

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

LISBON TREATY


"We have spent six years discussing institutional architecture. It is time to move on", said Mr Barroso, describing the text as the best deal on offer.

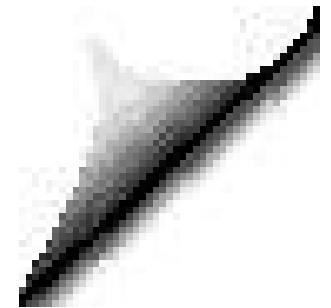


"Reform treaty finalised in Lisbon" at
http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/president/focus/reformtreaty/index_en.htm and
http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/president/multimedia/photo/index_en.htm
N.B.: Material no longer available.

LISBON TREATY THE UNION'S INSTITUTIONS

cp. Art 13 TEU

- 
- European Parliament
 - European Council
 - Council
 - European Commission
 - Court of Justice
 - European Central Bank
 - Court of Auditors



LISBON TREATY THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

cp. Art 15 TEU

- ⚠ shall provide the Union with the **necessary impetus** for its development and shall define the **general political directions** and **priorities**.
- ⚠ shall **not exercise legislative functions**.
- ⚠ shall **consist of** the Heads of State or Government of the MS, together with its President and the President of the Commission. The High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy shall take part.
- ⚠ shall meet **twice every six months** (special meetings possible).
- ⚠ unless provided otherwise decisions by **consensus**.
- ⚠ The European Council **shall elect its President**, by a qualified majority, **for a term of two and a half years**, renewable once. *[same procedure to end his/her term of office]*



http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Kissinger

Henry Kissinger (?):

“Whom do I call if I want to call Europe?”

"EUROPEAN LEADERS"

Herman Van Rompuy



Donald Tusk



Charles Michel

Catherine Ashton



Federica Mogherini



Josep Borrell Fontelles

President of the European Council
Euro Summit

High Representative for Foreign
Affairs and Security Policy

PLEASE NOTE:

**TREATY ON STABILITY, COORDINATION AND
GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND
MONETARY UNION**

The Heads of State or Government of the Contracting Parties whose currency is the euro shall meet informally in **Euro Summit meetings**, together with the President of the European Commission. The President of the European Central Bank shall be invited to take part in such meetings.

The **President of the Euro Summit** shall be appointed by the Heads of State or Government of the Contracting Parties whose currency is the euro by simple majority at the same time as the European Council elects its President and for the same term of office.

Euro Summit meetings shall take place when necessary, and **at least twice a year** [...]

Article 12 paragraph 1 and 2 TSCG

LAW MAKING AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

- KEY ACTORS -



representatives of
the Union's citizens
(Article 14 TEU)

representatives of
the Member States
at ministerial level
(Article 16 TEU)



COUNCIL

key decision taking body

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (EP)

its role depends on the procedure applied

N.B.: Lisbon Treaty:
co-decision = ordinary
legislative procedure



COMMISSION

produces legislative proposals

shall promote the general
interest of the Union,
independence beyond
doubt
(Article 17 TEU and 245
TFEU)

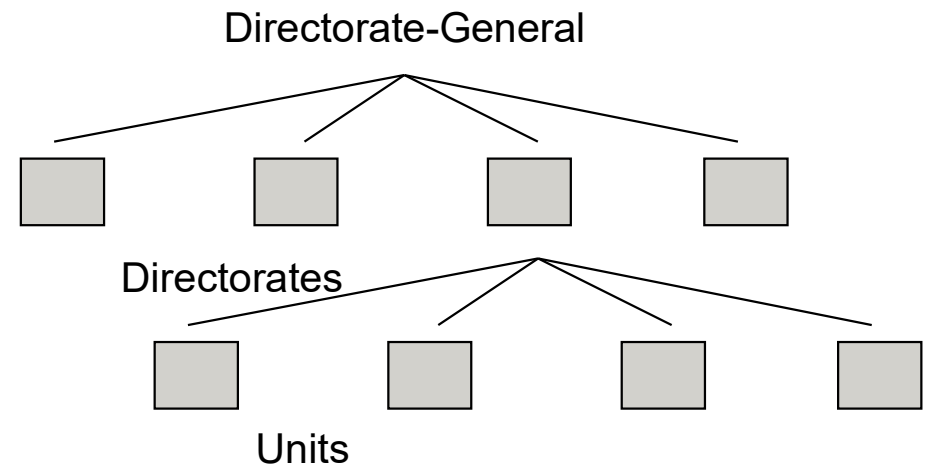
THE COMMISSION

- 1/MS ("Ireland")
- acts by a majority of its Members (in practice a consensus solution is sought)
- term of office: 5 years (renewable)
- appointed by qualified majority, consent of the EP required
- a Member shall resign if the President so requests (Article 17 para. 6 TEU)

administrative body

- divided into Directorates-General (DGs)
- The DGs and equivalent departments shall normally be divided into directorates, and directorates into units.

(Article 21 Rules of Procedure)



COMMISSION – EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



source: http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/photo/photo_combar_en.cfm

- Commission appointment (Article 17 TEU):
Commission President and
Commission as a body subject to EP agreement
- motion of censure (Article 234 TFEU):
two-thirds majority of the votes cast, representing a majority of EP
component members -> members of the Commission have to resign as
a body

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

LISBON TREATY

cp. Article 17 para 7 TEU

- **Commission President**

European Council by qualified majority proposes to the EP a candidate who shall be elected by the EP by a majority of its component members (if this fails -> new candidate)

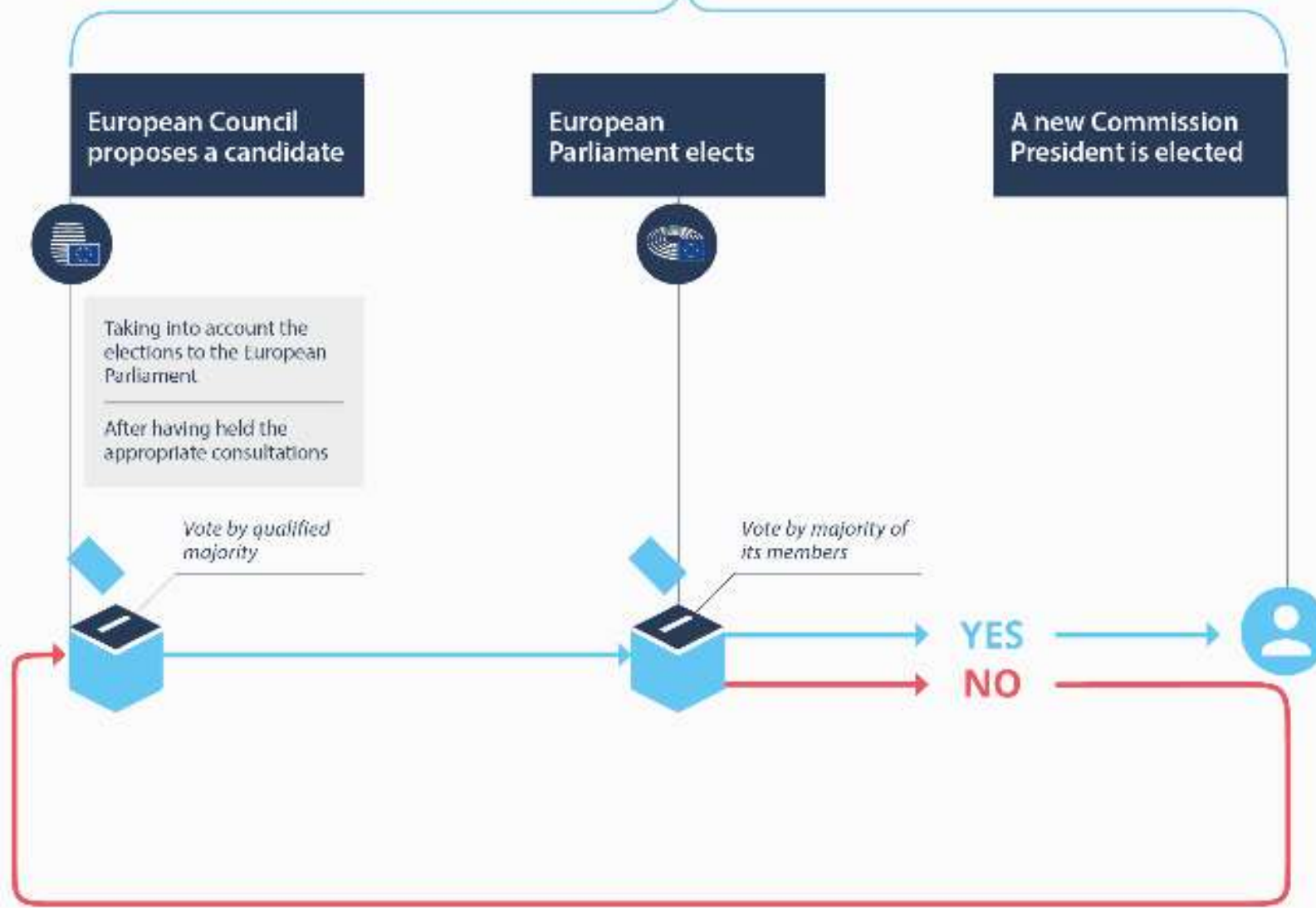
- The Council, by common accord with the President-elect, shall adopt the list of the other persons whom it proposes for **appointment as Commission members**. The President, the High Representative and the other members of the Commission shall be subject as a body to a vote of consent by the EP.

