

Electoral Systems

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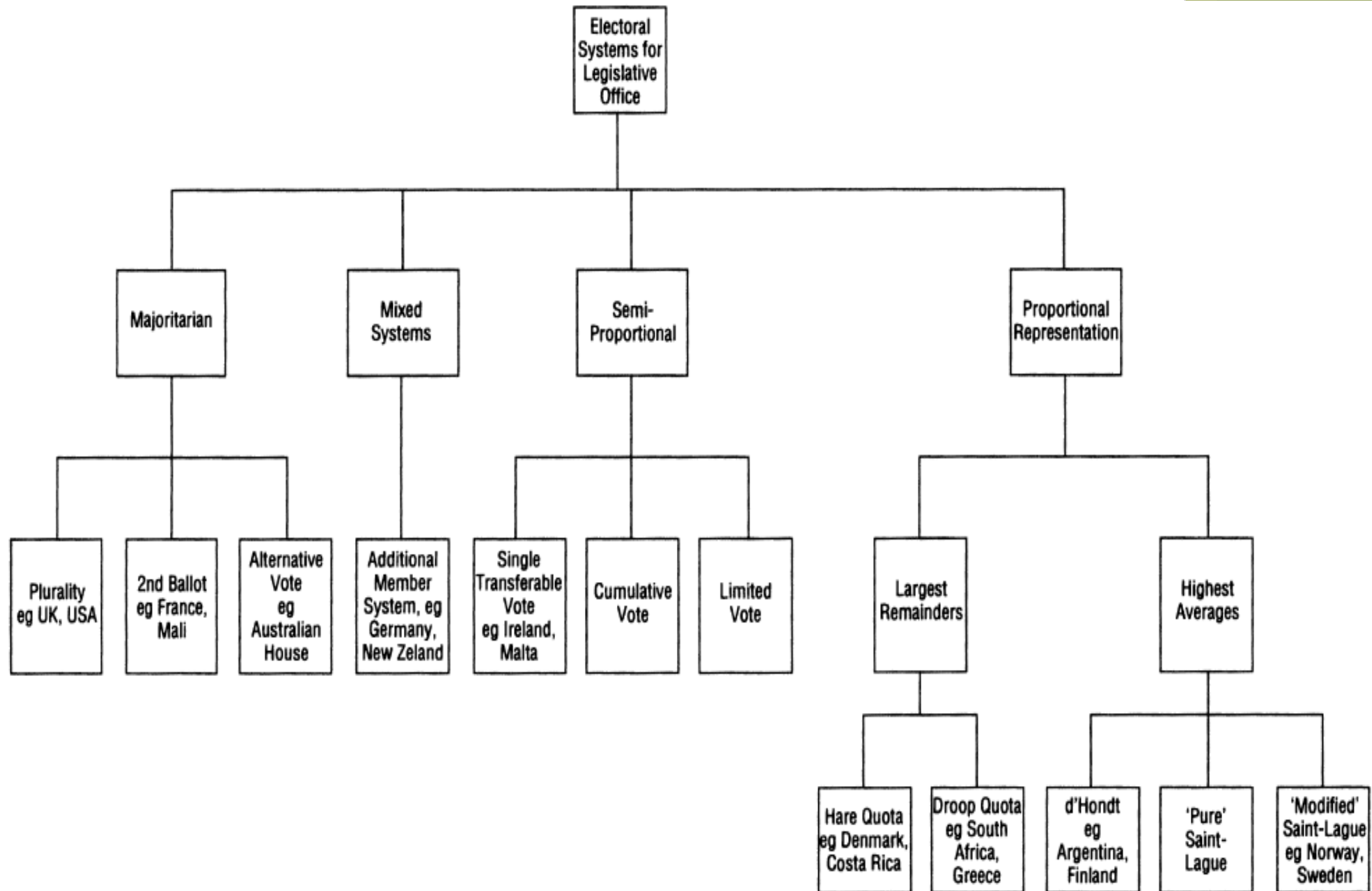
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Why elections are important in modern democracies:

