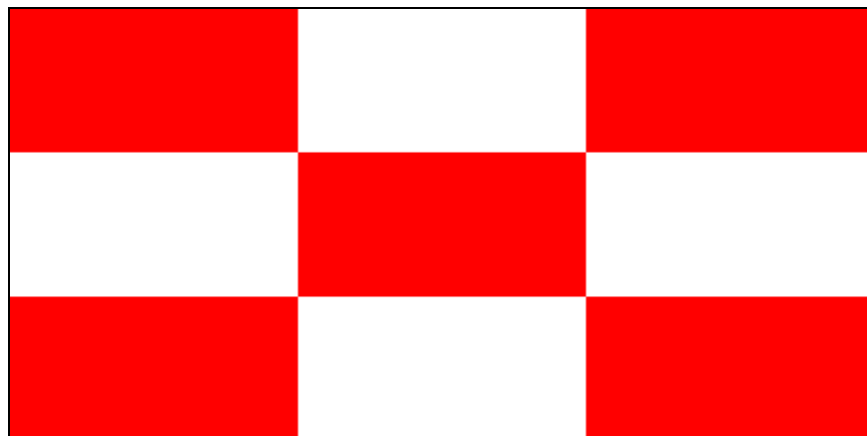
Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **as HB 2002: 6, HB 2003: 5**

Party leaders: **Ivić Pašalić, 2002–2007; Milovan Šibl, since 2007**

Previous names: established as **Hrvatski blok – Pokret za modernu Hrvatsku**, changed in 2007 to the current name



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2007**

Source: **Čl. 4, Statut JH-PzH, 2007**

Description: “[...] Znak Stranke sastavljen je od devet crvenih i bijelih polja.

Zastava Stranke istovjetna je znaku u omjeru dva puta jedan metar. [...]” [A 3×3 red and white chequy flag.]

Other flags used: **see HB**

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Short name: **LS**

Party name (original): **Liberalna stranka**

Party name (English): **Liberal Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1998**

Members: ?

Status: **united with HSLS in 2007**

Seats in the Parliament: **1998–2000:4, 2000–2001: 2, 2002–2003: 4, 2004: 2, 2005: 1**

Party leaders: **Zlatko Kramarić 2000–2002; Ivo Banac 2002–2003; Zlatko Benašić, 2004–2005; Zlatko Kramarić 2005–2007**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **1998**

Source: **Čl. 7, Statut LS, 2000**

Description: "LS ima znak. Znak LS-a sastoji se od kvadrata plave boje unutar kojega su ispisana slova LS žute boje. Iza plavog kvadrata pomaknut je žuti kvadrat iste veličine dijagonalno lijevo gore za 1/10 dijagonale." [A blue flag with an L-shaped stripe running throughout, with a rounded corner. The Statutes do not prescribe the flag at all, only the emblem, which is blue square with the initials LS, and behind it a yellow square offset top and left.]

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Short name: **LIBRA**

Party name (original): **LIBRA – Stranka liberalnih demokrata**

Party name (English): **LIBRA – Party of Liberal Democrats**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2002**

Members: ?

Status: **united in HNS in 2005**

Seats in the Parliament: **2002: 9, 2003: 10, 2004: 3**

Party leaders: **Jozo Radoš, 2002–2005**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2002**

Source: **Čl. 6, Statut LIBRE, 2002**

Description: "LIBRA ima znak sljedećeg opisa: na kvadratnoj podlozi zaobljenih vrhova, žute boje tipa 100Y (0,0,100,0), nalazi se uglato glagoljsko slovo 'L' plave boje tipa 100C, 75M (100,75,0,0) te – ispod njega, u istoj širini – naziv 'LIBRA' iste boje i vrste slova 'square 721 bold extended bt'; podloga i slova obrubljeni su tankom bijelom linijom. LIBRA ima zastavu sljedećeg opisa: na pravokutnoj podlozi plave boje žuti je znak LIBRE, a ispod njega je, u bijeloj boji, naziv 'STRANKA LIBERALNIH DEMOKRATA' vrste slova 'square 721 bold condensed bt'." [A dark blue flag with the emblem in the base: a yellow square with rounded corners with the blue Glagolitic letter L above the name LIBRA. Along the base the full name of the party in white is prescribed, but not always included in the actual flags.]

---

Short name: **Liga za Brod**

Party name (original): **Liga za Brod – stranka za poticanje svekolikog razvoja Grada Slavenskog Broda**

Party name (English): **Brod League – Party for Animation of Universal Development of the City of Slavonski Brod**