On the basis of this consent -> appointment by the European Council, acting by a qualified majority



Article 17(7)
Treaty on
European
Union

ELECTION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION PRESIDENT



source (retrieved 20/09/2018): <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/infographics/election-european-commission-president/>

THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT

NICE versus LISBON

Nice (Article 214 para 2 TEC old):

The Council, meeting in the composition of Heads of State or Government and acting by a qualified majority, shall nominate the person it intends to appoint as President of the Commission; the nomination shall be approved by the European Parliament.

Lisbon (Article 17 para 7 TEU)

Taking into account the elections to the European Parliament and after having held the appropriate consultations, the European Council, acting by a qualified majority, shall propose to the European Parliament a candidate for President of the Commission. This candidate shall **be elected by the European Parliament** by a majority of its component members.

THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT and the “LEADING CANDIDATES/SPITZENKANDIDATEN“ SYSTEM

European Parliament resolution of 22 November 2012 on the elections to the European Parliament in 2014 ([2012/2829\(RSP\)](#))

The European Parliament

[...]

1. Urges the European political parties to nominate candidates for the Presidency of the Commission and expects those candidates to play a leading role in the parliamentary electoral campaign, in particular by personally presenting their programme in all Member States of the Union; stresses the importance of reinforcing the political legitimacy of both Parliament and the Commission by connecting their respective elections more directly to the choice of the voters;

[...]

THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT and the “LEADING CANDIDATES/SPITZENKANDIDATEN” SYSTEM

Report on improving the practical arrangements for the holding of the European elections in 2014 (2013/2102(INI)), 12 June 2013 (emphasis added)

The European Parliament

[...]

K. whereas turnout at the elections is likely to be enhanced by a lively political campaign in which political parties and their candidates compete for votes and seats on the basis of alternative programmes which address the **European dimension of politics**;

[...]

15. Expects that, in this process, the candidate for Commission President put forward by the European political party that **wins the most seats** in the Parliament **will be the first to be considered**, with a view to ascertaining his or her ability to secure the support of the necessary absolute majority in Parliament;

[...]

EP ELECTIONS

DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS
PRINCIPLE OF **EQUALITY**

DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS
IN THE EP

?? PAN-EUROPEAN CANDIDATE LISTS ??

LEADING CANDIDATES
nominated by the European political parties

THE LEADING CANDIDATES 2014



photo/source:

<http://www.elections2014.eu/de/news-room/content/20140714IPR52341/html/Europ%C3%A4isches-Parlament-w%C3%A4hlt-Juncker-zum-Pr%C3%A4sidenten-der-EU-Kommission>

“... only one candidate, voters not informed, secret ballot ...”

- *Jean Claude Juncker* = EPP's candidate for President of the European Commission ;
Martin Schulz = PES' candidate
- “a ‘sneaking’ treaty change” (*Viktor Orban*, see e.g. <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/06/24/uk-hungary-orban-idUKKBN0EZ1SM20140624>), decrease in democracy (Nigel Farage, MEP, plenary 15/07/2014, see <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live/en/plenary/video?date=15-07-2014>

<->

more democracy/”historic day” Manfred Weber, EPP Group Chairman, *ibid*, and others

INFORMAL MEETING OF THE 27 HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT, 23/02/2018

Institutional issues

EU leaders discussed two sets of issues related to the next institutional cycle:

- **high-level appointments**, including the so called 'Spitzenkandidaten' process
- the **European Parliament's composition after the 2019 elections** and the idea of **transnational lists**

At the press conference after the summit President Donald Tusk said that there was agreement among leaders that European Council couldn't guarantee in advance that it would propose one of the lead candidates for President of the European Commission.



There is no automaticity in this process. The Treaty is very clear that it is the autonomous competence of the European Council to nominate the candidate, while taking into account the European elections, and having held appropriate consultations.

— Donald Tusk, President of the European Council

Concerning the European Parliament composition after Brexit, leaders broadly supported the idea that fewer member states should mean fewer seats, which means **reducing the number of MEPs from 751 to 705**.

As regards transnational lists, leaders will come back to this issue in the future, with a view to the 2024 elections.

source (retrieved: 20/09/2018):
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2018/02/23/>

“SPITZENKANDIDATEN” PROCESS HERE TO STAY

“Spitzenkandidaten” process is here to stay, insist MEPs

Press Releases [PLENARY SESSION](#) 28-02-2018 - 18:37

MEPs will only elect a new Commission President who has been nominated by European political parties ahead of the 2019 European elections.

MEPs warned EU countries against abandoning the so-called “Spitzenkandidaten” (lead candidate) method of choosing candidates for EU Commission President in a debate with EU Commission First Vice-President President Frans Timmermans on Wednesday.

EU leaders said at their 23 February informal summit that they would not be bound by the Spitzenkandidaten method in the run-up to the 2019 European elections.

This method, first used in 2014 to select current Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, enables European political parties to nominate candidates for the post of EU Commission President in the run-up to the elections, and thus links the choice to the election outcome.

source (retrieved: 20/09/2018):
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20180226IPR98611/spitzenkandidaten-process-is-here-to-stay-insist-meps>

“SPITZENKANDIDATEN” 2019

								
Manfred Weber	Frans Timmermans	Margrethe Vestager <small>[39]</small>	Jan Zahradil	Ska Keller	Bas Eickhout	Violeta Tomič	Nico Cué	Oriol Junqueras
Christdemokraten (EVP)	Sozialdemokraten (SPE)	Liberales (ALDE)	Konservative (AKRE)	Grüne (EGP)		Linke (EL)		Freie Allianz (EFA)



ALDE presented
a „team of
candidates“

FIRST FEMALE COMMISSION PRESIDENT



source (retrieved 25/07/2019):
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/hearings/2019/commission-president-2019/20190711IPR56824/parliament-elect-ursula-von-der-leyen-as-first-female-commission-president>

With 383 votes in favour, the European Parliament elected Ursula von der Leyen President of the next European Commission in a secret ballot on 16 July.

She is set to take office on 1 November 2019 for a five-year term. There were 733 votes cast, one of which was not valid. 383 members voted in favour, 327 against, and 22 abstained.

Parliament currently comprises 747 MEPs as per the official notifications received by member state authorities, so the threshold needed to be elected was 374 votes, i.e. more than 50% of its component members. President Sassoli formally announced the requisite number before the results were revealed in plenary. The vote was held by secret paper ballot.

POLITICAL GUIDELINES EUROPEAN COMMISSION 2019-2024

- A European Green Deal
- An economy that works for people
- A Europe fit for the digital age
- Protecting our European way of life
- A stronger Europe in the world
- A new push for European democracy

See https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/political-guidelines-next-commission_en.pdf
(retrieved 11/09/2019)

HIGH REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT

LISBON TREATY

Article 18 para 1 TEU

- appointed by the European Council by a qualified majority with the agreement of the Commission President.

- “ double headed “

NB: presides over the Foreign Affairs Council

COMMISSION

RULES of PROCEDURE

- The Commission shall, as a general rule, meet at least **once a week**. (Article 5)



Wednesday=
Commission day



- Meetings of the Commission **shall not be public**. Discussions shall be confidential. (Article 9)
- Commission decisions shall be taken:
 - (a) at meetings; or
 - (b) by written procedure; or
 - (c) by empowerment; or
 - (d) by delegation.(cp. Article 4)

COMMISSION MEETINGS

For agendas and minutes of Commission meetings see

<https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/>

COMMISSION

Cooperation and coordination between departments

[...]

- The department responsible for preparing an initiative shall ensure from the beginning of the preparatory work that there is effective coordination between all the departments with a legitimate interest in the initiative by virtue of their powers or responsibilities or the nature of the subject. [...]
- The Legal Service shall be consulted on all drafts or proposals for legal instruments and on all documents which may have legal implications. [...]
- The department responsible shall endeavour to frame a proposal that has the agreement of the departments consulted. In the event of a disagreement it shall append to its proposal the differing views expressed by these departments [...].

(Article 23 Rules of Procedure)

Commission
decisions



co-operation

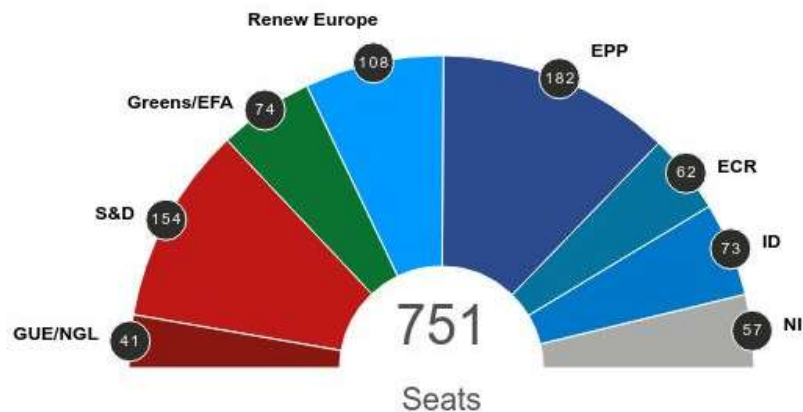
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Roberta Metsola (Malta)

- Lisbon Treaty: 750 members (MEP) at max (range: 6-96 per MS)+President, after BREXIT: 705 MEP
- degressively proportional representation
- elected by direct universal suffrage in a free and secret ballot
- The MEP represent the EU's about 450 million citizens.
- five year renewable term
- Members do not sit in national delegations but according to their political affinities, in transnational groups.
- Save as otherwise provided [...], the European Parliament shall act by a majority of the votes cast. (Art 231 TFEU)
- For *MEPs by Member State and political group* see <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/search/advanced> or <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/search/table>
- For the *Political groups of the European Parliament* see [The political groups](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/about-parliament/en/organisation-and-rules/organisation/political-groups) at <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/about-parliament/en/organisation-and-rules/organisation/political-groups>.

