

A new government – Glossary

coalition noun [countable]

a temporary union of different political parties that agree to form a government together
a coalition between Labour and the Liberal Democrats

commitment noun [countable/uncountable]

a promise to do something
The Government will continue to honour its commitment to pensioners.

compromise noun [countable/uncountable]

a way of solving a problem or ending an argument in which both people or groups accept that they cannot have everything they want

condition noun [countable]

something that must be true or be done before another thing can happen, especially as part of an agreement, law, or contract

count verb [intransitive]

to be important, or to have influence

distinctive adjective

easy to recognize because of being different from other people or things of the same type

electoral adjective

relating to elections
He became president in 1999 under a new electoral system.

favour verb [transitive]

to support an idea and believe that it is better than other ideas that have been suggested

free market noun [countable]

an economic system in which things such as prices and pay are set as a result of competition between different businesses and are not controlled by a government

general election noun [countable]

an election in which every adult in the country can vote for the people who will represent them in parliament

ideological adjective

based on, or relating to, an ideology
ideological differences/disputes

i.e. abbreviation

used when you are explaining exactly what you mean by something

intense adjective

involving or done with a lot of effort, energy, attention etc
This type of work requires intense concentration.

moderate noun [countable]

someone whose opinions and actions are reasonable and not extreme, especially in politics
The party is deeply divided between moderates and extremists.

observant adjective

noticing everything that happens

political spectrum noun [singular]

the whole range of ideas, qualities, situations etc that are possible
the parties at the centre of the political spectrum

power noun [countable/uncountable]

political control of a country or government
The ruling Social Democratic party has been in power for ten years.

prime minister noun [countable]

the political leader in countries such as the UK that are governed by a parliament

privatization noun [countable/uncountable]

the sale of a business or industry that was owned and managed by the government

public spending noun [uncountable]

the money that the government pays for projects relating to education, health care, defence etc

referendum noun [countable/uncountable]

an occasion when everyone in a country can vote to make a decision about one particular subject
The government has promised to hold a referendum on the issue.

regard verb [transitive]

to think of someone or something in a particular way

role noun [countable]

the purpose or influence of someone or something in a particular situation

settle for phrase

to accept someone or something that is not exactly what you wanted because you cannot have what you wanted