- ▶ The operational /minimalist definition of democracy: the democratic method is that institutional arrangement for arriving at political decisions in which individuals acquire the power to decide by means of a competitive struggle for the people's vote (Schumpeter 2003:269)
- ▶ the central device which has made representative democracy a feasible institution for large polities.
- ▶ Sources of internal/external legitimacy
- ▶ The periodical realignments of political forces in certain polity

Electoral systems

- ▶ who are enfranchised to vote and at what level?
- ▶ How electoral districts are drawn?
- ▶ How votes are calculated and translated into seats in the parliament or into public positions?

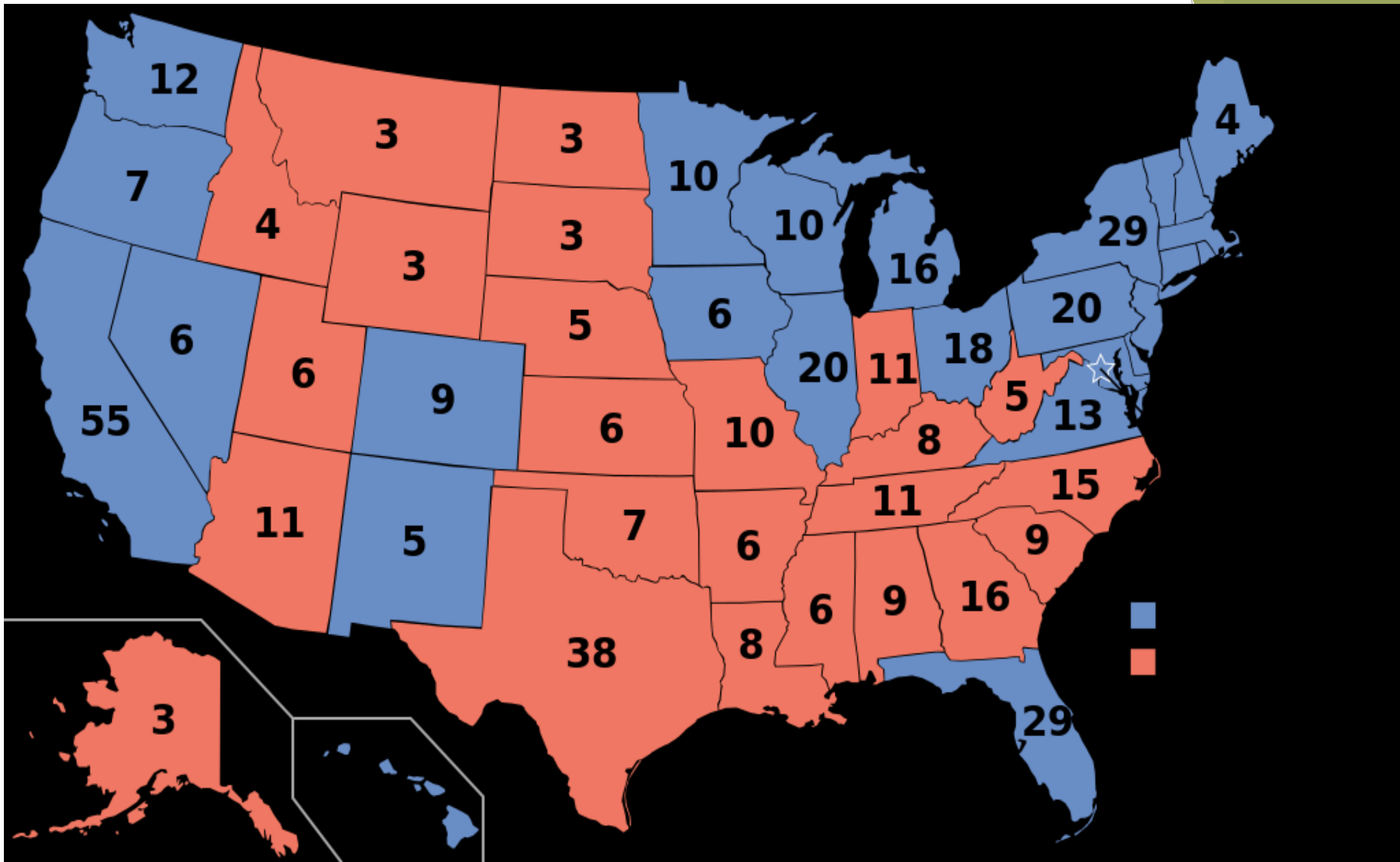


- ▶ Leading candidate elected on the first and only ballot, or first-past-the-post; winner take all
- ▶ Nine countries: including Bangladesh, Canada, India, UK and USA.
- ▶ Political implications: create strong but responsive party government; assumed higher political efficacy; favorable to large, national parties; related with two-party system; minorities are less represented; low turn-out rate; local interests are well represented and more casework

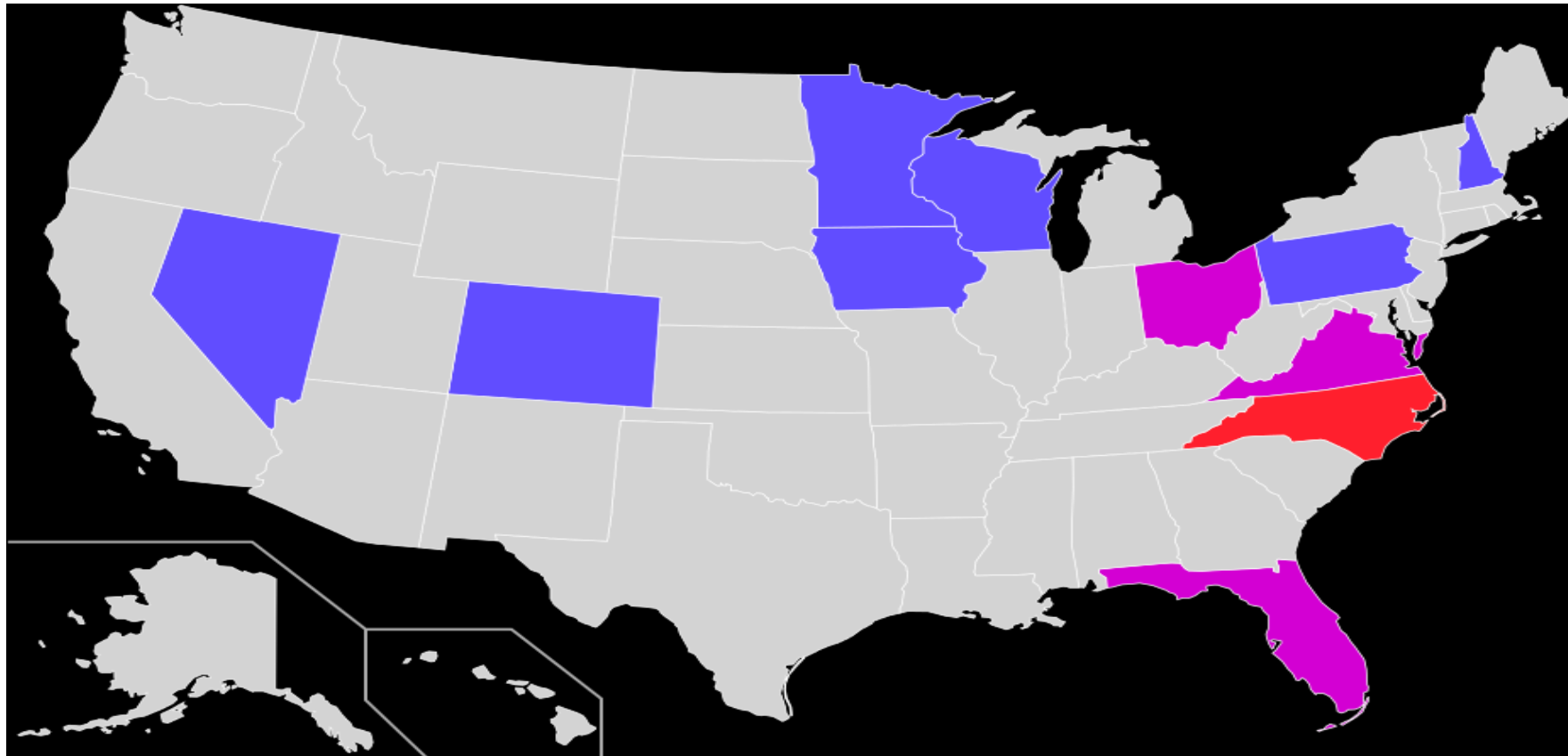
Plurality (相对多数) : ‘first past the post’