European Parliament: 2019-2024

Constitutive session



Political groups in the European Parliament

Political groups in the European Parliament	Number of seats	% of seats
EPP - Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)	182	24.23%
S&D - Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament	154	20.51%
Renew Europe - Renew Europe group	108	14.38%
Greens/EFA - Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance	74	9.85%
ID - Identity and Democracy	73	9.72%
ECR - European Conservatives and Reformists Group	62	8.26%
GUE/NGL - Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left	41	5.46%
NI - Non-attached Members	57	7.59%

Since 2009, according to Parliament's rules of procedure, a political group shall consist of at least 25 Members elected in at least seven Member States.

source (retrieved: 31/07/2019):

<https://election-results.eu/european-results/2019-2024/>

See also:

<https://election-results.eu/breakdown-national-parties-political-group/2019-2024/>

Breakdown by national parties and political groups: 2019-2024

Constitutive session

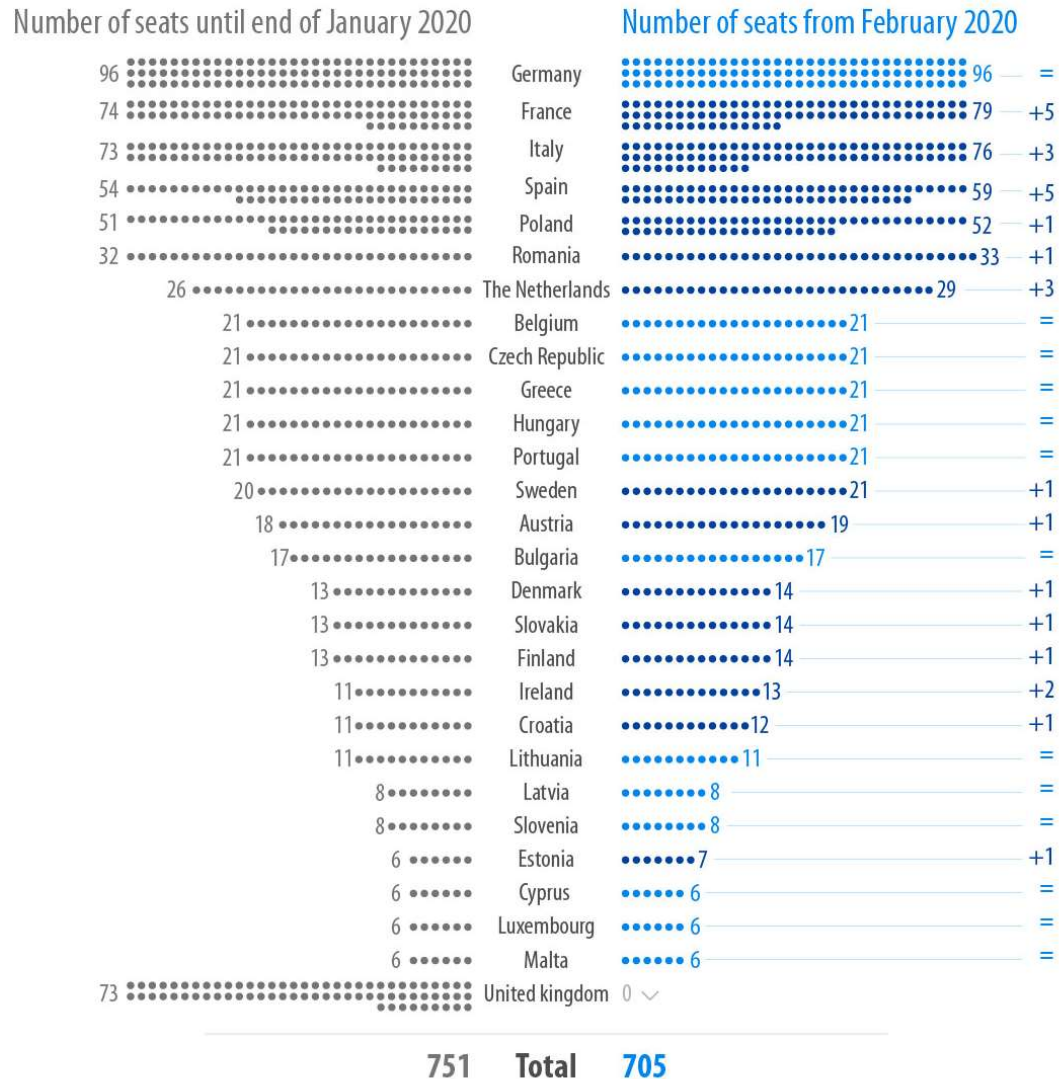
Country	EPP	S&D	ECR	Renew Europe	GUE/NGL	Greens/E FA	ID	NI	Total of seats
AT	7 ●	5 ●	0 ●	1 ●	0 ●	2 ●	1 ●	0 ●	18
	OVP 7	SPO 5		NEOS 1		GRÜNE 2	FPÖ 3		
UK	0 ●	10 ●	4 ●	17 ●	1 ●	11 ●	0 ●	30 ●	73
		Lab. 10	Cons. 4	Lib dems. 16	SF 1	GP 7		Brexit Party 29	
			APNI 1			SNP 3		DUP 1	
						PL-PW 1			

source (retrieved: 31/07/2019):

<https://election-results.eu/breakdown-national-parties-political-group/2019-2024/>

THE EP'S COMPOSITION after BREXIT

The number of MEPs per country has been modified following the UK's departure from the EU at the end of January 2020.



see also:

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/06/29/the-european-council-establishes-the-composition-of-the-european-parliament/>

source (retrieved: 11/02/2020):

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20200130IPR71407/redistribution-of-seats-in-the-european-parliament-after-brexit>

MEPs by political group (after BREXIT)

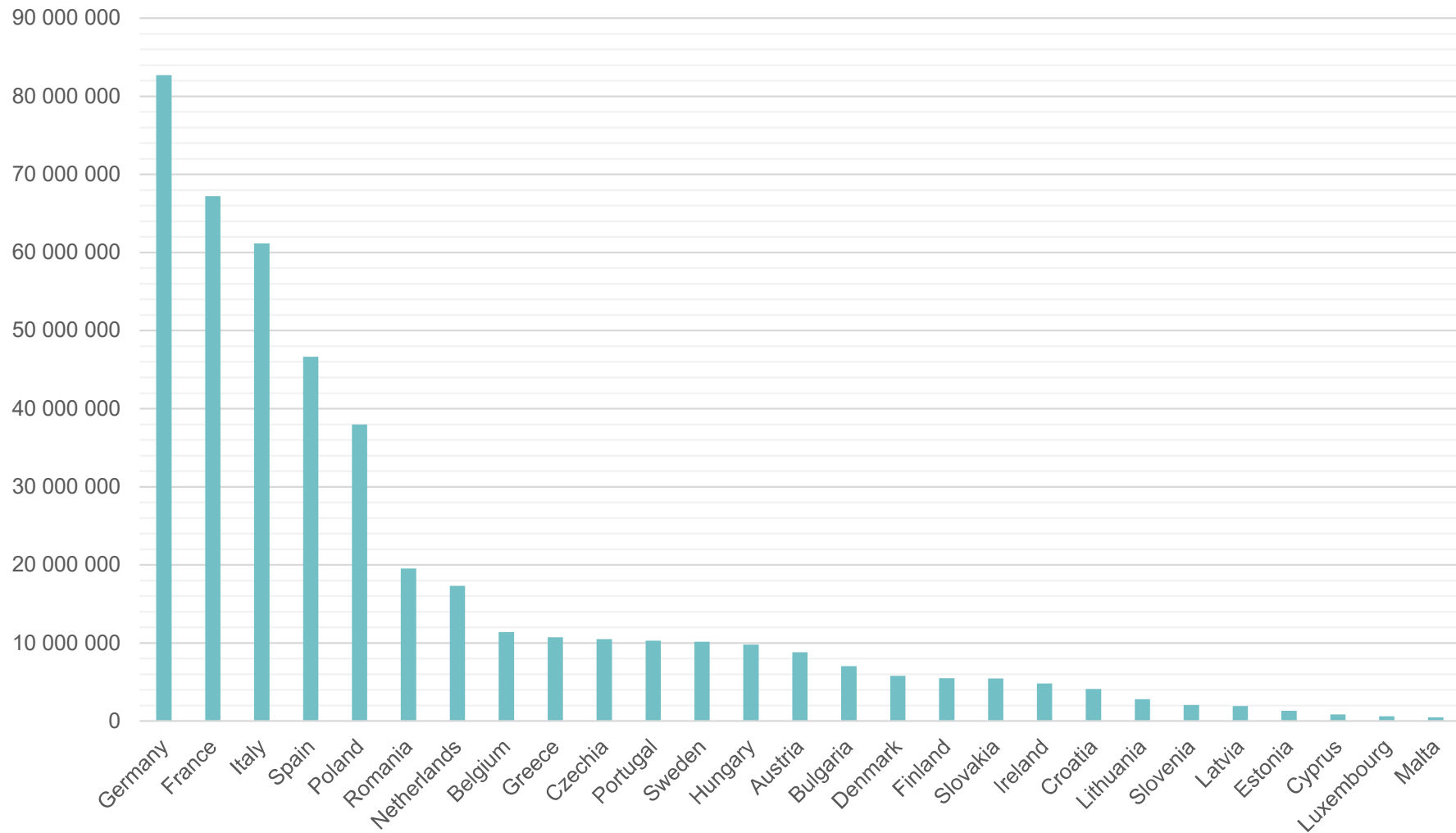
Country	EPP	S&D	Renew	Greens/EFA	ID	ECR	The Left	NI	Total
[...]									
 EU	179	146	98	73	71	63	39	36	705

