How to work with the European Parliament
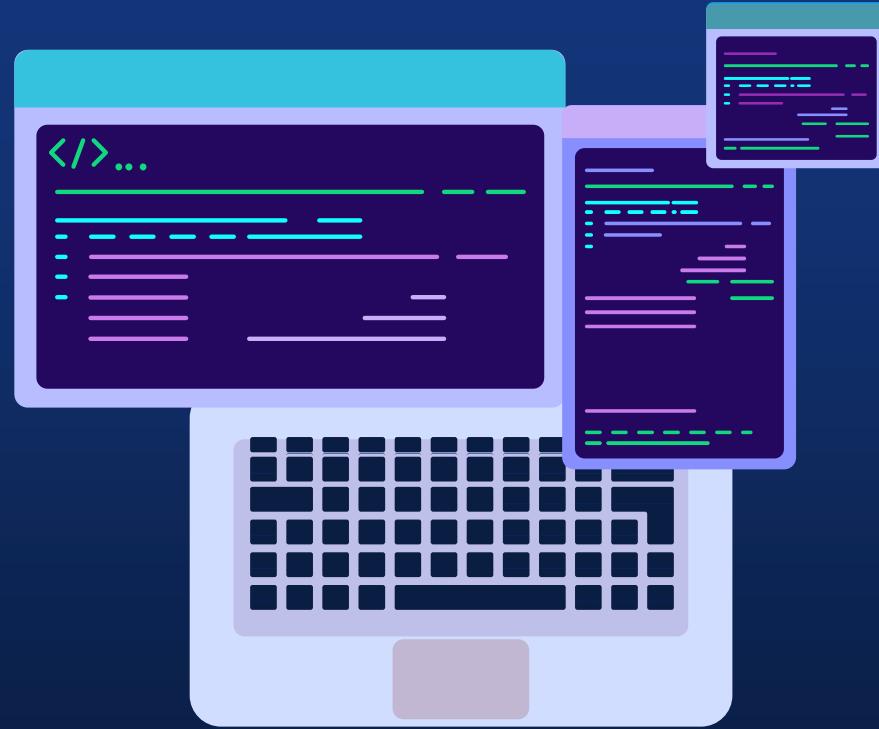