



The 13 Regions &  
the 325  
Municipalities in  
Greece



# Landmarks in local and regional administration in Greece

Till 1997, Greece was divided in small Communities, Municipalities and Prefectures. Only Councils in Communities and Municipalities were elected. Prefecture leader was appointed by the Central Government. Regions were founded in 1987 but they were of secondary (not even supplementary) role.

**1997** the first major reform (after early 20<sup>th</sup> century): Most communities merge with adjacent Municipalities. Greece now has, apart from 51 Prefectures, 910 Municipalities and 124 Communities (total **1034** in 1<sup>st</sup> level of Administration). The Regions are still of secondary importance. The Head is called General Secretary and is appointed by the Government. First elections for Prefecture Council.

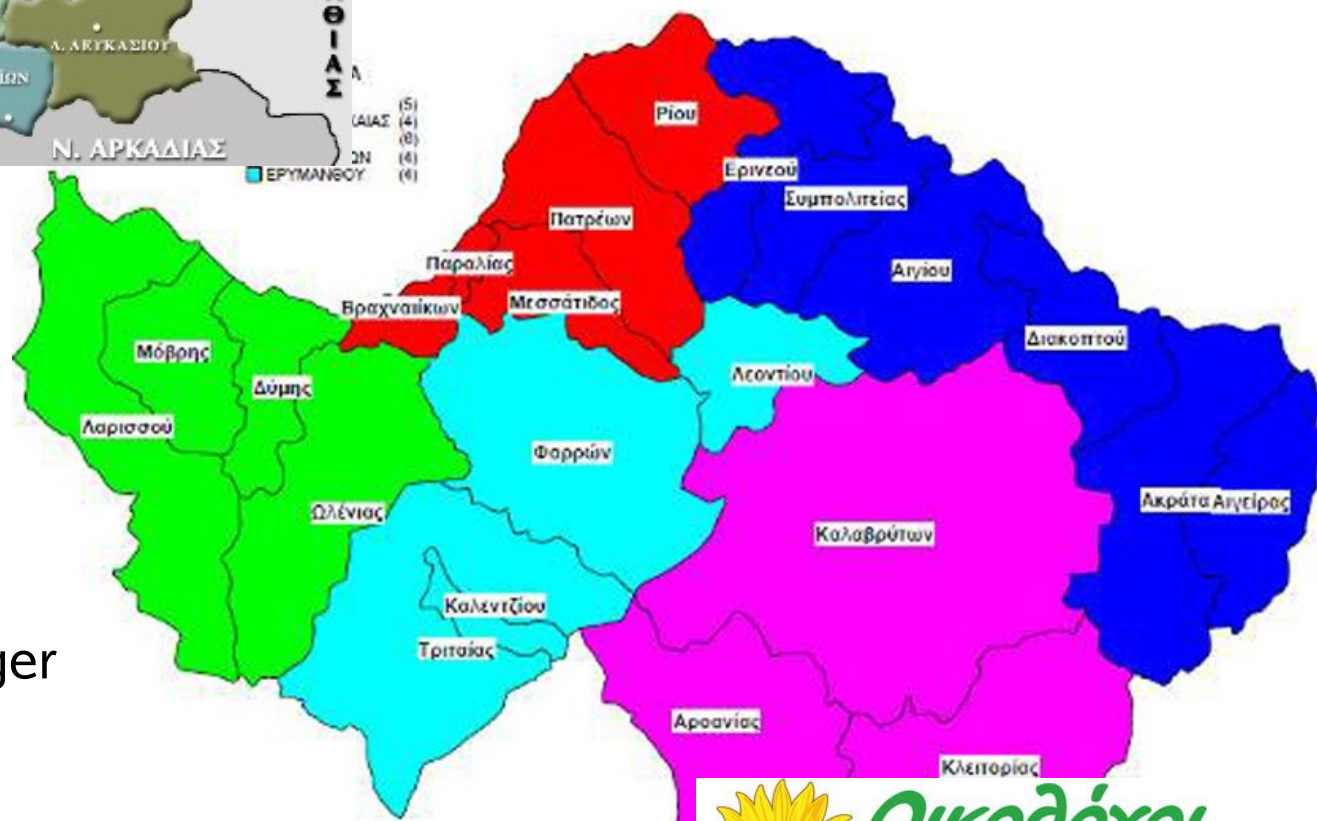
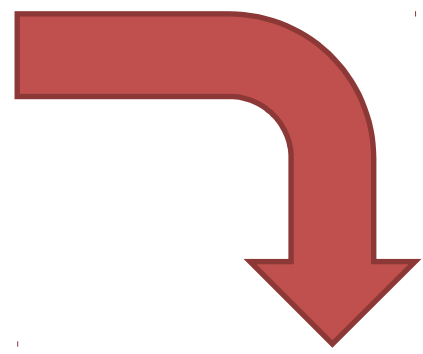
**2010** the final reform: Municipalities and Communities merge to just **325** Municipalities in total. Prefectures cease to exist and become parts of the **13 Regions**. First elections for Regional Council. Yet, **7 Decentralized Administrations** are founded (with governmental duties).