source (retrieved: 13/09/2021):

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/search/table>

Pls. check for current figures!

EU Member States' population – without UK (2018)



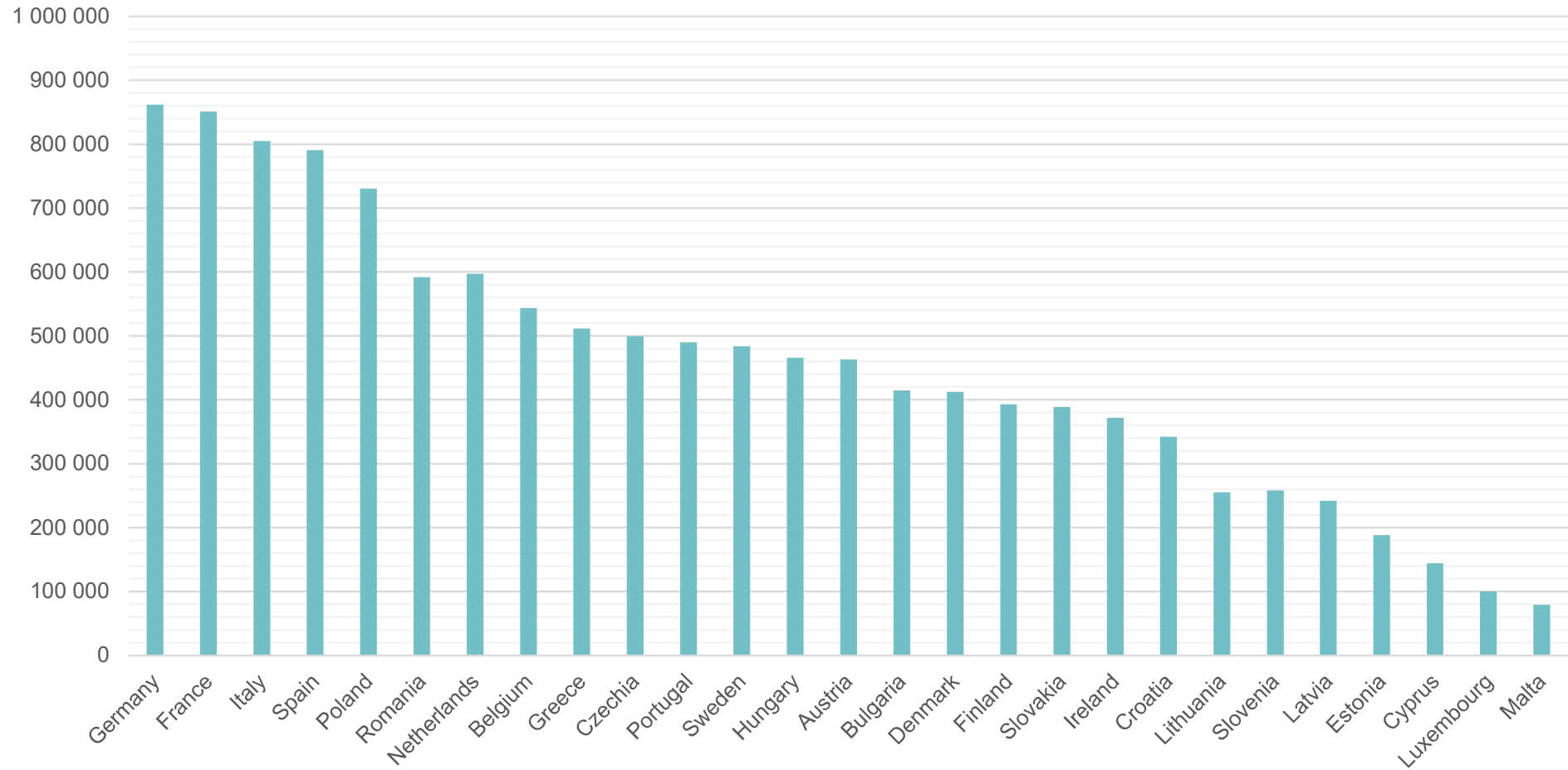
EP 2019-2024 (without UK)

Member State	Population	%	seats	MEP/seat
Germany	82 719 022	18,5	96	861 656
France	67 221 943	15,04	79	850 911
Italy	61 166 142	13,68	76	804 818
Spain	46 659 302	10,44	59	790 836
Poland	37 976 687	8,5	52	730 321
Romania	19 523 621	4,37	33	591 625
Netherlands	17 321 110	3,87	29	597 280
Belgium	11 413 058	2,55	21	543 479
Greece	10 738 928	2,4	21	511 378
Czechia	10 493 154	2,35	21	499 674
Portugal	10 291 027	2,3	21	490 049
Sweden	10 157 000	2,27	21	483 667
Hungary	9 778 371	2,19	21	465 637
Austria	8 802 000	1,97	19	463 263

Bulgaria	7 050 034	1,58	17	414 708
Denmark	5 774 877	1,29	14	412 491
Finland	5 501 930	1,23	14	392 995
Slovakia	5 443 120	1,22	14	388 794
Ireland	4 830 392	1,08	13	371 569
Croatia	4 105 493	0,92	12	342 124
Lithuania	2 808 901	0,59	11	255 355
Slovenia	2 066 880	0,46	8	258 360
Latvia	1 934 379	0,43	8	241 797
Estonia	1 319 133	0,3	7	188 448
Cyprus	864 236	0,19	6	144 039
Luxembourg	600 124	0,13	6	100 021
Malta	475 701	0,11	6	79 284
EU-27	447 036 565			
Threshold (65 %)	290 573 768		705	

People/Seat (without UK)

2019-2024



Article 17 (2) TEU

The European Parliament shall be composed of representatives of the Union's citizens. They shall not exceed seven hundred and fifty in number, plus the President. Representation of citizens shall be degressively proportional, with a minimum threshold of six members per Member State. No Member State shall be allocated more than ninety-six seats.

The European Council shall adopt by unanimity, on the initiative of the European Parliament and with its consent, a decision establishing the composition of the European Parliament, respecting the principles referred to in the first subparagraph.

THE EP'S COMPOSITION 2024-2029

Member State	old	new	difference
Germany	96	96	0
France	79	81	2
Italy	76	76	0
Spain	59	61	2
Poland	52	53	1
Romania	33	33	0
Netherlands	29	31	2
Belgium	21	22	1
Greece	21	21	0
Czechia	21	21	0
Portugal	21	21	0
Sweden	21	21	0
Hungary	21	21	0
Austria	19	20	1
Bulgaria	17	17	0
Denmark	14	15	1
Finland	14	15	1
Slovakia	14	15	1
Ireland	13	14	1

Croatia	12	12	0
Lithuania	11	11	0
Slovenia	8	9	1
Latvia	8	9	1
Estonia	7	7	0
Cyprus	6	6	0
Luxembourg	6	6	0
Malta	6	6	0