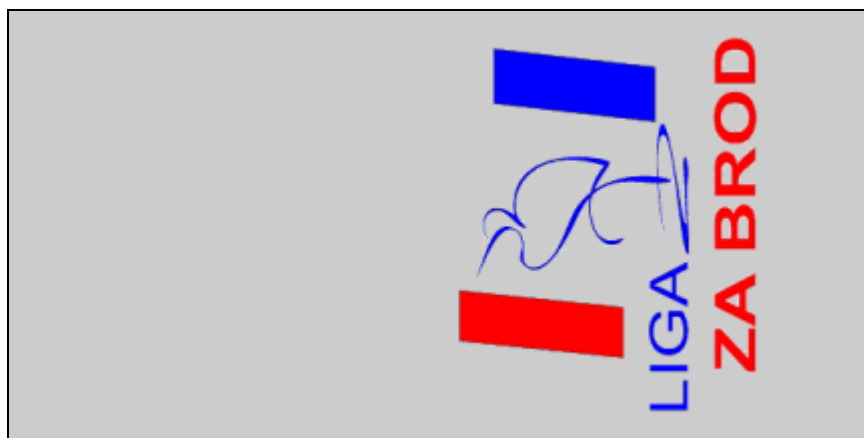
Seat: **2009**

Established: **Slavonski Brod**

Members: **400 (2009)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Dragutin Križanović, since 2009**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2009

Source: Čl. 6, Statut LB, 2009

Description: “Liga za Brod ima svoj simbol i zastavu. U sredini simbola udruge nalazi se stilizirani lik ptice čaplje plave boje, kojoj se sa lijeve strane nalazi crveni pravokutnik, a se desne strane plavi pravokutnik. Ispod grafičkog simbola nalazi se natpis ‘Liga za Brod’, u plavoj i crvenoj boji. Zastava Lige za Brod se sastoji od simbola uduge na srebrno sivoj podlozi.” [A gray-silver flag with the emblem in the base: a stylized heron in blue between a red and a blue slanted quadrangle and below, in two rows, LIGA in blue and ZA BROD in red.]

Short name: **LISTA-RI**

Party name (original): **Lista za Rijeku – Lista per Fiume**

Party name (English): **Charter for Rijeka**

Seat: **Rijeka**

Established: 2006

Members: 200 (2007)

Status: **non-parliamentary**

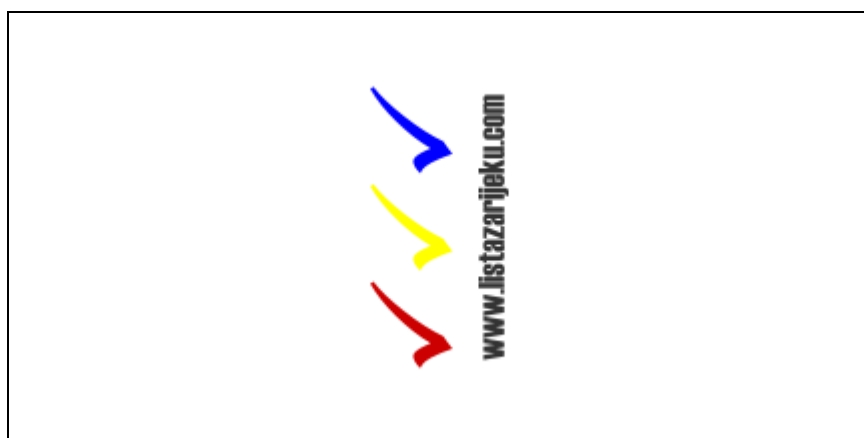
Party leaders: **Denis Pešut, since 2006**

Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2006

Source: Čl. 7, Statut LISTA-RI, 2006

Description: “[...] Znak stranke čine tri ‘kvačice’ bordo-žuto-plave boje ispod kojih sivim slovima piše [www.listazarijeku.com](http://www.listazarijeku.com). Prikaz znaka dan je u prilogu (Dodatak 1.) ovog statuta te čini njegov sastavni dio. [...]” [A white flag with the emblem: three ticks (check marks) in Bordeaux red, yellow, and blue respectively, and below them the inscription [www.listazarijeku.com](http://www.listazarijeku.com) in gray.]



Other flags used: **the party uses the historical flags of Rijeka (in several slight variations)**



Ratio: 1:2~

Description: (Trobojnica bordo-žuto-plava (u drugim izvorima: karmin crvena-zlatno žuta-kobaltno plava), s povijesnim grbom Rijeke preko svega: dvoglavi crni orao, obje glave geldaju u lijevo, stoji na stijeni, lijevom nogom pridržava vrč iz kojeg istječe voda. Nadvišeno austrijskom carskom krunom, a u dnu zlatna vrpca s natpisom INDEFICIENTER.) [The tricolour of Bordeaux red over yellow over blue (in other sources: carmine red-golden yellow-cobalt blue), with the historical coat of arms of Rijeka overall: a two-headed eagle with both heads oriented towards the sinister, standing on a rock, with its sinister talon holding a vase from which water is pouring. Above is the Austrian imperial crown, below a golden ribbon inscribed INDEFICIENTER.]