Electoral System in US

- ▶ The structure of ballots, districting, registration, etc for all elections are regulated by thousands of local governments, and thus vary substantially
- ▶ Primary and caucus
- ▶ Electoral college (选举人团)



Swing state:



- ▶ 两轮投票 (2nd ballot, or run-off) ; Alternative Vote (AV)
- ▶ Run-off: If no candidate wins a majority on the first ballot, the leading candidates face a second, run-off election.
- ▶ AV: Voters rank candidates. If no candidate wins a majority of first preferences, the bottom candidate is eliminated and his or her votes are redistributed according to second preferences. Repeat until a candidate has a majority.
- ▶ France(run-off), Russia (run-off), Australia (AV)
- ▶ Political implications: encourage political negotiation and coalition-building ; multi-party system; more space for small parties;

Absolute majority (绝对多数)

- ▶ Votes are cast for a party's list of candidates (closed or open) ; threshold; the 'proportionality' of a PR system is not fixed but varies with its **district magnitude**
- ▶ Brazil, the Czech Republic, Israel (one national constituency) , Netherlands, South Africa and Sweden.
- ▶ Political implications: MPs represent party rather than locality; multi-party system; cross-party coalition; favorable to small parties and minorities; lower efficiency in governance; higher turn-out

Proportional Representation (PR) with party list: 比例代表制

Party	Yellows	Whites	Reds	Greens	Blues	Pinks	Total
Votes	47,000	16,000	15,800	12,000	6,100	3,100	100,000
Seats							10
Hare Quota							10,000
Votes/Quota	4.70	1.60	1.58	1.20	0.61	0.31	
Automatic seats	4	1	1	1	0	0	7
Remainder	0.70	0.60	0.58	0.20	0.61	0.31	
Highest Remainder Seats	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Total Seats	5	2	1	1	1	0	10

Largest remainder method for allocating seats in party-list PR: Hare Quota (Hare-Niemeyer method)

<i>denominator</i>	/1	/2	/3	/4	/5	/6	/7	/8	Seats won (*)
Party A	100,000*	50,000*	33,333*	25,000*	20,000	16,666	14,286	12,500	4
Party B	80,000*	40,000*	26,666*	20,000	16,000	13,333	11,428	10,000	3
Party C	30,000*	15,000	10,000	7,500	6,000	5,000	4,286	3,750	1
Party D	20,000	10,000	6,666	5,000	4,000	3,333	2,857	2,500	0

Highest averages method for allocating seats in party-list PR:
D'Hondt method

- ▶ Some candidates are elected for electoral districts and others through PR; It combines the geographical representation of the plurality method with the party representation of PR; Varieties of institutional arrangements;
- ▶ Germany, Italy, Mexico, Venezuela, Russia(lower house of Duma)

