

# Candidates to be next Belgian prime minister

The Flemish separatist N-VA party – which wants to split Belgium between Dutch-speaking Flanders and French-speaking Wallonia – has won most seats in the 150-seat lower house of parliament



	Seats
<b>New Flemish Alliance (N-VA)</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>PS</b> Socialist Party (PS)	<b>26</b>
<b>MR</b> Reformist Movement	<b>18</b>
<b>CDV</b> Christian Democrats	<b>17</b>
<b>sp.a</b> Socialist Party (sp.a)	<b>13</b>
<b>VLD</b> Open Flemish Liberals and Democrats (VLD)	<b>13</b>
<b>Flemish Interest</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>VLAAMS BELANG</b> Humanist Democratic Centre (cdH)	<b>9</b>
<b>Ecolo</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>7</b>



**BART DE WEVER, 39**  
Flemish nationalist and Chairman of separatist N-VA. De Wever's open support for eventual breakup of Belgium has attracted death threats. Known to be reluctant to be prime minister of united Belgium



**ELIO DI RUPO, 58**  
Leader of francophone Socialist Party (PS). French- and Dutch-speaking socialists (sp.a) could combine to form largest group in parliament, making Di Ruvo front-runner to be prime minister



**MARIANNE THYSSEN, 53.** Leader of Flemish Christian Democrats. Although CD&V lost six seats, other parties – N-VA, sp.a, PS, cdH and Ecolo – may turn to her as a compromise if they cannot agree on terms to form coalition