TOTAL	705	720	15
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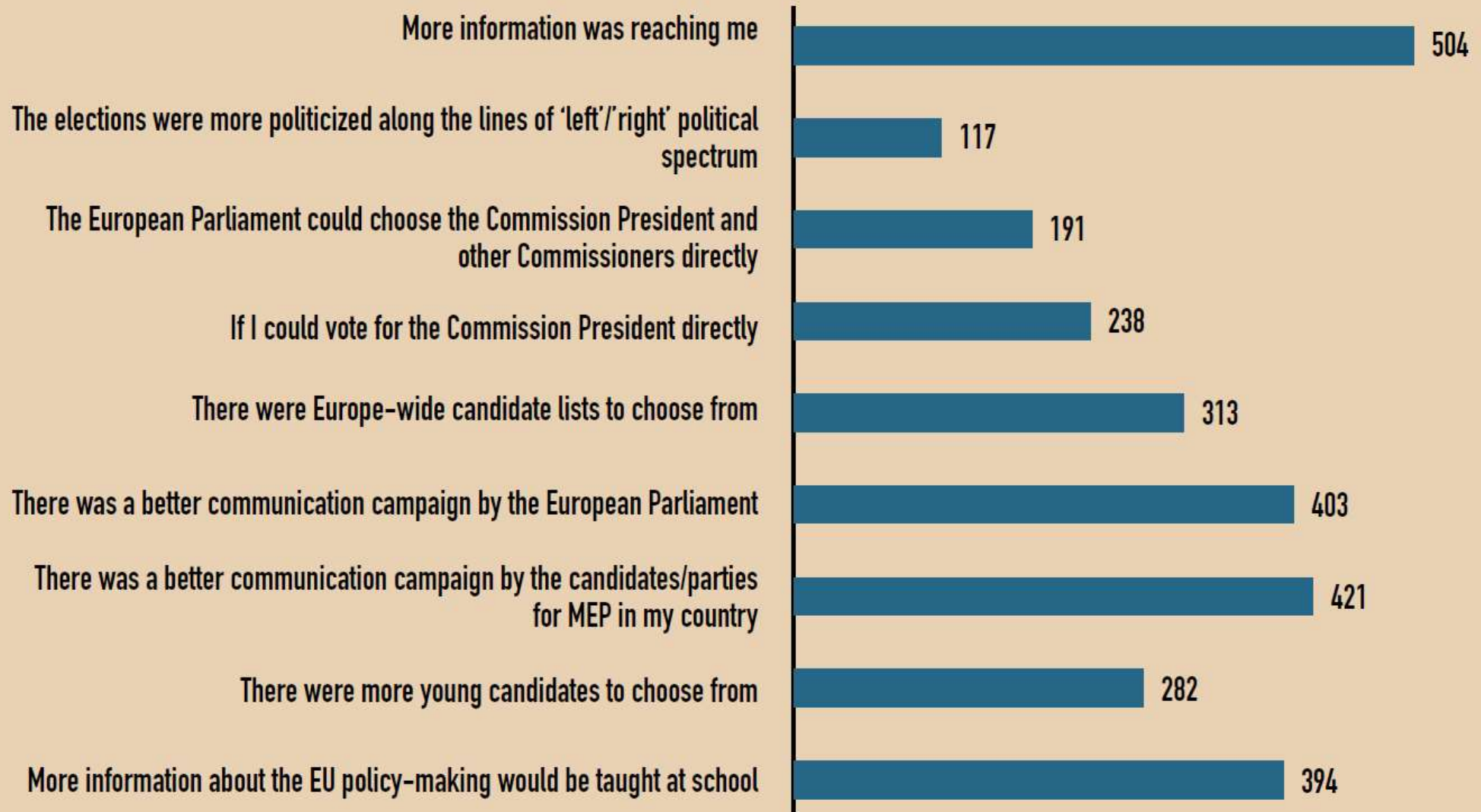
Cp. also [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2023/751468/EPRS_ATA\(2023\)751468_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2023/751468/EPRS_ATA(2023)751468_EN.pdf)

TURNOUT 2009 ELECTIONS

- EU average 43 %, significant differences between EU Member States [range: above 90 % (LUX, BE) – 19,6 % (SK)]
- turnout downfall = overall trend – however, again significant differences between EU Member States
- Slightly fewer women vote than men, **fewer young people than elderly people**, fewer unemployed people than senior managers, fewer early school leavers than graduates, and slightly fewer city dwellers than inhabitants of rural areas.
- A third of the electors voting in national elections do not vote in European elections.
- lack of confidence in politics in general rather than lack of confidence in, or a lack of knowledge of, the European institutions and the EP

Young Europeans online Survey 2014

I would be more interested to vote in the European elections if:



TURNOUT ELECTIONS

24/06/2019 - 15:14

All times are GMT+2

Turnout by country (%)

Provisional results

Country	1979	1981	1984	1987	1989	1994	1995	1996	1999	2004	2007	2009	2013	2014	2019
Belgium	91.36		92.09		90.73	90.66			91.05	90.81		90.39		89.64	88.47
Denmark	47.82		52.38		46.17	52.92			50.46	47.89		59.54		56.32	66.00
Germany	65.73		56.76		62.28	60.02			45.19	43.00		43.27		48.10	61.38
Ireland	63.61		47.56		68.28	43.98			50.21	58.58		58.64		52.44	49.70
France	60.71		56.72		48.80	52.71			46.76	42.76		40.63		42.43	50.12
Italy	85.65		82.47		81.07	73.60			69.76	71.72		66.47		57.22	54.50
Luxembourg	88.91		88.79		87.39	88.55			87.27	91.35		90.76		85.55	84.24
Netherlands	58.12		50.88		47.48	35.69			30.02	39.26		36.75		37.32	41.93
United Kingdom	32.35		32.57		36.37	36.43			24.00	38.52		34.70		35.60	36.90

TURNOUT ELECTIONS

24/06/2019 - 15:14

All times are GMT+2

Turnout by country (%)

Provisional results

Country	1979	1981	1984	1987	1989	1994	1995	1996	1999	2004	2007	2009	2013	2014	2019
Greece		81.48	80.59		80.03	73.18			70.25	63.22		52.54		59.97	58.69
Spain				68.52	54.71	59.14			63.05	45.14		44.87		43.81	60.73
Portugal				72.42	51.10	35.54			39.93	38.60		36.77		33.67	30.75
Sweden							41.63		38.84	37.85		45.53		51.07	55.27
Austria								67.73	49.40	42.43		45.97		45.39	59.80
Finland								57.60	30.14	39.43		38.60		39.10	40.70
Czechia										28.30		28.22		18.20	28.72
Estonia										26.83		43.90		36.52	37.60
Cyprus										72.50		59.40		43.97	44.99
Lithuania										48.38		20.98		47.35	53.48

TURNOUT ELECTIONS

Turnout by country (%)

Provisional results

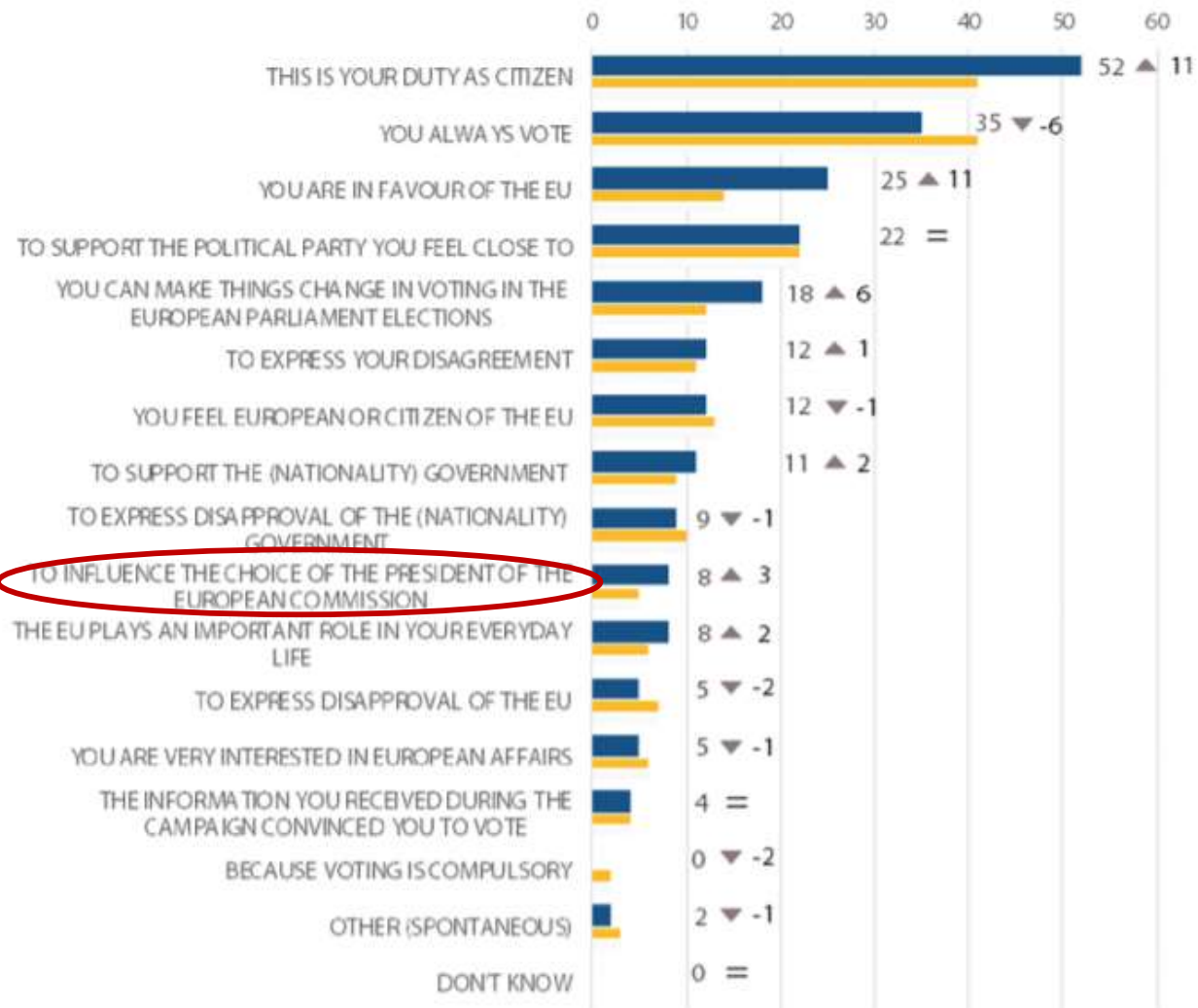
Country	1979	1981	1984	1987	1989	1994	1995	1996	1999	2004	2007	2009	2013	2014	2019
Latvia										41.34		53.70		30.24	33.53
Hungary										38.50		36.31		28.97	43.36
Malta										82.39		78.79		74.80	72.70
Poland										20.87		24.53		23.83	45.68
Slovenia										28.35		28.37		24.55	28.89
Slovakia										16.97		19.64		13.05	22.74
Bulgaria											29.22	38.99		35.84	32.64
Romania											29.47	27.67		32.44	51.07
Croatia													20.84	25.24	29.86
Total EU	61.99		58.98		58.41	56.67			49.51	45.47		42.97		42.61	50.62