Mixed System (混合制度)

Electoral system in Germany: AMS

- ▶ Each voter may cast two votes, the first for a candidate in an SMD and a second for one of the sixteen closed party lists in the Bundesland (state) he or she resides in
- ▶ The total number of seats for each party is calculated according to proportional mandates
- ▶ 5% threshold for parties (or three direct mandates)
- ▶ Besides direct mandates, the remaining proportional mandates are distributed according to party list
- ▶ If a party in a Bundesland (state) receives more direct mandates than proportional mandates, all the successful candidates in constituencies gain additional seats. These seats are called excess mandates.

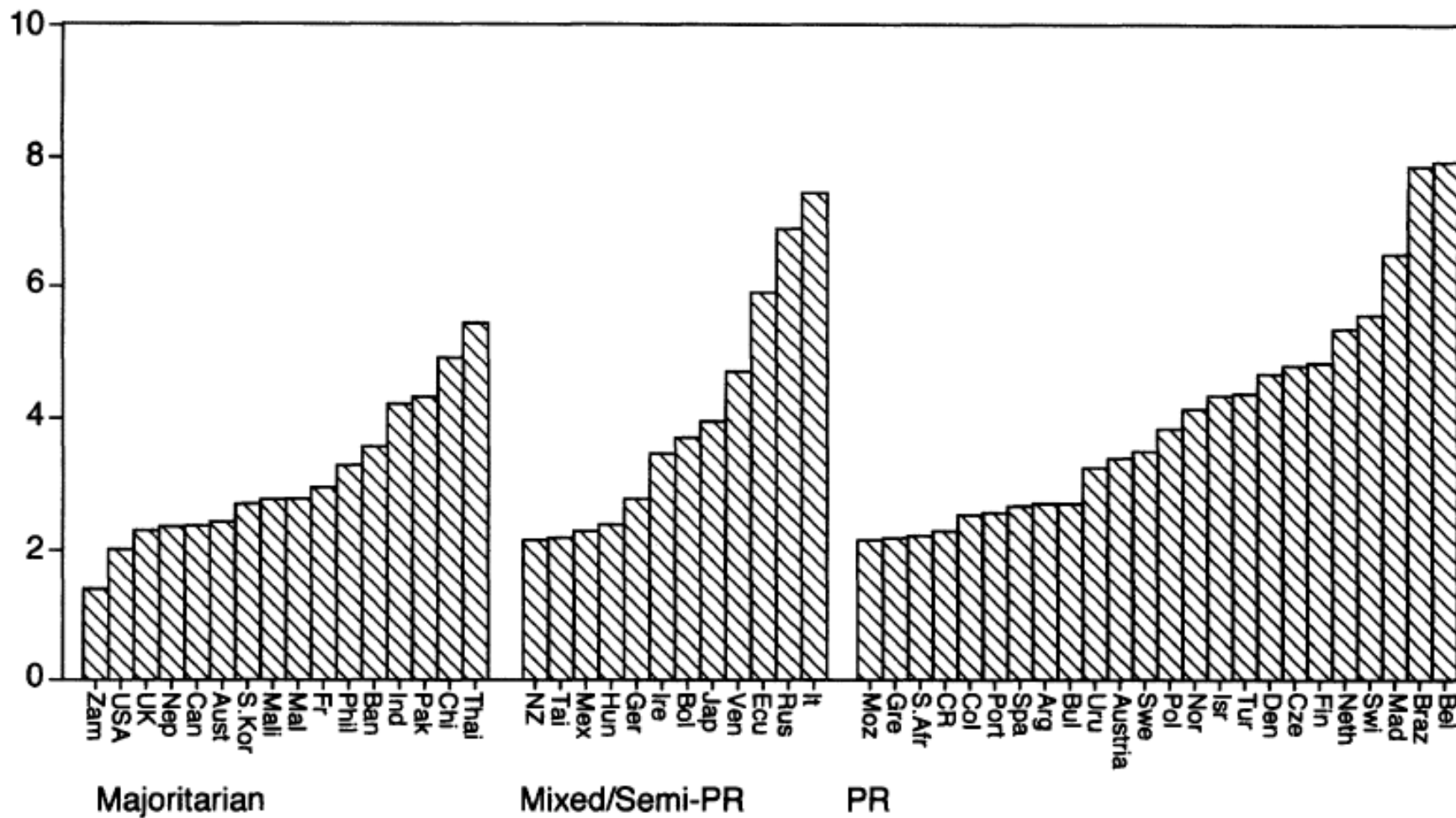


FIGURE 2. *Electoral Systems by ENNP.*³