# Evolution of Greek Local and Regional Government

<i>shaded= Head elected</i>		<i>white = Head appointed by Central Government</i>		
Till 1986	till 1996	Till 2010	From 2010 ...	Real picture
Community (village)	Community (village)	Municipality	Municipality	Municipality
Municipality (town))	Municipality (town))			
Prefecture	Prefecture	Prefecture	Region	Region
	Region	Region		Decentralized Administration
Central Government	Central Government	Central Government	Central Government	Central Government





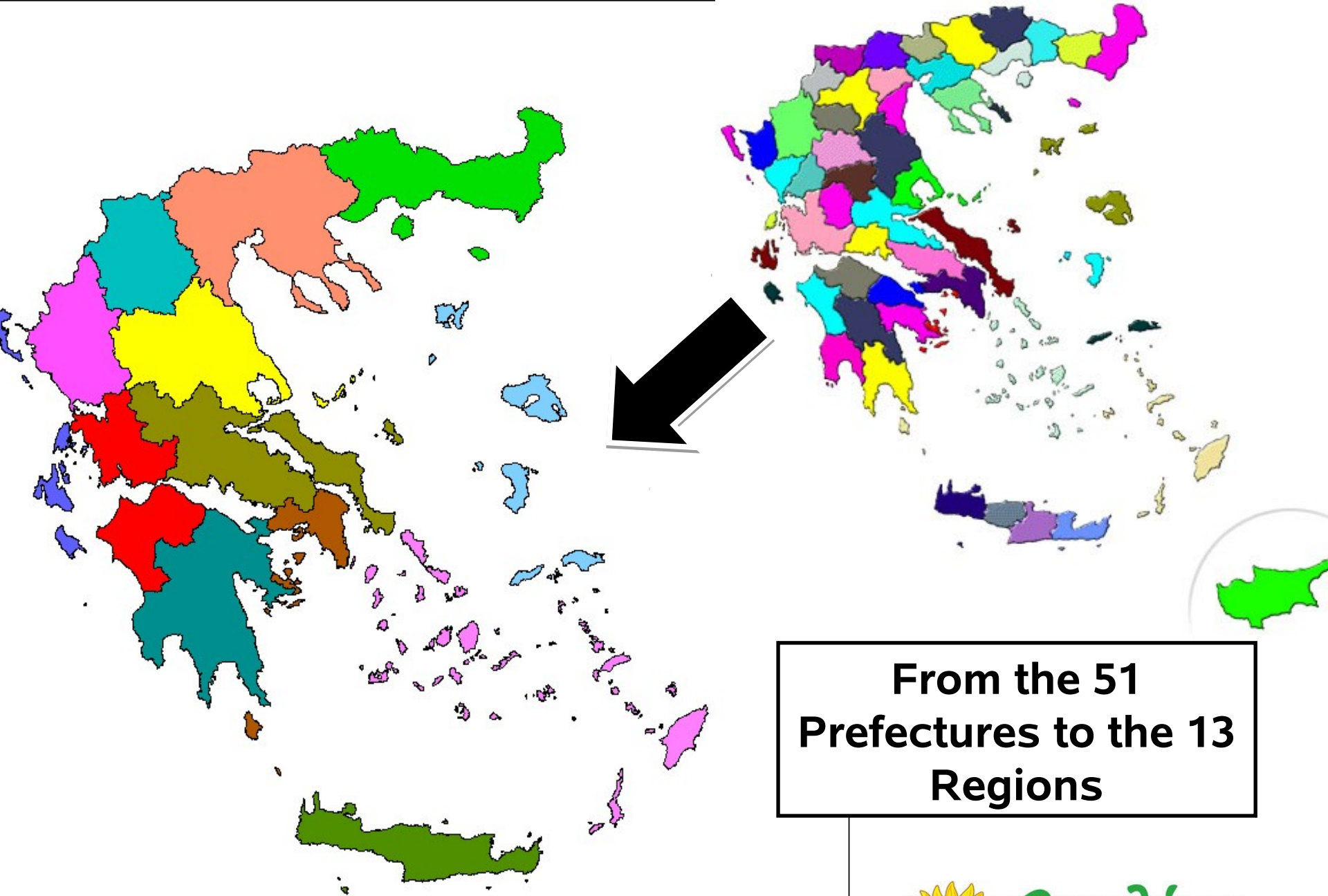
2010 Reform:  
 The merging of 910  
 Municipalities and 124  
 Communities in 325  
 Municipalities, much larger  
 than the former ones  
 Example from a former  
 Prefecture in Western  
 Greece





