

## The different Layers of the MYP

The General Assembly (GA) of the MYP consist of 128 members, like the Lebanese Parliament.

- In the General Assembly, the representatives of the people decide about the future of their country.
- Draft bills are presented, discussed and then voted upon.

The 128 Members of Parliament are divided in 8 Parliamentary Party Groups (PPG).

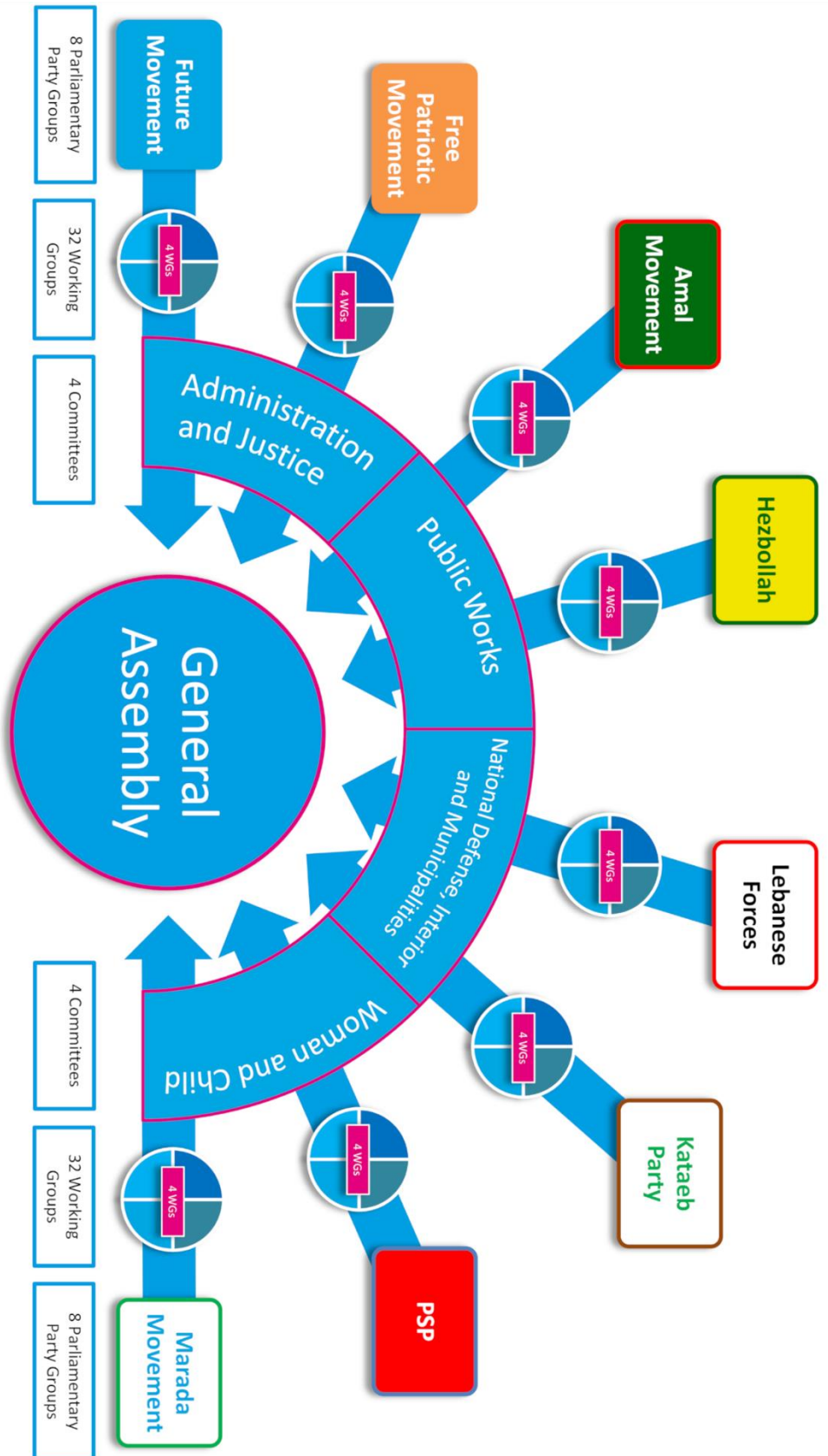
- Each PPG tries to reach their own goals, following their ideology and agenda.
- PPGs can build alliances and blocs, or remain independent.
- They coordinate the work on the different topics among their members.
- They follow a mutual approach and tactic.