Short name: **LJEVICA**

Party name (original): **Ljevica Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Left of Croatia**

Seat: **2007**

Established: **Rijeka**

Members: **579 (2009)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 2, 1 as DA and 1 as SDU**

Party leaders: **Ivan Ninić, since 2007**

Previous names: established in 2007 as union of 4 parties: **Treći hrvatski blok** (renamed in 2003 to **Bebić Vladimir – Treći hrvatski blok**), Rijeka, est. in 2001; **Jadranski sabor**, Zadar, est. in 2003; **Maslina – Dalmatinska autonomaška stranka**, Split, est. 2003 (successor to **Dalmatinska akcija**, est. 1990) and **Socijaldemokratska unija**, Zagreb, est. 1992 (renamed from **Udruženje za jugoslavensku demokratsku inicijativu**, est. 1989)



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: **2004**

Source: **Čl. 4, Statut LJEVICE, 2007**

Description: “Znak Ljevica Hrvatske je crveni kvadrat sa pet bijelih dlanova koji predstavljaju 5 hrvatskih povijesnih regija i međusobno tvore crvenu petokraku. Zastava Ljevica je crvene boje 1:2 na čijoj lijevoj strani gore



se nalazi pet bijelih dlanova (znak) koji međusobno tvore crvenu petokraku ispod čega piše velikim tiskanim slovima LJEVICA HRVATSKE.” [A red flag with five white hands forming a red five-pointed star in the canton and at the base the full name of the party in white.]

---

Short name: **MS**

Party name (original): **Međimurska stranka**

Party name (English): **Medimurje Party**

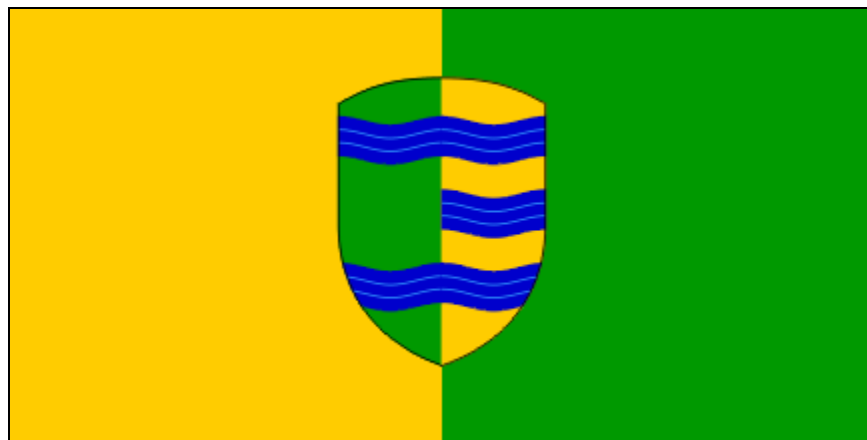
Seat: **Čakovec**

Established: **2001**

Members: **665 (2009)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Damir Grašić, since 2001**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **2001**

Source: **Čl. 5, Statut MS, 2001**

Description: “[...] Znak je stilizirano polje štita okomito po sredini podijeljeno na dva dijela. Lijevo zeleno polje simbolizira briježni dio Međimurja sa zelenim vinogradima, a desno polje je zlatno žuto i simbolizira međimursku ravnicu sa zrelim pšeničnim poljima. Vodoravno preko znaka idu tri plave stilizirane rijeke – gornja i donja preko cijelog polja, a srednja samo preko zlatnožutog polja – što simbolizira Muru, Dravu i Trnavu. Zastava je četverokutnog oblika u proporciji 2:1, podijeljena u dva polja: lijeva polovica je zlatnožuta boja sa znaka, a desna polovica je zelena boja sa znaka. U sredini je smješten znak stranke, koji sa zastavom čini asimetriju boja. Znak je u zastavi obrubljen crnom crtom. [...]” [A yellow and green vertical bicolour with the emblem in its centre: a shield per fess green and yellow with three wavy bars in blue, the central one only in sinister.]

---

Short name: **MDS**

Party name (original): **Međimurski demokratski savez**

Party name (English): **Democratic Union of Međimurje**

Seat: **Čakovec**

Established: **2005**

Members: **200 (2005)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **2005–2007: 1**

Party leaders: **Željko Pavlic, since 2005**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: ?

Source:

Description: (Bijela zastava s inicijalima MDS, prvo slovo crveno, drugo plavo, treće zeleno, i žuta petokraka zvijezda u gornjem desnom uglu slova D.) [A white flag with initials MDS in red, blue, and green respectively, and a yellow five-pointed star on the top right of the letter D. The statutes do not describe the flag.]

Other flags used: **The statutes still describe previously used emblem.**



Ratio: 1:2

Year: 2005

Source: Čl. 6, Statut MDS, 2005

Description: “[...] MDS ima svoj znak koji se sastoji od tri mala pisana slova ‘mds’ tipa monotype corsina od kojih je slovo ‘m’ zelene boje, slovo ‘d’ plave boje, i slovo ‘s’ žute boje, a nalaze se na crvenoj podlozi. O grbu i zastavi posebnu odluku donosi vijeće MDS-a.” [A white flag with lower-case italic initials “mds”, in green, blue, and yellow respectively.]