source (retrieved 04/09/2019): <https://election-results.eu/turnout/>



2019 EP ELECTIONS

Q What are the main reasons why you decided to vote in the recent European Parliament elections?
(Max. 3 answers) (% - EU)



source :

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/files/be-heard/eurobarometer/2019/post-election-survey-2019-complete-results/report/en-post-election-survey-2019-report.pdf>

Base: respondents who declared they voted in the EE19,
51% of the sample

Source: Eurobarometer 2019 (91.5), QG6

2019 EP ELECTIONS

Q European Parliament elections were held on the (DATE ACCORDING TO COUNTRY).
 For one reason or another, some people in (OUR COUNTRY) did not vote in these elections.
 Did you yourself vote in the recent European Parliament elections (% - EU)

	Voted 2014	Voted 2019	Diff. '19-'14
EU28	43	51	8
Gender			
Man	45	52	7
Woman	41	49	8
Age			
16/18-24	28	42	14
25-39	35	47	12
40-54	45	52	7
55 +	51	54	3
Education (End of)			
15-	43	46	3
16-19	38	47	9
20+	51	59	8
Still studying	37	51	14
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	52	55	3
Managers	53	61	8
Other white collars	44	53	9
Manual workers	35	42	7
House persons	36	47	11
Unemployed	31	37	6
Retired	50	55	5
Students	37	51	14

	Voted 2014	Voted 2019	Diff. '19-'14
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	32	38	6
From time to time	40	47	7
Almost never/Never	47	54	7
Left-right political scale			
Left	53	64	11
Centre	44	51	7
Right	54	66	12
My voice counts in the EU			
Agree	60	61	1
Disagree	33	39	6
Opinion about country's membership of the EU			
A good thing	53	58	5
A bad thing	35	45	10
Neither a good thing, nor a bad thing	32	41	9

Base: respondents of voting age

Source: Eurobarometer 2019 (91.5), QG1

source : <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/files/be-heard/eurobarometer/2019/post-election-survey-2019-complete-results/report/en-post-election-survey-2019-report.pdf>



European Parliament elections were held on the (DATE ACCORDING TO COUNTRY).
 For one reason or another, some people in (OUR COUNTRY) did not vote in these elections.
 Did you yourself vote in the recent European Parliament elections? (% - EU)

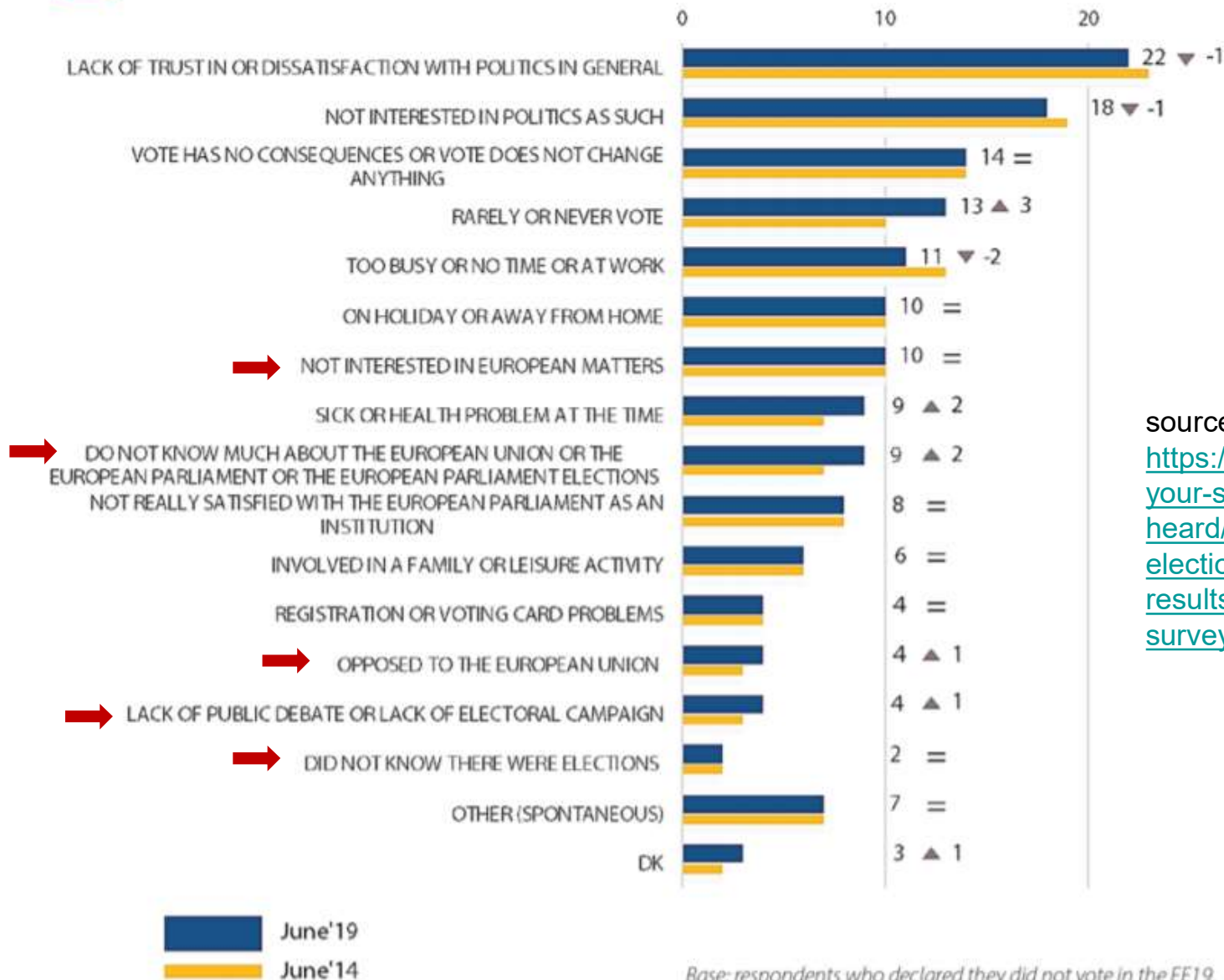
source : <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/files/beheard/eurobarometer/2019/post-election-survey-2019-complete-results/report/en-post-election-survey-2019-report.pdf>

	Voting behaviour in EE19		Voting behaviour in EE14		Voting behaviour in EE19		Voting behaviour in EE14		
	Voted	Did not vote	Voted	Did not vote	Voted	Did not vote	Voted	Did not vote	
Gender					Subjective urbanisation				
Man	49	47	51	46	Rural area or village	30	30	34	34
Woman	51	53	49	54	Small or middle sized town	45	42	41	41
Age					Large town				
16/18-24	9	17	8	15	Political interest index				
25-39	21	24	21	30	Strong	24	10	20	6
40-54	27	24	28	25	Medium	50	40	52	35
55+	43	35	43	30	Low	14	19	17	26
Education					Not at all				
15-	14	17	18	19	My voice counts in the EU				
16-19	39	44	38	45	Agree	68	42	55	26
20+	39	24	36	25	Disagree	29	49	41	66
Still Studying	7	12	6	8	Things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction in (OUR COUNTRY)				
No full-time education	-	1	1	1	Things are going in the right direction	39	28	34	21
Socio-professional category					Things are going in the wrong direction				
Self-employed	8	6	9	7	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	8	9	20	22
Managers	14	8	13	8	Things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction in the European Union				
Other white collars	12	10	11	10	Things are going in the right direction	35	27	30	18
Manual workers	19	25	17	24	Things are going in the wrong direction	47	47	37	42
House person	5	6	6	8	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	8	10	24	24
Unemployed	5	9	8	13					
Retired	30	24	30	22					
Students	7	12	6	8					

“Despite the increased turnout among younger people (as described above), the overall voter population continues to show a strong representation among older people, including 43% aged 55 or over (unchanged from 2014). The voter profile is now more highly educated [...]”