ENNP: Effective Number of Parliamentary Parties

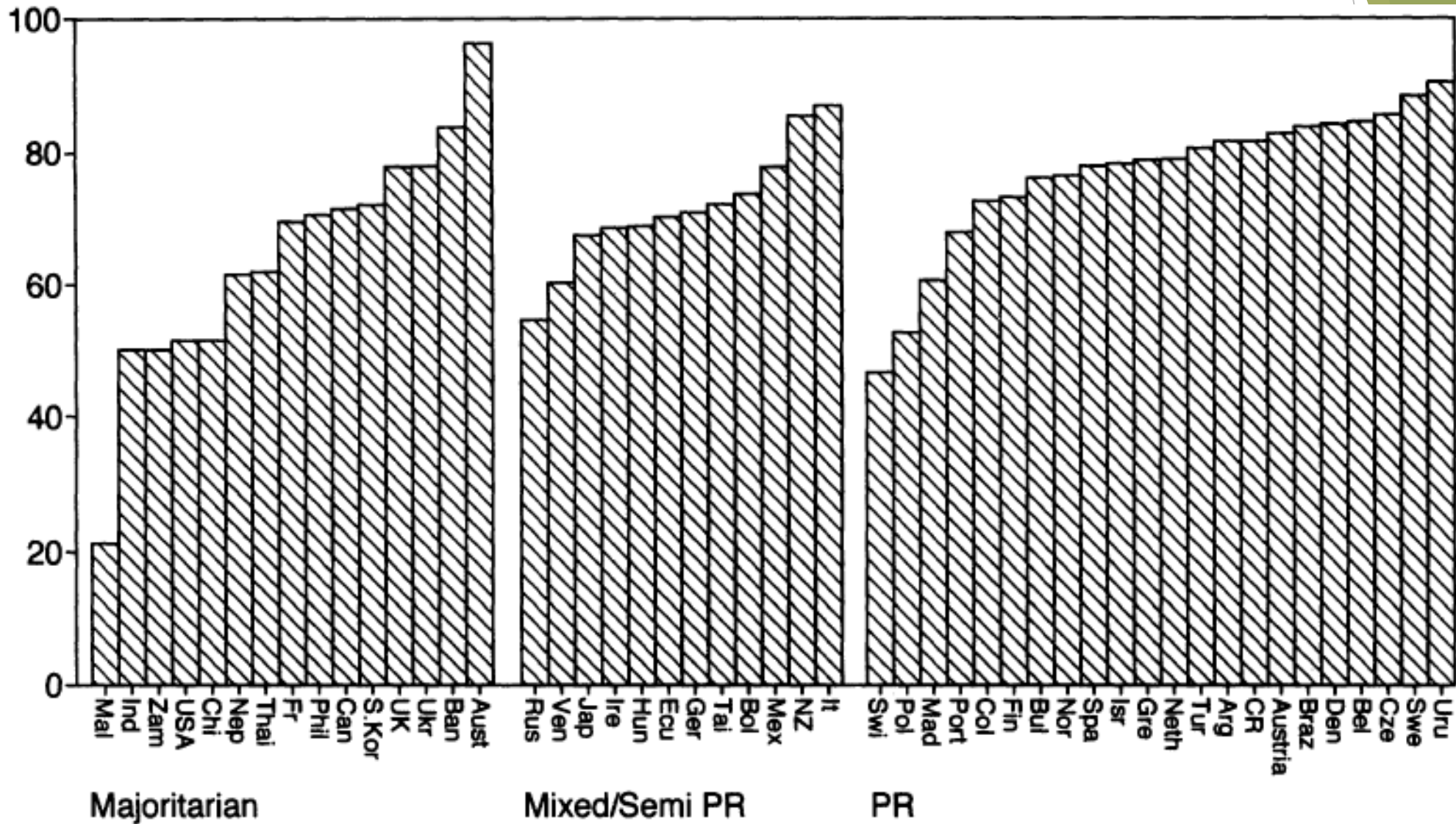


FIGURE 3. *Electoral Systems by Turnout.*³

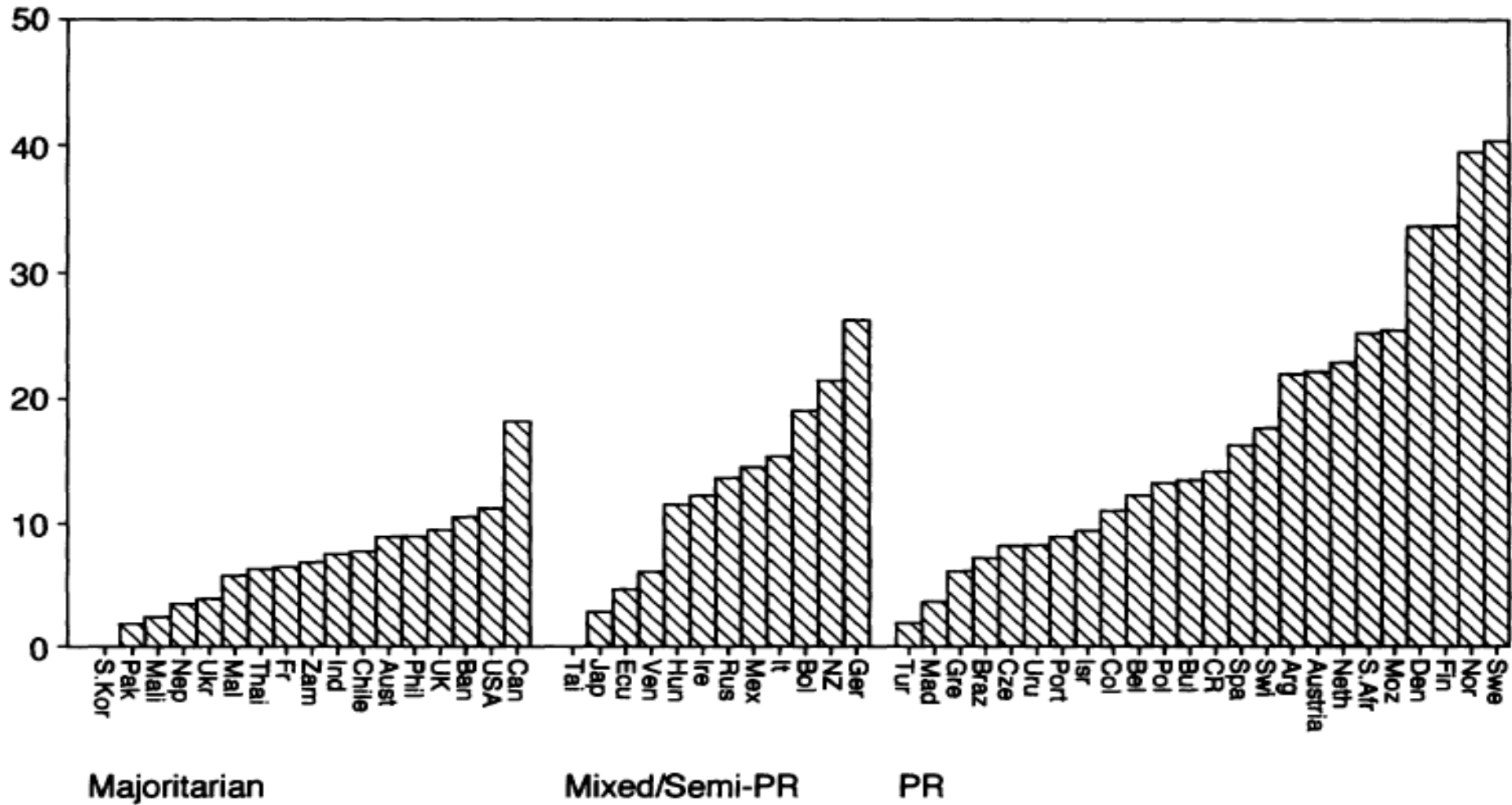


FIGURE 4. *Electoral Systems by Women MPs (percent).*³

Electoral system

- ▶ who are enfranchised to vote and at what level?
- ▶ How electoral districts are drawn?
- ▶ How elections are held? How votes are calculated and translated into MPs or into public positions?