Short name: NSS

Party name (original): **Nova srpska stranka – Нова српска странка**

Party name (English): **New Serbian Party**

Seat: **Vukovar**

Established: 2009

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Svetislav Ladarević, since 2009**

Ratio: 1:2

Year: 2009

Source: Čl. 6, Statut NSS, 2009

Description: “NSS ima znak koji se sastoji od devet kvadrata raspoređenih u tri reda, u kojima je kratica imena stranke na latiničnom pismu, ćirilichnom pismu i na engleskom jeziku. U prvom redu prvi kvadrat je crvene boje, u drugom redu je drugi kvadrat plave boje, a svi ostali kvadrati su bijele boje. NSS ima zastavu plave boje u omjeru 2:1, sa znakom stranke iz prethodnog stavka. Pored znaka na zastavi se ispisuju nazivi: ‘Nova srpska stranka’ u prvom redu na latiničnom pismu, u drugom redu na ćirilichnom pismu ‘Нова Српска Странка’ i u trećem redu ‘New

Serbian Party’.” [A light blue flag with the emblem in the canton, consisting of nine (3×3) squares, the first red and the central blue, the others white. Each square includes an initial, in the first row NSS, the second HCC, and the third NSP. To the right of the emblem appear the full name of the party in Croatian, Serbian, and English, in three rows, and in red, blue, and white, respectively.]



Short name: **PPS**

Party name (original): **Partija podunavskih Srba**

Party name (English): **Party of Danube Serbs**

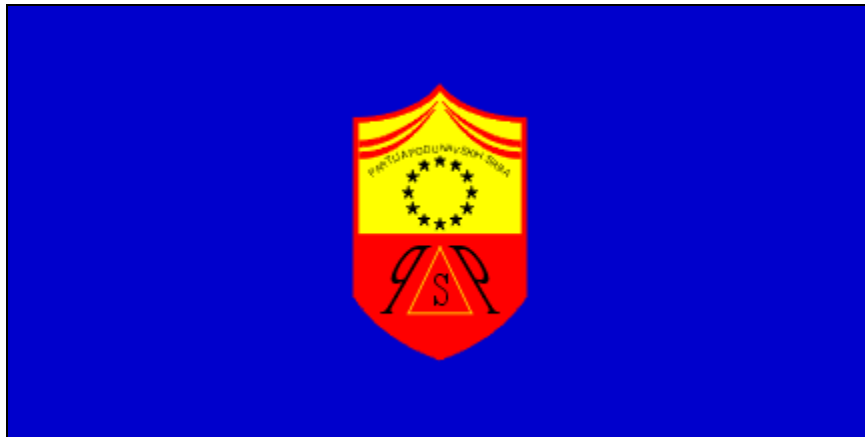
Seat: **Vukovar**

Established: **1998**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Radivoj Leskovac, since 1998**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **1998**

Source: **Čl. 3, Statut PPS, 1998**

Description: “Žig PPS-a četverokutnog je oblika sa zaobljenim gornjim dijelom. Unutar zaobljenog dijela žute boje, raspoređeno je u kružnom poretku 12 (dvanaest) zvjezdica plave boje i ispisan tekst Partija podunavskih Srba. Slova su plave boje. U donjem dijelu znaka koji je crvene boje nalaze se dva slova ‘P’ u međusobno suprotnom položaju ispisana plavom bojom. Zastava stranke plave je boje sa znakom na sredini. Zastava je pravokutnog oblika dimenzije 2 x 1 metar.” [A blue flag with the emblem in its centre: a shield divided per fess yellow and red, in the top twelve blue 5-pointed stars in a circle and the name of the party over them in an arch, and in the bottom part a blue letter S in a yellow-edged triangle with two blue adjoined letters P.]

Short name: **PSS**

Party name (original): **Posavsko-slavonska stranka**

Party name (English): **Party of Posavina and Slavonia**

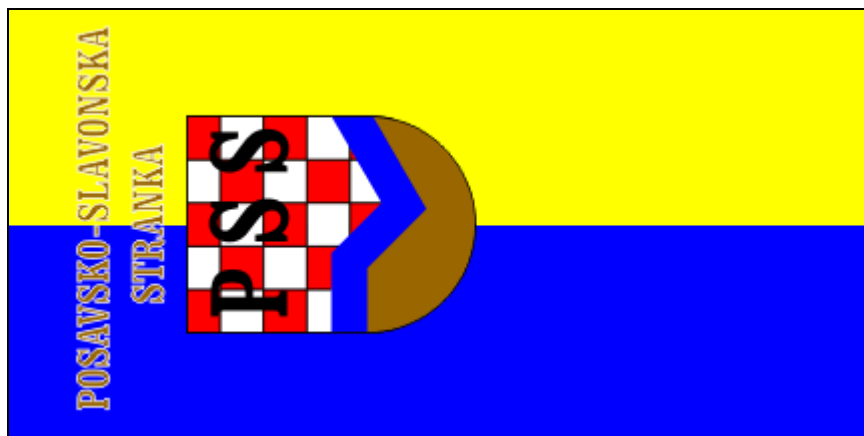
Seat: **2005**

Established: **Županja**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Mijo Perkunić, since 2005**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2005**

Source: **Čl. 2, Statut PSS, 2005**

Description: “[...] Znak je stilizirano polje štita horizontalno podijeljeno na tri dijela. Donje smeđe polje simbolizira slavonsku ravnicu i rodna polja, srednje plavo polje simbolizira rijeku Savu, a gornje polje je šahovnica. Na gornjem polju ispisan je skraćeni naziv stranke. [...]” [A blue and yellow vertical bicolour with the name of the party in gold in two rows above the emblem: in a shield shape on a chequy background the letters PSS above a blue fractured bar above brown base. The statutes do not describe the flag.]