2019 EP ELECTIONS

Q What are the main reasons why you did NOT vote in the recent European Parliament? (Max. 3 answers) (% - EU)



source :

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/files/be-heard/eurobarometer/2019/post-election-survey-2019-complete-results/report/en-post-election-survey-2019-report.pdf>

Base: respondents who declared they did not vote in the EE19, 49% of the sample

Source: Eurobarometer 2019 (91.5), QG9

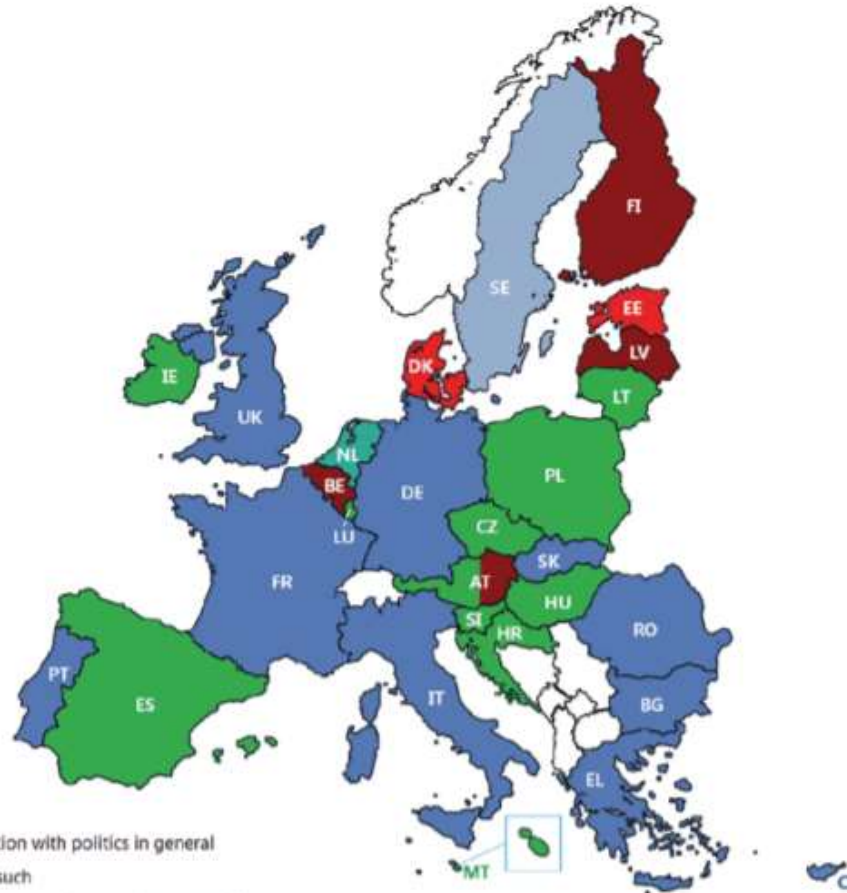
2019 EP ELECTIONS

Q What are the main reasons why you did NOT vote in the recent European Parliament (Max. 3 answers)
THE MOST MENTIONED ITEM PER COUNTRY

CY		39
PT		38
BG		38
EL		35
DE		27
IT		26
RO		24
EU28		22
FR		22
SK		20
UK		18
HU		28
MT		27
ES		24
HR		24
LT		24
SI		23
PL		22
LU		20
IE		20
CZ		20
AT		19
BE		24
LV		24
FI		20
DK		23
EE		18
SE		26
NL		22

Map Legend

- Lack of trust in or dissatisfaction with politics in general
- Not interested in politics as such
- Vote has no consequences or vote does not change anything
- Too busy or no time or at work
- Do not know much about the European Union or the European Parliament or the European Parliament elections
- On holiday or away from home

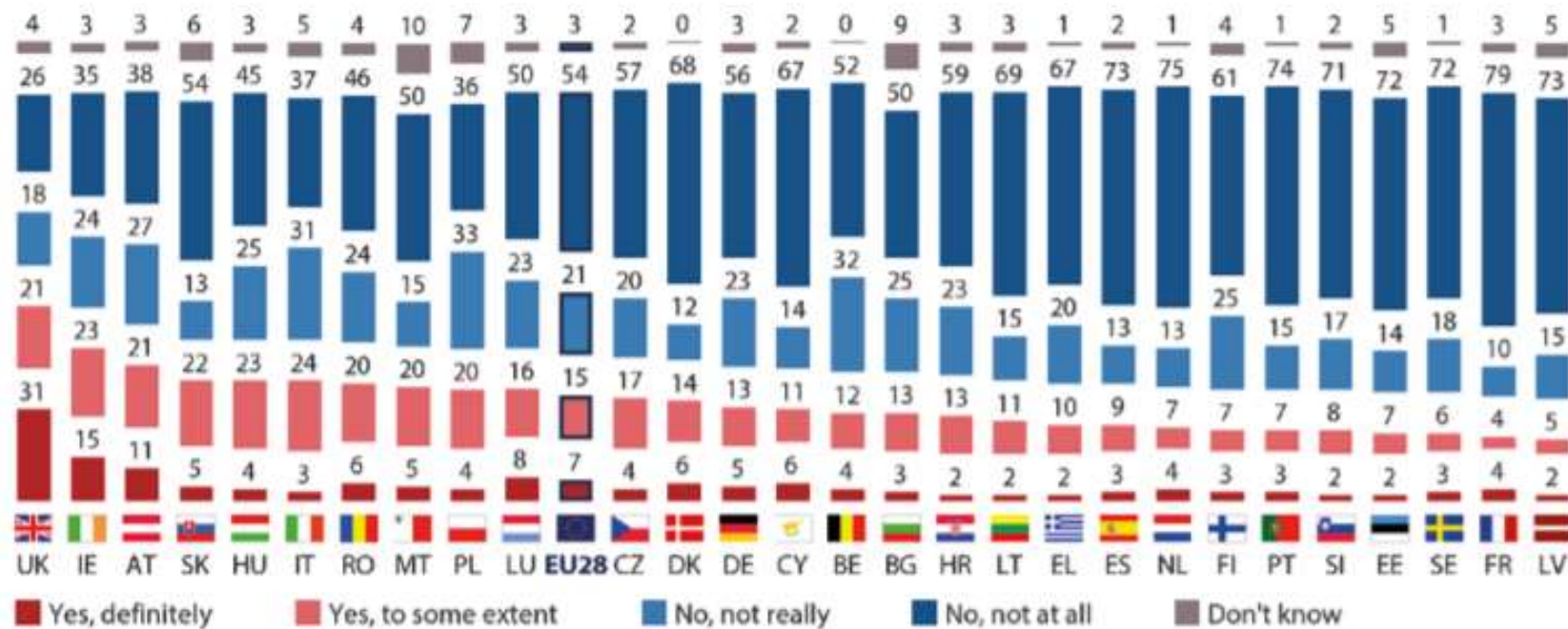


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[//www.europarl.europa.eu/at-service/files/be-eurobarometer/2019/post-on-survey-2019-complete-report/en-post-election-y-2019-report.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-service/files/be-eurobarometer/2019/post-on-survey-2019-complete-report/en-post-election-y-2019-report.pdf)

Base: respondents who declared they did not vote in the EE19,
 49% of the sample
 Source: Eurobarometer 2019 (91.5), QG9

2019 EP ELECTIONS

Q There have been a lot of discussions and media coverage about the manner of the Brexit, the UK leaving the EU, in the months before the elections. Would you say that this has had an impact on your decision to vote or not to vote in the European Parliament elections? (%)



Base: respondents of voting age, 98% of the sample
Source: Eurobarometer 2019 (91.5), QG10

source :
<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/files/be-heard/eurobarometer/2019/post-election-survey-2019-complete-results/report/en-post-election-survey-2019-report.pdf>

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

How does it work?

The EP's Work is generally organised on the following lines:

- the relevant parliamentary committee appoints a Member as '**rapporteur**' to **draft a report** on the Commission proposal under consideration;
- the rapporteur submits his/her draft report to the **committee** for discussion;
- after consideration, the **draft report is put to the vote** and possibly amended;
- the report is then discussed in **plenary**, amended and put to the vote. Parliament thus adopts its position on the matter.