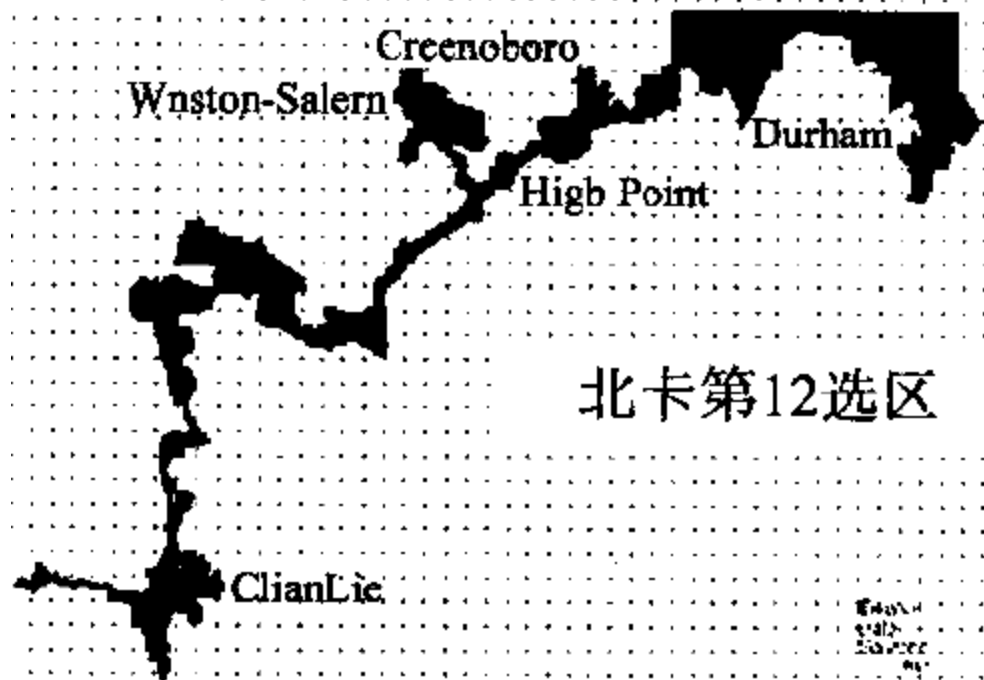
Enfranchisement

- ▶ Women were generally enfranchised after WWI
- ▶ Various forms of qualification: property; tests, etc
- ▶ Bureaucratic procedures: pre-registrations, etc

Districting

- ▶ Rotten borough
- ▶ Gerrymandering (packing/
splitting/stacking);
- ▶ majority-minority district





伊利诺伊第4选区