Short name: **PGS**

Party name (original): **Primorsko goranski savez**

Party name (English): **Primorje – Gorski Kotar Alliance**

Seat: **Rijeka**

Established: **1990**

Members: ?

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1995–1999: 1, 2000–2003: 2, 2004–2006: 1**

Party leaders: **Darijo Vasilčić**

Previous names: est. as **Riječki demokratski savez - Alleanza democratica fiumana**, changed in 1996 to the current name



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **1996**

Source: **Čl. 5, Statut PGS, 2006**

Description: "Stranka ima svoj pečat, znak i zastavu. Znak Stranke sastoji se od tri velika slova PGS i grafičkog znaka koji simboliziraju dva vala. Gornji val simbolizira brijeg zelene boje, a donji val simbolizira morski val plave boje. Valovi se sastoje od pet traka koje simboliziraju ljudske ruke koje se isprepliću stvarajući povjerenje i dobru vjeru među ljudima. Oblik pečata i zastave te način njihove upotrebe, čuvanja i drugo, uređuje se posebnom odlukom Stranke." [A white flag with, above the party's full name, the emblem: the initials PGS and two "waves", the top one green and the bottom one blue, each composed of five "fingers". The flag is not described in the statutes.]

Other flags used: **In 2010 the party adopted a new visual identity that may eventually be reflected in the flag.**

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Short name: **S-BHS**

Party name (original): **Slavonsko-baranjska hrvatska stranka**

Party name (English): **Slavonia and Baranja Croatian Party**

Seat: **Osijek**

Established: **1992**

Members: ?

Status: **united with HDSSB in 2008**

Seats in the Parliament: **1995–2003: 1**

Party leaders: **Ivica Bogadi, 1993–1995; Damir Jurić, 1998–2008**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **1995**

Source: photos from Zdenko Maurus: "Slavonsko baranjska hrvatska stranka, Arhiva o djelovanju SBHS od 12.12.1992.", <http://www.freewebs.com/sbhs/>, visited 8 March 2011

Description: (Bijelo-plava dvobojnica sa znakom u bijeloj prugi: bijeli zakrenuti kvadrat obrubljen tamno plavim, u njegovom vrhu crveni, u dnu svijetlo plavi zakrenuti kvadrat i tamno plava kuna u trku između njih. Desno od znaka inicijali S BHS svijetlo plavim obrubljeni tamno plavim, a crvenim zakrenutim kvadratom između slova S i B.) [A bicolor of white over dark blue with the emblem on the white stripe: a white square outlined in dark blue containing rotated squares at the top and bottom of it in red and light blue and a dark blue marten in between. To the sinister are the initials S BHS in light blue outlined in dark blue, with a red rotated square between the letters S and B.]

---

Short name: **SDSS**

Party name (original): **Samostalna demokratska srpska stranka – Самостална демократска српска странка**

Party name (English): **Independent Democratic Serbian Party**

Seat: **1995**

Established: **Vukovar**

Members: **9,500 (2009)**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1995–1999: 1, 2004–2006: 3, since 2008: 3**

Party leaders: **Vojislav Stanimirović, since 1995**

Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2001**

Source: **Čl. 5, Statut SDSS, 2001**

Description: "[...] Stranka ima zastavu. Zastava je pravokutnog oblika, plave boje. Odnos širine i dužine zastave je 1:2. U gornjem lijevom kutu je znak Stranke, a na zadnjoj strani paralelno sa zadnjom bočnom stranom ispisan je

puni naziv Stranke latiničnim slovima crvenom bojom i ćiriličnim slovima tamno plavom bojom. Stranka ima znak. Znak Stranke je stilizirano osjenčeno slovo 'S' na kome je gornji dio crvene, a donji dio plave boje. Ispod stiliziranog slova 'S' ispisan je skraćeni naziv 'SDSS' crvenom bojom latiničnim slovima i 'СДСС' ćiriličnim slovima plavom bojom, tako da latinični tekst svojom donjom stranom prikriva gornju stranju ćiriličnih slova. Podloga znaka je bijele boje, uokvirena pravokutnikom crvene i plave boje. [...]” [A light blue flag with the emblem in the canton and the full name in red Latin and blue Cyrillic script along the fly edge. The emblem consists of a rectangle edged in red and blue and containing a stylized letter S, red at the top and blue at the bottom and the party initials in red Latin script partly covering at the top left the initials in blue Cyrillic script.]