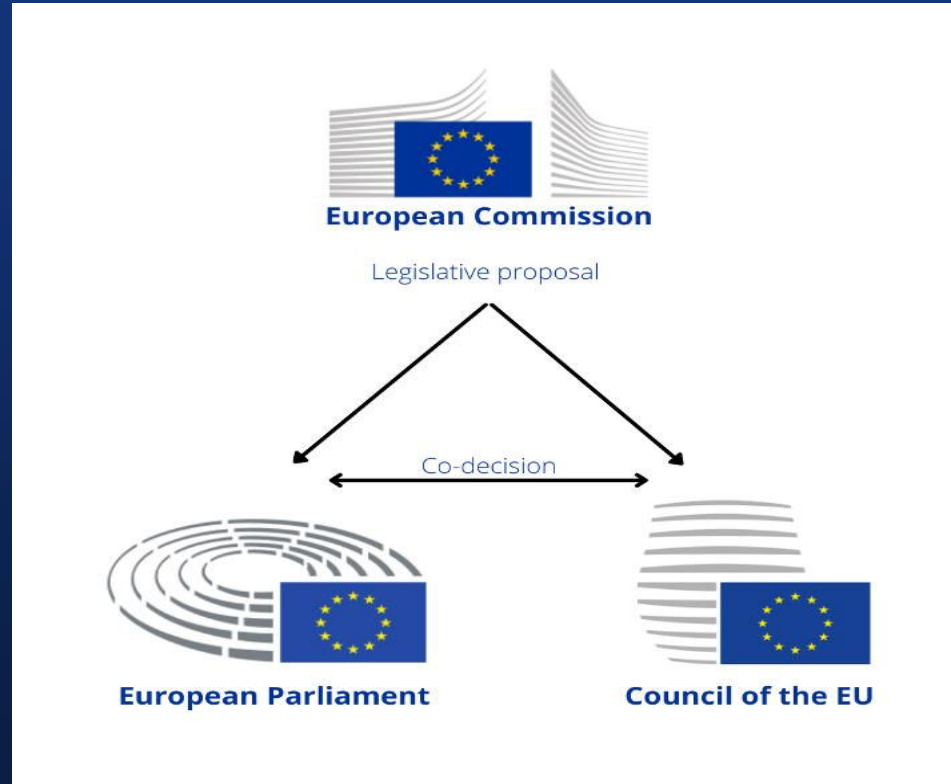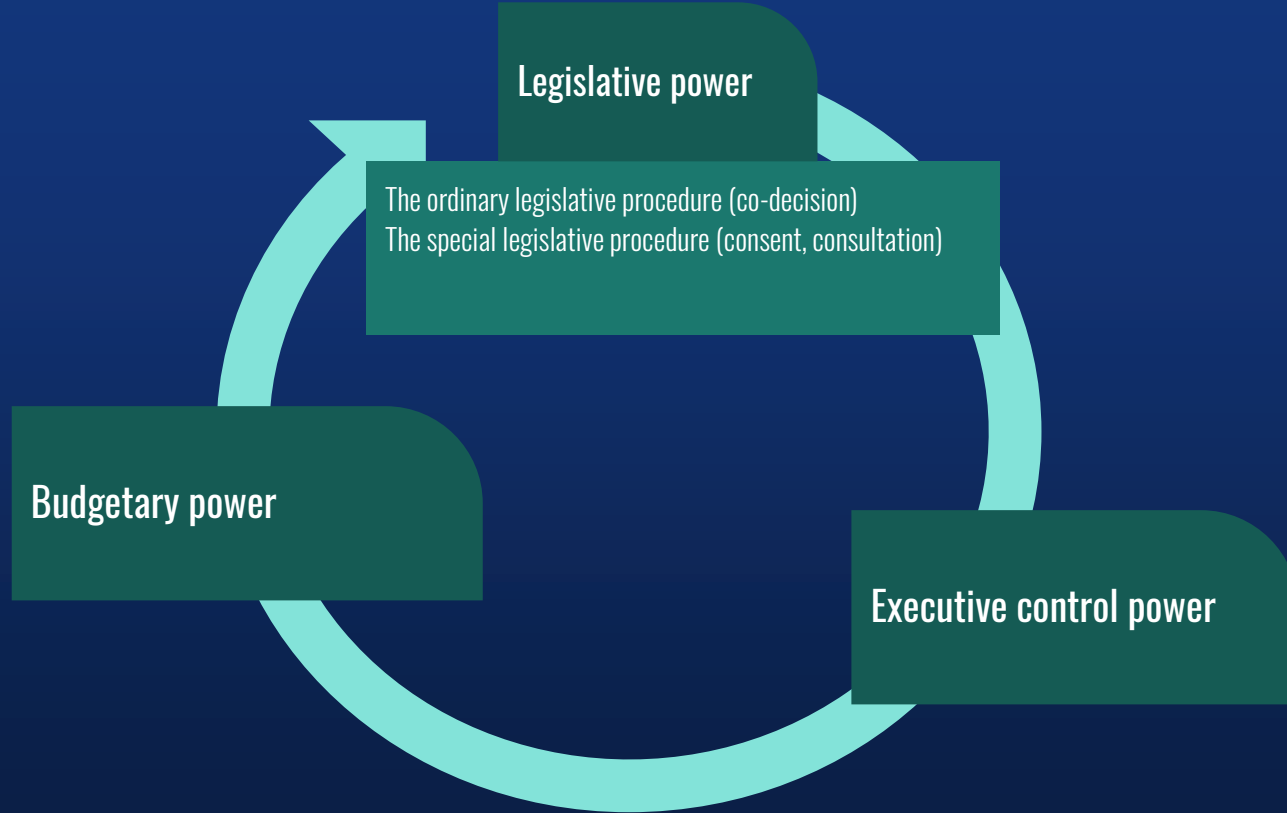
EU MATRIX

