

# Macron in need of parliamentary majority

If French President-elect Emmanuel Macron is to enact his reform proposals his fledgling party must engineer a parliamentary majority in June's elections to the National Assembly



Macron must win 289 seats to secure majority. If he fails to achieve this, he is likely to seek coalition with other parties

If conservatives win absolute majority, Macron will be forced into period of "cohabitation", resulting in political gridlock

Macron's **En Marche!** – which as yet has no elected MPs – predicted to emerge as largest party, according to initial polls

*Projected distribution\**

**Socialist**  
**28-43**

**Radical left**  
**6-8**

**En Marche!**  
**249-286**

**Centrist and conservative parties**  
**200-210**

**National Front**  
**15-25**

*Based on 535 of 577 seats*

\*OpinionWay-SLPV Analytics poll for Les Echos newspaper published May 3. Mainland France constituencies only, encompassing 535 of 577 seats in parliament

## COHABITATION – three periods since 1958

President and prime minister represent different political parties

*President*



**François Mitterrand**

**Jacques Chirac**

**Nicolas Sarkozy**

**François Hollande**

1981

95

2007

2012

2017

*Prime Minister*



**1986-88**

**1993-95**

**1997-2002**

**First**  
**Mitterrand-Jacques Chirac**

**Second**  
**Mitterrand-Édouard Balladur**

**Third**  
**Chirac-Lionel Jospin**

Presidential term shortened from seven to five years in 2000. Holding presidential and legislative elections close together reduces prospect of cohabitation as major changes in public opinion are less likely.  
**But it is still possible**