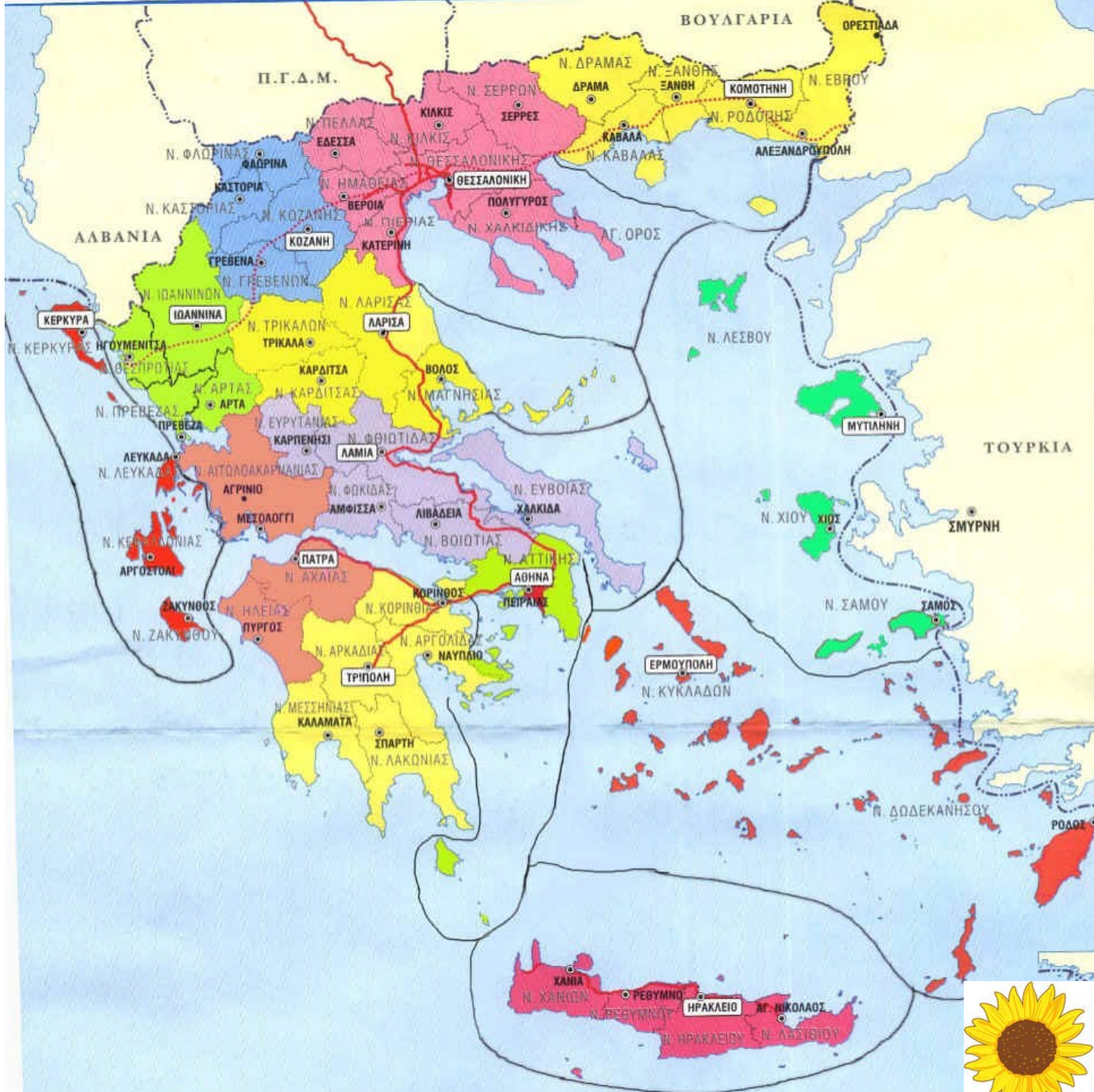
**The former 51  
Prefectures: still the  
basic administrative  
unit in the minds of  
most people**