Short name: **SDP**

Party name (original): **Socijaldemokratska partija Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Social Democratic Party of Croatia**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1989**

Members: **25,000 (2004)**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 6, 1995–1999: 8, 2000–2001: 46, 2002–2003: 44, 2004: 29, 2005: 30, 2006–2007: 31, since 2008: 56**

Party leaders: **Ivica Račan, 1989–2007; Željka Antunović, acting, 2007; Zoran Milanović, since 2007**

Previous names: est. in 1937 as **Komunistička partija Hrvatske**, 1937, renamed in 1952 to **Savez komunista Hrvatske**, reregistered in 1989 as **Savez komunista Hrvatske-Stranka demokratskih promjena**, changed to the current name in 1993. In 1994 united with **Socijaldemokratska stranka Hrvatske (SDH)**, est. in 1989.



Ratio: **1:2**  
Statut SDP, 2008)

Year: **2004**

Source: **Statutarna odluka o znaku SDP, 11.12.2004. (Čl. 7,**

Description: “Čl. 2. Socijaldemokratska partija Hrvatske ima znak koji se sastoji od crvenog kvadrata, u kojem je kratica imena stranke upisana bijelim slovima u kosom potezu uvis. Čl. 3. Socijaldemokratska partija Hrvatske ima zastavu bijele boje u omjeru 2:1 sa znakom stranke iz čl. 2. ove odluke.” [A white flag with the party’s name in black the canton and two identical emblems in the hoist half, touching at their corners: a red square with the upward-sloping initials SDP in white. The statutory decision describes the flag simply as white with the emblem. The 2008 Statutes use the same wording, but say “red flag” instead of “white flag” — it may be a typo. Nevertheless, only the white flag with two emblems is used.]

Other flags used: **prior to the 2004 decision, another flag was used**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **1993**

Source: **Čl. 7, Statut SDP, 2000**

Description: “SDP ima znak koji se sastoji od crvenog, plavog i zelenog kvadrata spojenih po lijevoj dijagonali i slova SDP (tip pisma: verzal times bold). Uz znak iz prethodnog stavka SDP može, u marketinške svrhe, upotrebljavati i simbol crvene ruže, te sintagmu ‘Hrvatski socijaldemokrati’. Zastava stranke je bijele boje u omjeru 2:1 sa znakom stranke iz stavka 2. ovoga članka.”

Short name: **SDH**

Party name (original): **Socijaldemokratska stranka Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Social Democratic Party of Croatia**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1989**

Members: **?**

Status: **united with SDP in 1994**

Party leaders: **Antun Vujić, 1989–1994**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **1989**

Source:

Description: (Crveno-bijelo-plava trobojnica sa znakom u sredini bijele pruge. Znak se sastoji od inicijala SDH kosim slovima, obojena crveno gore i plavo dolje odvojeno tankom bijelom linijom, te u nastavku crvena ruža.) [A red, white, and blue tricolour with the emblem in the centre of the white stripe. The emblem consists of the initials SDH in italics, coloured red at the top and blue at the bottom and divided by a narrow white horizontal line, and next to them a red rose.]

Other flags used: **see SDP**

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Short name: **SRP**

Party name (original): **Socijalistička radnička partija Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Socialist Labour Party of Croatia**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1998**

Members: **3,500 (2004)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Stipe Šuvar, 1997–2004; Ivan Plješa, since 2004**



Ratio: **2:3~**

Year: **2001**

Source: **Čl. 9, Statut SRP, [undated], in “Simboli partije”,**

<http://www.srp.hr/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Simboli-partije.pdf>, visited 8 March 2011

Description: (Crvena zastava sa zlatno obrubljenom isprepletenom petokrakom zvijezdom iznad inicijala SRP.) [A red flag with a golden fimbriated interlaced star above the initials SRP.]

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Short name: **SSH**

Party name (original): **Socijalistička stranka Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Socialist Party of Croatia**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1992**

Members: ?

Status: **renamed ASH in 1994**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 4, see ASH**

Party leaders: **see ASH**

Previous names: **see ASH**





Ratio: **1:2** Year: **1992 (possibly 1990)** Source: personal observation (flag hoisted at party seat in Zagreb in 1990s)  
 Description: (Crveno-bijelo-plava trobojnica, bijela pruga dvostruke širine sadrži znak u obliku četverolisne djeteline, pojedini listovi su obojani zeleno, plavo, žuto i crveno.) [The flag is a red-white-blue tricolour, with the white field double the width of the other stripes and containing the emblem: a four-leaf clover with petals of green, blue, yellow, and red. The exact design details of the emblem were not available at the time of writing.]

Short name: **SNS**

Party name (original): **Srpska narodna stranka – Српска народна странка**

Party name (English): **Serbian Popular Party**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **1991**

Members: **15,000 (1999)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **1992–1995: 2, 1995–1999: 1, 2000–2003: 1**

