

Democracy and elections

In November, Greenland again holds an election to the Greenlandic parliament, Inatsisartut. The approximately 35,000 electors shall elect the 31 candidates who in the next four years will have a seat in the parliament.

Unlike in Denmark, the choice is no longer characterized by family connections and clans where the daughters and sons and cousins to known politicians against all calculations of probability become a member of the Parliament.

But as in most other countries, most of the candidates are organized in political parties. Five parties run for the election in November. The oldest of the parties were founded when the Greenland Home Rule was introduced in 1979. The latest party has been started this year. The parties seem to have less and less

political cohesion. It may be difficult to find major differences in their programme, and many politicians change party when their position of power is threatened.

It is my opinion that a political organization in many political parties can become an obstacle to democratic development. The small population base means that especially the young members of the parties in the small settlements are isolated in too small political groups.

Therefore, the youth organizations of the parties in the recent years have worked for closer cooperation, so the young people together can undergo a further development of their political knowledge.



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