Part I: How the European Parliament works

The decision-making process

EP's Powers

Legislative power

The ordinary legislative procedure (co-decision)
The special legislative procedure (consent, consultation)

Budgetary power

Executive control power

EU MATRIX

Acts issued by the European Parliament

The European Parliament can issue the following types of acts:

1. **Legislative Acts:** Binding acts that create or change EU laws, such as regulations and directives.
2. **Non-legislative Acts**: Non-binding acts expressing Parliament's position or opinion on various matters, usually non-binding.

See Rules of Procedure: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/RULES-9-2023-02-14-TOC_EN.html

EP's own legislative initiative resolutions

Under the Treaty of Maastricht enhanced by the Lisbon Treaty, the European Parliament has a right of legislative initiative that allows it to ask the Commission to submit a proposal.

Study case of: Corporate sustainability due diligence Directive

The Parliament has long been advocating for legal framework to introduce requirements for EU companies to identify, prevent, end, or mitigate the actual and potential impacts of their activities on the environment and on human rights abuses.

-> **On 17 December 2020**, the Parliament **adopted a non-legislative own-initiative resolution on sustainable corporate governance**, insisting on concrete obligations for companies to act and not only report information

-> **On 10 March 2021, the Parliament adopted a legislative-initiative resolution on corporate due diligence and corporate accountability,** expressing support for the adoption of binding legislation for due diligence standards. It furthermore made recommendations for a draft directive, in order to provide input and guidance to the Commission's legislative work on the matter.

-> **On 23 February 2022, the Commission presented its proposal for a directive**

The European Parliament (EP) at a first glance

Directly elected by the European citizens since 1979
Term: 5 years
705 MEPs elected from 27 Member States

All the leading roles like the President of the EP, Vice-presidents of the EP, Committee Chairs and Vice-chairs have a term of 2,5 years.

Structure of the European Parliament

- **Bureau**:
  - → composed of the EP President and 14 Vice-Presidents;
  - → the office is responsible for the EP budget, organizational, administrative and personnel matters.

- **The Conference of Presidents**
  - → made up of the President and leaders of the political groups, determines the agenda and overall direction of the European Parliament.

- **Parliamentary committees**:
  - → work on policy-specific reports before the plenary session
  - → made up of a variable number of MEPs (between 25 and 88) and substitute members;
  - → led by a chair and 4 vice-chairs.

- **Administration (Secretariat)**:
  - → coordinates legislative work and organises plenary sittings and meetings;
  - → provides technical and expert assistance to parliamentary bodies and Members of Parliament.

- **Political groups**

EU MATRIX

Parliamentary Committees - Standing Commitees

AFET - Foreign Affairs	**BUDG** - Budgets	**ENVI** - Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	**REGI** - Regional Development	**LIBE**- Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
DROI - Human Rights	**CONT**- Budgetary Control	**SANT** - Public Health	**AGRI** - Agriculture and Rural Development	**AFCO** - Constitutional Affairs
SEDE- Security and Defence	**ECON** - Economic and Monetary Affairs	**ITRE** - Industry, Research and Energy	**PECH** - Fisheries	**FEMM** - Women's Rights and Gender Equality
DEVE - Development	**FISC** - Tax Matters	**IMCO** - Internal Market and Consumer Protection	**CULT** - Culture and Education	**PETI** - Petitions
INTA - International Trade	**EMPL** - Employment and Social Affairs	**TRAN** - Transport and Tourism	**JURI** - Legal Affairs	

EU MATRIX

Parliamentary Committees

Special Committees	
COVI - COVID-19 pandemic: lessons learned and recommendations for the future	ING2 - Special Committee on foreign interference and disinformation, and on strengthening integrity in the EP
Committee on Beating Cancer - now closed	

Committees of Inquire
Parliament may set up committees of inquiry to investigate breaches of Union law or alleged maladministration in the application of the Union law.

How is a special committee set up?

