

English Vocabulary: Politics

Local Politics

the mayor	The political leader of a municipality. (<i>PT: prefeito</i>)
the council	The people who work for the mayor. (<i>PT: câmara municipal</i>)
the town hall (USA: city hall)	The council's place of work. (<i>PT: prefeitura</i>)
councillor	Somebody who officially works for the council. (<i>PT: vereador</i>)

National Politics

government	A political body that exercises authority over a nation or state and has the power to make and enforce laws.
parliament	Political bodies which represent the people's interests and make sure that the government enforces laws aptly.
politics	The ideas and activities associated with the governing of a country.
policy	Course of action proposed by a government.
political party	A political organization with stated aims and policies.
politician	Person who has been elected to a government post.
prime minister	The head of the government in a parliamentary political system.
house of commons	Elected members of parliament who represent the people.
house of lords	Non-elected peers who analyse and approve or reject new laws.
to bribe	To pay money (illegally) for favours.
a bribe	The money paid illegally.
corruption	Illegal financial actions through abuse of power or position.
corrupt	To describe someone involved in corruption.
bill	Draft of a proposed law.
law	A rule or regulation established by the government.
coup d'etat	Sudden, often violent, change of government when a group, such as the military, takes control of the country or region.
democracy	A form of government where elections are held and people vote for a candidate.
dictatorship	A form of government where an individual (dictator) exercises political authority using arbitrary and oppressive methods.
election	The process of voting for a candidate.
vote	Choose a candidate in an election.
run for election	Be a candidate in an election.
polling station	Place where people vote.
ballot	A piece of paper used to place your vote.
ballot box	The box where you put your ballot.