Party leaders: **Milan Đukić, 1991–2007; Milan Rodić, since 2007**



Ratio: **1:2~** Year: **1991** Source: **Čl. 4, Statut SNS, 2005**

Description: “SNS ima amblem. Amblem je izduženoga oblika na čijem vrhu se nalazi dio zastave Republike Hrvatske u izvijenom četverokutnom obliku na kojoj su, vodoravno položene, odozgo prema dolje, sljedeće boje: crvena, bijela i plava. U sredini na bijelom polju zastave je latiničnim pismom ispisano ‘SNS’, a ispod plavog polja ispisano je ‘SRPSKA NARODNA STRANKA’. Na dnu amblema se nalaze, u uvijenom četverokutnom obliku, vodoravno položene, odozgo prema dolje, sljedeće boje: crvena, plava i bijela. U sredini na plavom polju ćirilničnim pismom ispisano je ‘CHC’, a iznad crvenog polja ispisano je ‘СРПСКА НАРОДНА СТРАНКА’. U sredini amblema nalazi se portret Nikole Tesle.” [A red, blue, and white tricolour with the emblem in its centre: a white disk inscribed semicircularly with the full party name in Latin letters along the top and in Cyrillic letters along the bottom

and a portrait of Nikola Tesla in its centre. Along the top the Croatian tricolour arch is inscribed SNS, and along the bottom the Serbian tricolour is inscribed CHC. The statutes do not describe the flag and it is used very rarely.]

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Short name: **SDA Hrvatske**

Party name (original): **Stranka demokratske akcije Hrvatske**

Party name (English): **Party of Democratic Action of Croatia**

Seat: **Zagreb**

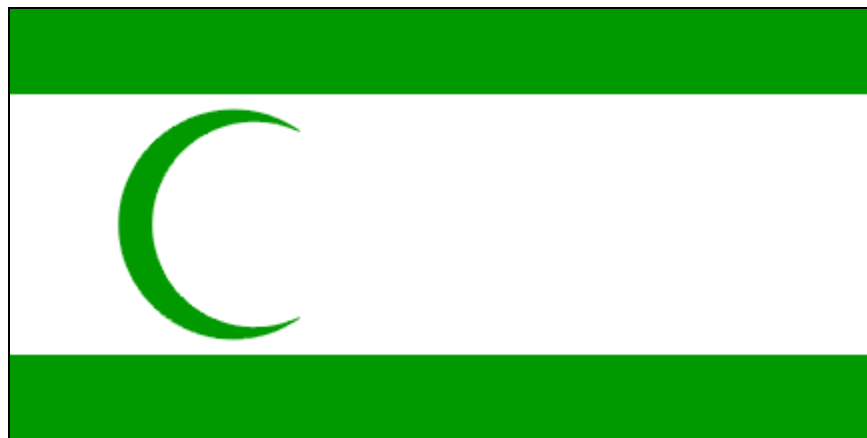
Established: **1990**

Members: **4,850 (2006)**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **since 2004: 1**

Party leaders: **Šemso Tanković, since 1990**



Ratio: **1:2**

Year: **1990**

Source: **Čl. 6, Statut SDA, 1994**

Description: “Stranka ima svoj pečat, znak (amblem) i zastavu. [...] Znak Stranke su stilizirana slova SDA ispisana preko obrisa zemljine kugle i polumjeseca. Zastava Stranke je zelene i bijele boje sa zelenim polumjesecom. Odnos širine i dužine zastave je jedan prema dva. Boje zastave su položene vodoravno: zelena, bijela i ponovo zelena, a odnos širina boja je jedan prema tri prema jedan. Polumjesec se nalazi na bijelom polju i njegov gornji krak počinje na trećini dužine zastave polazeći od njezina koplja. Bliže odredbe o izgledu i uporabi pečata, amblema i zastave donosi Glavni odbor Stranke.” [A green-white-green tribar, with the white stripe three times wider than the green stripes, and with a narrow green crescent offset to the hoist pointing towards the fly.]

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Short name: **SHB**

Party name (original): **Stranka hrvatskih branitelja**

Party name (English): **Party of Croatian Defenders**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: **2001**

Members: **?**

Status: **parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Ivica Apatić, since 2001**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2001

Source: Čl. 3, Statut SHB, 2001

Description: “Znak SHB-a je u obliku srca koje je pravilno podijeljeno kockastim crvenim i bijelim poljima. Na sredini srca nalazi se stisnuta desna šaka s dijelom ruke. Iznad srca nalazi se skraćeni oblik naziva stranke – SHB. [...] Zastava je pravokutna, oblika (trobojnica crven-bijeli-plavi). U središnjem dijelu bijelog polja zastave je znak SHB-a iznad kojeg je polukružno ispisano ime stranke, a ispod slogan: ‘Domovini vjerni’.” [A red, white, and blue tricolour with the emblem in its centre: a dexter fist with a part of the arm in front of a chequy heart topped with the inscription SHB. Above in an arch is the name and below in an arch is the motto “Faithful to Homeland”.]