1. Proposal made by: a political group, a standing committee, or at least one-tenth of MEPs
   - Proposal content: objectives, scope, time frame, and number of members
2. Conference of Presidents reviews the proposal and decides whether to establish the committee
3. Plenary Session Approval: Requires a majority of votes cast to establish the committee
   - Approves the mandate, composition, and duration of the special committee
4. Appointment of Committee Members: EPGs nominate their representatives, reflecting the political balance within the European Parliament
5. Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs
6. Work of the Special Committee: conducts work according to its mandate
7. Dissolution of the Special Committee
   - Committee dissolved after completing its work and submitting the report

   Rules of procedure: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/lastrules/RULE-207_EN.html?redirect

KEY people in a committee

Committee Chair

➔ They set the agenda, preside over meetings, and facilitate discussions and decision-making processes. The Chair is elected by the members of the committee.

Vice-chairs

➔ Vice-Chairs support the Chair in their duties and can assume the Chair's responsibilities in their absence. They are elected by the members of the committee

Rapporteurs

➔ A Rapporteur is an MEP appointed by the committee to draft reports and represent the committee's position on specific legislative proposals or policy issues. They play a crucial role in the committee's work, as they are responsible for researching, analyzing, and presenting information to the committee in a comprehensive and unbiased manner.

Shadow rapporteurs

➔ Shadow Rapporteurs are appointed by the political groups within the committee to monitor and contribute to the work of the Rapporteur. They play a crucial role in ensuring that the opinions and interests of their respective political groups are taken into account during the drafting process.

Coordinators

➔ Coordinators are appointed by the political groups to coordinate their group's activities and positions within the committee. They work closely with the Chair, Vice-Chairs, Rapporteurs, and Shadow Rapporteurs to ensure that their group's interests are represented effectively in the committee's work.

EU MATRIX

How the reports are allocated to EPGs in committees

The distribution of reports among different political groups within a committee follows the D'Hondt method

This mathematical formula is designed to allocate reports proportionally according to the size of the groups in the committee.

The political group receiving the report will pick a rapporteur among its members.
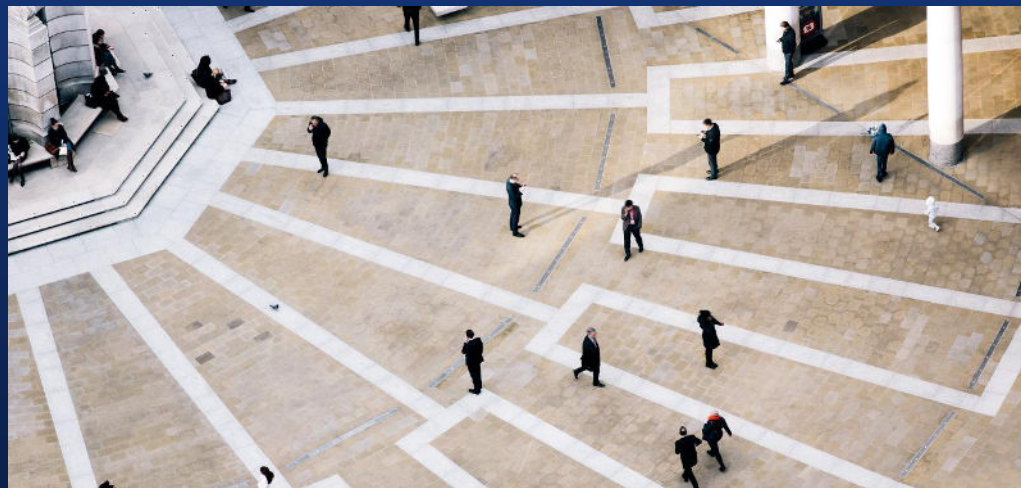
Political groups

Group	Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)	Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament	Renew Europe Group	European Conservatives and Reformists Group	Group of the Greens/ European Free Alliance	Identity and Democracy Group	The Left group in the European Parliament
Abbreviation	EPP	S&D	Renew	ECR	Greens/EFA	ID	The Left
Political orientation	Centre-right	Centre-left	Centre	Eurosceptic, antifederalist, conservative	Ecologist, nationalist, regionalist	Right-wing to far-right	Extreme left

The Plenary

Parliament sits monthly in Strasbourg in a four-day part-session (Monday to Thursday). Additional part-sessions are held in Brussels. An agenda is drawn up for each part-session.