**From the 51  
Prefectures to the 13  
Regions**





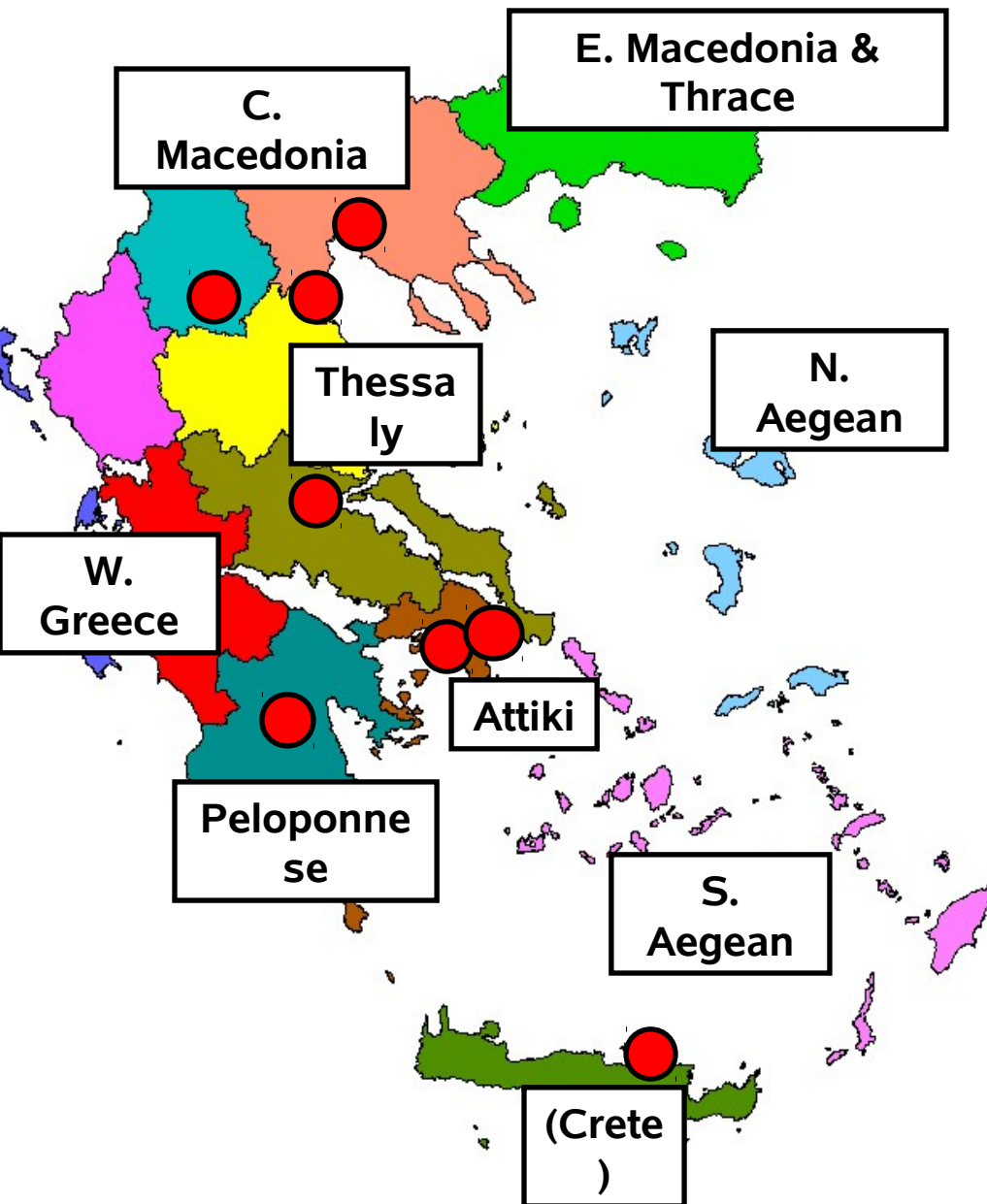
**Οικολόγοι  
Πράσινοι**



**But still there is the long hand of the Central Government: the 7 