Contemporary Europe’s party politics cannot be understood without distinguishing political parties into types that are mutually exclusive and jointly exhaustive. This analysis offers an original typology of parties in Europe for academics, practitioners of politics, journalists, and the general public. It covers the three decades that have passed since 1990 and includes the majority of countries in North, Western, and Southern Europe, in addition to the important cases of Hungary and Poland from Eastern Europe. It presents 95 significant parties in 18 countries divided into seven party types based on the political goals and kind of society each type wants to achieve.

Sources

Notes
1 Data last updated, 16 March 2021.
2 “Significant” are the parties that have been in office; enjoy coalition potential; receive at least 5% of their respective national vote; or played some particularly important role in their countries’ political lives.
3 In 2020, the Greek courts convicted GD leaders for running a criminal organization and their party was dissolved. There is no official party website.
4 KDNP, officially a coalition partner, is in fact a satellite party used to give Fidesz a supermajority in parliament.

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