



FIFTH ROUND OF ELECTIONS TO PARLIAMENT

Twenty-seven deputies were elected August 7 in the fifth round of voting to Ukraine's Supreme Council (Parliament), bringing the total of deputies elected to 392 in the 450-seat Parliament.

Parliamentary elections in Ukraine have dragged on since March 27, when 338 legislators were elected. The remaining 112 seats were set to be filled on July 24, but because of low voter turnout, only 20 were filled. Run-offs were then held on July 31 and subsequently August 7, which have filled 39 more seats.

The reasons for this predicament are the conditions set up in the complicated elections process: Firstly, the election law requires 50 per cent voter turnout, and, with some of Ukraine's voters having now gone to the polls seven time in 1994 (twice for presidential elections), enthusiasm for voting is lacking. Secondly, in order to be declared a winner, a candidate must receive 50 per cent of the vote, a condition difficult to meet in ridings where anywhere between 5-20+ candidates are on the ballot.

Of the 27 deputies in the 54 seats contested in August, 22 are independents, 3 are members of the Communist Party, one is a member of the Agrarian Party, and one is a member of Rukh, the national democratic movement.

COMPOSITION OF UKRAINE'S NEW PARLIAMENT

Table with 6 columns: Faction or Party, Date of Parliamentary Elections (As of May 27, July 24, July 31, Aug. 7), and Total. Lists 13 factions and their seat counts across different election rounds.

\* The remaining 53 seats of the 450-seat will be contested Source: Ukrainian Weekly, Aug. 14, 1994



Another 53 seats are to be contested in a new round of elections, currently scheduled for November.

FORMER PRESIDENT LEONID KRAVCHUK BECOMES MP IN 6TH

In the 6th round of elections to Parliament, former President Leonid Kravchuk was among the winners in the Terebowlya riding in the Western Ukrainian region of Ternopil. Kravchuk has indicated that he would create a new national political base in the new Parliament.