Amendments in the plenary
Amendments may be proposed by a committee, a political group or at least 40 Members and must be received by the President at least one hour before the opening of the part-session.

EP's working calendar

Part II: the key actors in the current European Parliament

Key actors - MEPs

- Key influencers and drivers in the Parliament are usually rapporteurs, shadow rapporteurs, Group coordinators

- At the Plenary stage, the rapporteur, Committee coordinators and shadows remain key figures as they try to steer their Committee compromise deal through Plenary. They will try to keep their own Group in line with what they agreed, on the Group's behalf, in the Committee stage

- National Delegations are important actors for specific policy areas. They might not have the numbers to carry a vote, but they have influence in the Political Group – and they also have inside information on all the deals being done there

- Whether a MEP is from a national governing party or the opposition could have an influence on their activity in the Parliament

Key actors - MEPs' Assistants

- MEPs' assistants (the "APAs") are vital gatekeepers to the MEPs themselves. You need to identify the exact role the assistant plays within a MEP's office - are they keeping the agenda, providing policy expertise, etc.

- Some assistants come from the party ranks, often belonging to same party factions as the MEPs they are working for, they might have helped them during the campaign and could become MEPs or MPs themselves later on. These assistants are more sensitive towards the national dimension/ impact of proposals on constituents, etc.

- Other types of assistants are Brussels insiders: they have been working in other EU institutions or European organisations, are not affiliated to a specific party and might have worked for other MEPs from different parties. They have deeper knowledge of the EU machinery and a stronger network in Brussels, but MEPs might trust them less when it comes to policy agenda, since these assistants tend to be more invested in their EU career

More on MEP's Assistants: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/assistants

Key actors - Committee Secretariat

- Committee Secretariat staff have a very good understanding of the state of a dossier, timetable information, voting lists, information on technical details and sticking points, and in some cases, they have a strong influence over the content and direction of a file

- Committee officials often have a good institutional memory of how things work in the Committee – they will be able to tell you about the dynamics, interpersonal relations and key drivers in the Committee as they follow it every day

Key actors - Political Group staff

Political Group staff:

➔ work very closely with the MEPs in their Committee – so they have a privileged position for information and influence

➔ have detailed information about the workings of the Committee and of the politics surrounding all files on the table

➔ have privileged access to voting lists and other internal information and documents

➔ are often senior experts with competence in the subjects of their Committee

How to engage with the MEPs?

1. Research the MEP's interests and background: Understand their political affiliation, policy interests, committee memberships and past work. Identify areas where your expertise or interests align with theirs.
2. Make a connection through email, phone, or social media.
3. Communicate concisely and clearly.
4. Offer expertise and support: Share relevant information, research, or data that could help the MEP in their work.
5. Network with the MEP's staff and stakeholders.
6. Be responsive and reliable.
7. Follow up regularly to maintain the relationship.

How to engage with civil servants working in the EP

1. Understand their role: Civil servants are responsible for implementing policies and providing impartial advice. Identify their department and area of expertise.
2. Be factual and neutral: Present your information, proposal, or request in a factual, neutral manner. Avoid political bias or advocacy.
3. Be solution-oriented: Offer practical solutions to problems or suggest improvements to existing policies or processes.

How legislation is drafted - timetable. Know when to act

Commission proposal

National Parliaments opinions

EESC/CoR opinion(s)