THE COUNCIL

- consists of a representative of each Member State at ministerial level, who may commit the government of the Member State in question and cast its vote (Article 16 para 2 TEU);
- meets in different configurations;
- Lisbon: **The Council shall act by a qualified majority except where the Treaties provide otherwise** (Article 16 para 3 TEU) ;
- The Presidency of Council configurations other than that of Foreign Affairs (->High Representative), shall be held by Member States representatives on the basis of equal rotation (compare Article 16 para 9 TEU)

COUNCIL FORMATIONS

- General Affairs
- Foreign Affairs
- Economic and Financial Affairs
- Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)
- Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs
- Competitiveness (Intern. Market, Industry, Research+Innov., Space)
- Transport, Telecommunications and Energy
- Agriculture and Fisheries
- Environment
- Education, Youth, Culture and Sport

PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL

[...] Although no notification has as yet been received under Article 50 TEU from its government, a Member State has made it known publicly that it will withdraw from the Union. The order of presidencies of the Council should be amended to take account of that circumstance, without prejudice to the rights and obligations of that Member State. [...]

| See Council Decision 2016/1316 of 26 July 2016

PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL

Draft Table of Presidencies of the Council (*)

Netherlands (**)	January-June	2016
Slovakia (**)	July-December	2016
Malta (**)	January-June	2017
Estonia	July-December	2017
Bulgaria	January-June	2018
Austria	July-December	2018
Romania	January-June	2019
Finland	July-December	2019
Croatia	January-June	2020
Germany	July-December	2020
Portugal	January-June	2021
Slovenia	July-December	2021
France	January-June	2022
Czech Republic	July-December	2022
Sweden	January-June	2023

| See Council Decision 2016/1316 of 26 July 2016

PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL

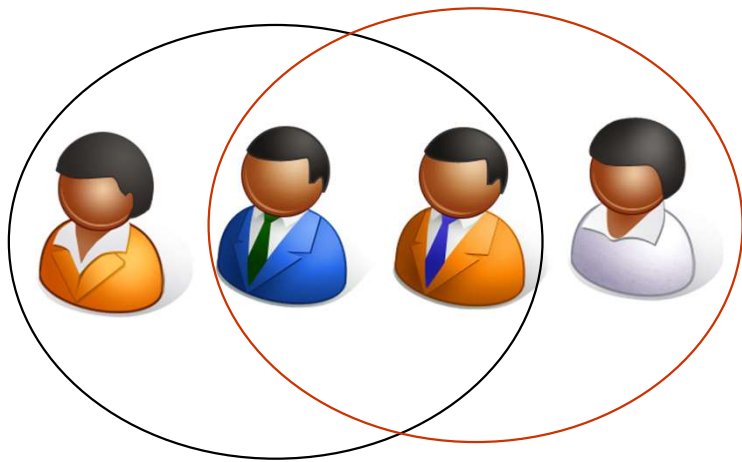
Spain	July-December	2023
Belgium	January-June	2024
Hungary	July-December	2024
Poland	January-June	2025
Denmark	July-December	2025
Cyprus	January-June	2026
Ireland	July-December	2026
Lithuania	January-June	2027
Greece	July-December	2027
Italy	January-June	2028
Latvia	July-December	2028
Luxembourg	January-June	2029
Netherlands	July-December	2029
Slovakia	January-June	2030
Malta	July-December	2030

(*) Without prejudice to the United Kingdom's rights and obligations as a Member State.

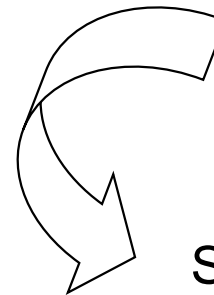
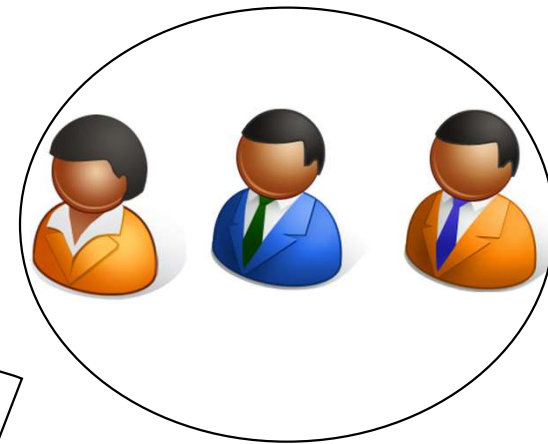
(**) The current trio is inserted in this Annex for information purposes.'

PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL

TROIKA



THREE PRESIDENCIES SYSTEM



See Declaration n°9 on
Article 16(9) of the
TEU.

QUALIFIED MAJORITY

(Article 16 TEU)

-

55 % of the members of the Council, comprising at least 15 of them and representing MS comprising at least **65 % of the population of the Union**

A blocking minority must include **at least 4 Council members**.

QUALIFIED MAJORITY

“Lisbon Compromise” – Declaration no 7

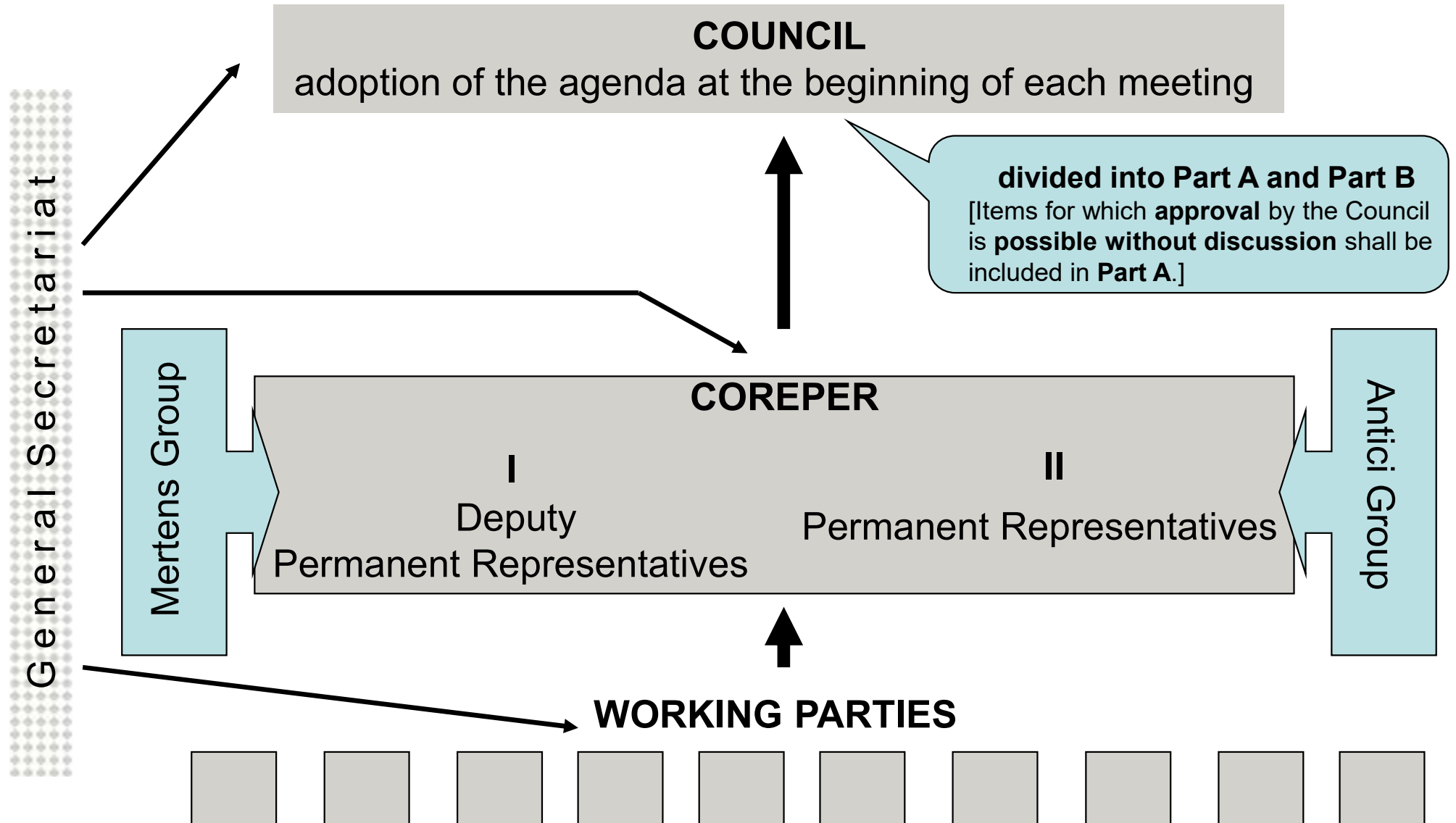
[I]f members of the Council, representing:

- (a) at least 55 % of the population, or
- (b) at least 55 % of the number of Member States

necessary to constitute a blocking minority [...] indicate their opposition to the Council adopting an act by a qualified majority, the Council shall discuss the issue [...] [and] shall [...] do all in its power to reach [...] a satisfactory solution to address concerns raised by the[se] members of the Council.

THE COUNCIL

How does it work?



COUNCIL WORKING METHODS

- Preparation -

- files to go to COREPER only when there is reasonable prospect of progress,
- Presidency to advance work between meetings (e.g. written consultations),
- delegations to submit (joint) written positions (including proposals for specific wording),
- Presidency to encourage delegations to communicate in advance of COREPER

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COUNCIL WORKING METHODS

- Conduct of meetings -

- **no item simply for presentation or information** (except where debate on new major initiatives is planned);
- **time limits** for interventions (usually 2 minutes);
- **no lengthy** introductions and summaries, **no repetitions**;
- **full table rounds proscribed** in principle;
- like-minded delegations to consult with a view to **presentation** of a common position by a **single spokesperson**;
- delegations to make **concrete drafting proposals** in writing rather than merely disagreeing;
- **silence** to be taken as **agreement** in principle

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SOME EU PROBLEM SOLVING TECHNIQUES

- step-by-step (gradual) approach,
- transition periods;
- revision clause;
- recitals;
- accompanying measures;
- declarations;
- ...

- move to a higher level (take the lift);
- confessionals;
- ...

- stop the clock;
- use of arguments related to logistics (e.g. interpreters);
- attachés meetings;
- ...