Short name: SU

Party name (original): **Stranka umirovljenika**

Party name (English): **Party of Pensioners**

Seat: **Zagreb**

Established: 2000

Members: 15,000 (2010)

Status: **parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Lazar Grujić, since 2000**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2010

Source: Čl. 1, Izmjena i dopuna Statuta, 2010

Description: “[...] Znak SU-a je: Skraćeni naziv Stranke: SU ispisan velikim slovima crvene boje na bijeloj podlozi. Ispod slova SU nalaze se tri plave linije. Ispod tri linije velikim štampanim slovima crvene boje piše STRANKA UMIROVLJENIKA. Ispod teksta STRANKA UMIROVLJENIKA se nalazi Pleter u plavoj boji. Sve skupa je omeđeno okvirom plave boje. Zastava je standardnih dimenzija biojele boje, sa tekstom s velikim slovima SU crvene boje ispod čega su tri plave linije, a ispod njih velikim štampanim slovima crvene boje tekst STRANKA UMIROVLJENIKA, a ispod teksta STRANKA UMIROVLJENIKA nalazi se pleter u plavoj boji. Sve skupa je omeđeno okvirom plave boje.” [A white flag bordered in blue, in its centre the initials SU in red above three narrow blue lines above the full name of the party in red above a blue wattle ornament.]

Other flags used: **prior to 2010 two flag were used**



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2009**

Source: **Čl. 2, Statut SU, 2009**

Description: “[...] Znak SU se sastoji od crvene boje slova SU na bijeloj podlozi. Zastava je standardnih dimenzija bijele boje, sa tekstem plave boje ‘STRANKA UMIROVLJENIKA’, a u donjem dijelu zastave znak SU.” [A white flag with the initials SU in red and the full name of the party in blue above.]



Ratio: **1:2~**

Year: **2000**

Source:

Description: (Crveno-bijelo-plava troboojnica, u bijeloj prugi dvostruke širine crveni inicijali SU i puni naziv plavim u luku iznad njih.) [A red, white, and blue tricolour. On the white stripe, which is double width of the red and blue stripes, appear the initials SU in red and the full name of the party in blue forming an arch above.]

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Short name: **ZDS**

Party name (original): **Zagorska demokratska stranka**

Party name (English): **Democratic Party of Zagorje**

Seat: **Zabok**

Established: **1997, Oroslavje**

Members: **5,500 (2002)**

Status: **parliamentary**

Seats in the Parliament: **2003–2007: 1** (a non party MP elected on the joint ZDS-HSP list); **since 2008: 1** (a HSLS MP elected on the joint HSLS-HSS-ZS-ZDS list)

Party leaders: **Stanko Belina, since 1997**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 1997

Source: Čl. 5, Statut ZDS, 2001

Description: “[...] Znak ZDS je sastavljen od međusobno povezanih velikih slova Z, D i S koja su obojena u nijansama tamno zelene boje, a unutar donje vodoravne linije velikog slova Z smještena su dva jednako velika kvadratića crvene boje međusobno spojena vrškovima. [...] Zastava ZDS-a je crvene, bijele i plave boje koje su međusobno odijeljene valovitim linijama koje simboliziraju pitome zagorske brežuljke. U sredini zastave, pretežno na bijelom polju, smješten je grb u obliku znaka ZDS-a.” [A red, white, and blue wavy tricolour with the emblem in its centre: the initials ZDS each in a different shade of green with two red squares with touching corners at the bottom right of the letter Z.]

Short name: **ZS**

Party name (original): **Zagorska stranka**

Party name (English): **Zagorje Party**

Seat: **Zabok**

Established: **2004, Krapina**

Members: **2,000 (2004)**

Status: **non-parliamentary**

Party leaders: **Miljenko Jerneiĉ, since 2004**



Ratio: 1:2~

Year: 2004

Source: Čl. 5, Statut ZS, [undated],

<http://www.zagorskastranka.hr>, visited 8.3.2011

Description: “[...] Znak ZS-a je sastavljen od međusobno povezanih velikih slova Z i S koja su tamno zelene boje. [...] Zastava ZS-a je zelene i plave boje koje simboliziraju zagorske brežuljke te rijeke i jezera. U sredini zastave smješten je znak ‘ZS’ žute boje.” [A blue-over-green flag with the emblem consisting of the initials ZS in gold.]

## About the Author



Željko Heimer, born 23 April 1971, Zagreb, Croatia. Graduated in industrial electronics from the University of Zagreb in 1997; since 1999 an officer in the Croatian Armed Forces; currently in the rank of a Major. Master's of science degree in electronics, 2005. Since 2007 pursuing doctoral post-graduate studies at the University of Zagreb in the field of military sociology concentrating to the issue of the military visual identity and flags from the Homeland War in Croatia in 1990s.

Since 1995 active on the Flags of the World (FOTW) mailing list; since 1996 FOTW web editor, 1996–1997

FOTW vice-director. Published several articles in various European vexillological journals. Participated in the ICVs in York, 2001, Stockholm, 2003, Buenos Aires, 2005, Berlin, 2007, Yokohama, 2009. In 2005 prepared an exhibition on Norwegian flags that was opened in Zagreb and a number of other places in both Croatia and Norway. Maintains the web-site the Flags and Arms of the Modern Era where he publishes results of his vexillological research mainly on the historic and current flags in Croatia, Slovenia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In 2006 he initiated the establishment of the Croatian Heraldic and Vexillologic Association (HGZD) and since then has served as its president and the editor of the HGZD journal “Grb i zastava”. In 2010 President Josipović awarded him with the national order “Red hrvatskog pletera” for his pursuit and promotion of the heraldic and vexillological heritage of Croatia.

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