Since not every Member of Parliament is an expert of all topics, they divide the work amongst each other. That's why the PPGs divide into 4 Working Groups (WG), one for each topic, related to the draft bill.

- The WG are the smallest teams in the MYP, containing only 4 experts for one topic from one party.
- Their task is as experts to get into depth of their topic so they can
  - o Present and explain their topic to their PPG.
  - o Work as representatives of their party in the Committees.

To achieve progress in the country, the Parliament creates or changes laws. The work on the content of a new or changed law is done in 4 Committees, formed by the 8 WG on the same topic.

- In the Committees, experts of all 8 PPGs come together and work on the same topic.
- They discuss draft bills and have the opportunity to add amendments.
- They prepare the bills for final voting in the GA.
- After the work in the Committees is done, the draft bill is presented to the General Assembly.



## Rules of Procedure

### 1. Preamble

- 1.1) Precondition for any successful parliamentary work is the respect for diverse political and individual opinions.
- 1.2) The freedom of speech is part of the individual human dignity. To keep and protect it is a duty of the state. Thus, it is the duty of the parliament to prohibit any form of discrimination.

### 2. Elections

- 2.1) Every MP is obliged to actively participate in all relevant elections.
- 2.2) If not stated otherwise, elections happens per hand signal.
- 2.3) Voting for the PPG chairperson happens by secret vote.
- 2.4) Unless stated otherwise, the candidate with the highest number of votes gets elected. In case of a tie, a second ballot decides. In case of a second tie, it is decided by drawing lots.

### 3. Voting

- 3.1) Every MP is obliged to actively participate in all relevant votes.
- 3.2) If not stated otherwise, votes happen per hand signal.
- 3.3) To make a decision, a simple majority is necessary – that means more “yes” than “no” votes.

### 4. The different functions

- 4.1) The PPG chairpersons are guiding the work in the PPGs.
- 4.2) They are responsible for successful work in the PPGs and for agreements between the different PPGs.
- 4.3) The Heads of Committee are guiding the work of the Committees.
- 4.4) They are responsible for productive and just work on time in the Committees.
- 4.5) They have to treat all members of the Committee equally, regardless of the PPG.

## 5. Committees

- 5.1) The Committee is only able to make decisions, when quorum is reached, meaning the majority (50%) of members is present.
- 5.2) As soon as the order of the Committee meeting is not warranted, the head of the Committee can interrupt or, with the agreement of all participants, abort the meeting.
- 5.3) At the beginning of each meeting, the Head of Committee announces the agenda of the meeting.
- 5.4) The Committee can change the agenda of the meeting if a majority (50%) agrees, it can add to the agenda only if no working group or one third of the members (min. 11) of the Committee disagrees.
- 5.5) During the meetings, the Head of Committee guides the debate and gives the floor following the order of requests to speak.
- 5.6) Members of the Committee can only speak, after being called by the Head of the Committee (When the Head wants to speak regarding the topic of discussion, he doesn't speak as Head of Committee for this amount of time, but as regular member of Committee).
- 5.7) The Members of the Committees have to request before, when they want to speak. The Head of the Committee has to list the order of these requests.
- 5.8) Any speaker can allow or prohibit questions during his speech. If the speaker allows questions, these questions have to be short and precise.
- 5.9) The Head of Committee should arrange the order of speeches according to the expected content in such a way that opposing positions are likely to follow each other.