Decentralized Administrations**

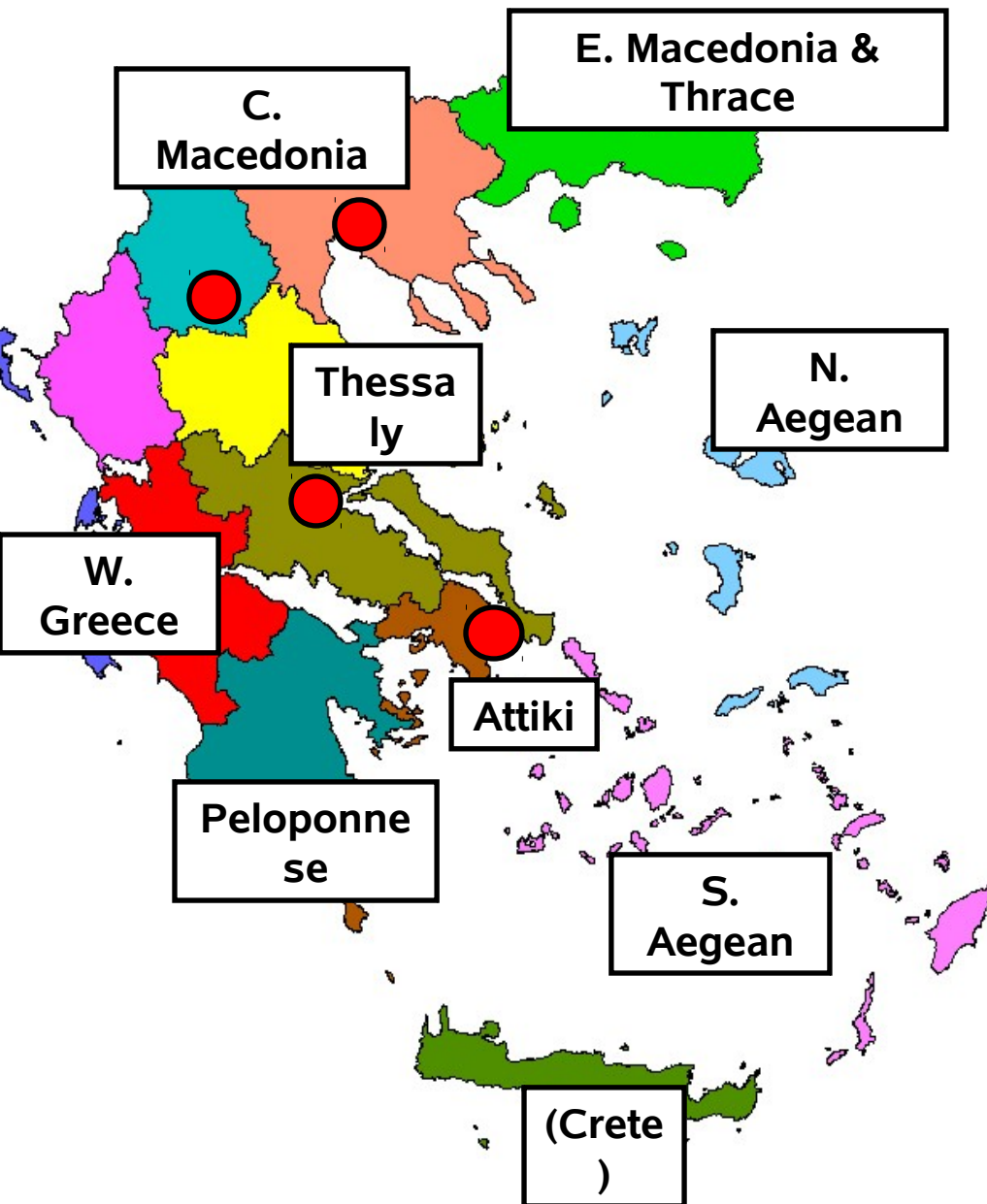






**Greens elected:  
In 8 (9) Regions  
and >10  
Municipalities**





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