



# Let's talk about **POLITICS**



## Conversation cards

Who is the leader of your country?  
Which political party does he or she belong to?

How often are elections held in your country?  
Have you ever voted?  
Who did you vote for?

From what age can you vote in the elections?  
Who should have the right to vote?

What are the main political parties in your country?  
Which are currently in the government?

Would you ever consider going into politics?  
Why or why not?

Outline some of the current government's policies.  
What would you change?

Do men or women make better politicians?  
What the ratio men to women in your country?

How do politicians run their election campaign?  
What methods or media do they use?

Do you think the government is doing a good job?  
Why or why not?

Are there any far (or extreme) right or left political parties in your country? Name them.  
Explain.

Who won the last elections?  
Why did they win?  
What did they promise?

How many people (%) usually votes in the elections?  
Is voting compulsory?  
If not, should it be?

Is the current government popular? Why or why not?  
When will the next elections be held?

What's your opinion of politicians?  
Are they doing a good job?  
Explain.

What makes a good politician?  
Explain.

What is the difference between democracy and autocracy (also called dictatorship)?  
Discuss in group.

President, Prime Minister, King (or Queen). Which does your country have and what does it depend on? Discuss.

Who are the most famous world leaders?  
Make a list of countries and their leaders.



4

5



6



7



8



- The ballot is stronger than the bullet.  
(Abraham Lincoln)

- In politics, an organized minority is a political majority.  
(Jesse Jackson)

- Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river.  
(Nikita Krushchev)

Do you agree?  
Discuss.

2



1



Match leaders with countries and photos (6/2009)

**Answer key:**

Match leaders with countries and photos (6/2009)

- If a country is a republic, it usually has a president and prime minister (head of the government).
- If a country is a monarchy, it usually has a king or queen and a prime minister as head of the government. Royals normally don't have any or very little influence on politics nowadays.
- A good politician should probably be honest, trustworthy, intelligent, knowledgeable, sociable, hard-working and concerned for the welfare of his country and its citizens. (S)he also needs common sense and the ability to compromise.
- **Far left, extreme left** or **radical left** are terms used to discuss the [qualitative](#) or [quantitative](#) position a group or person occupies within a [political spectrum](#). The terms *far left* and [far right](#) are often used to imply that someone is an [extremist](#).
- The term "far-right" is often used to describe persons or groups who hold extremely [nationalist](#), [xenophobic](#), [racist](#), [religious fundamentalist](#), [traditionalist](#), and/or [reactionary](#) views.
- The term *far left* has been associated with ideologies such as [socialism](#), [communism](#), [anarchism](#), [anarchist communism](#), [left communism](#), [anarcho-syndicalism](#), Marxist-Leninism, [Trotskyism](#) and [Maoism](#).