Draft report

Committee vote

Trilogue

Submitted to plenary

Voted in plenary

Adoption

EU MATRIX
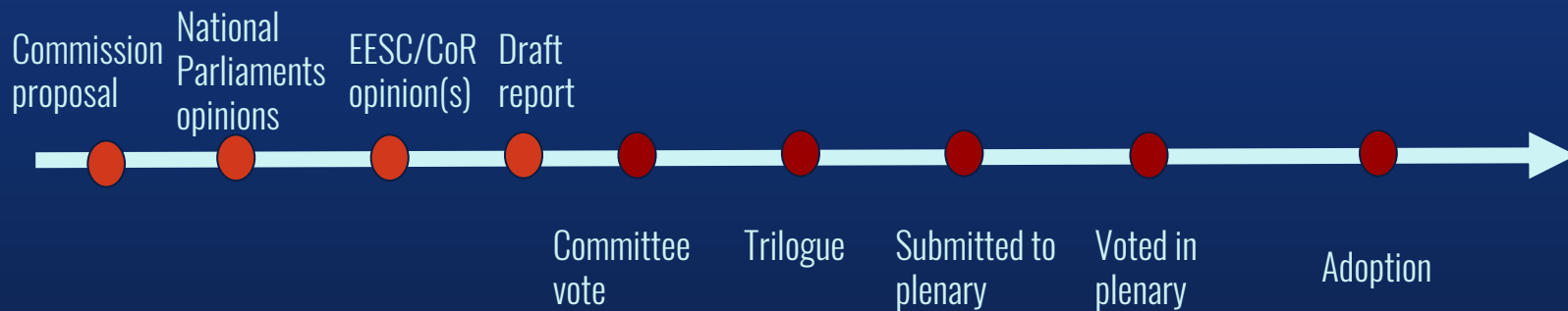
Study case: Motion for resolution: Strengthening Europe in the fight against cancer

Special Committee on Beating Cancer
Rapporteur: Véronique Trillet-Lenoir

💡 Click on the name of the topic to see full list of specific actions

Category

Health,(1) ✕ | ⌄

TOPIC ↑↓	INFLUENCE SCORE	MEP SCORE	NATIONAL PARTY SCORE	GROUP SCORE	COUNTRY SCORE	ACTIONS
Covid-19 vaccines procurement	100%	36.84%	36.84%	36.84%	69.61%	🔍 Full map
IPRs Covid vaccines	100%	61.47%	65.13%	84.4%	46.42%	🔍 Full map
Pharma trade	100%	80%	70%	80%	54.78%	🔍 Full map
Pharma transparency	100%	57.14%	57.14%	64.28%	16.7%	🔍 Full map
Pharma IPRs	100%	63.85%	67.68%	85.39%	51.08%	🔍 Full map
Pharmaceuticals regulation	100%	66.28%	68.2%	77.78%	13.7%	🔍 Full map

Showing 1 to 6 **Total: 6 rows**

Positions (votes) of the MEP on Pharmaceutical regulations

09 Jul 2020	The EU's public health strategy post-COVID-19	Argues that the production costs of pharmaceutical products need to be externally assessed and calls for more information regarding the use of public funds by private beneficiaries	No	Yes	👍
09 Jul 2020	The EU's public health strategy post-COVID-19	Criticises pharmaceutical companies for promoting patents on treatments and cures	Yes	Yes	👎
09 Jul 2020	The EU's public health strategy post-COVID-19	Recalls that the polio vaccine was patent-free and the compulsory licensing of HIV treatment by South Africa	Yes	Yes	👎
10 Jul 2020	Conduct of clinical trials with and supply of medicinal products for human use containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms intended to treat or prevent coronavirus disease	The exemption from prior environmental risk assessment should be limited to clinical trial operations related to Covid-19 investigational vaccines containing GMOs, with the exception of their manufacturing	Yes	Yes	👎
16 Sep 2020	Strategic approach to pharmaceuticals in the environment	Argues that existing initiatives on pharmaceuticals should be analysed and, where appropriate, considered in future EU initiatives on pharmaceuticals in the environment	Yes	Yes	👍
16 Sep 2020	Strategic approach to pharmaceuticals in the environment	Calls for analysing self-regulated initiatives on pharmaceuticals in the environment	Yes	Yes	👍
16 Sep 2020	Strategic approach to pharmaceuticals in the environment	Argues that existing and self-regulated initiatives on pharmaceuticals should be considered as models in future EU initiatives on pharmaceuticals in the environment	Yes	Yes	👎

EU MATRIX

MEP's network in the European Parliament

Political group

Select... ▾

Country

Select... ▾

Committee

Select... ▾

See top X MEPs

Top 10 ✕ ▾

Network graph / Table

COLLABORATIVE MEP ↑↓	POLITICAL GROUP ↑↓	COUNTRY ↑↓	NO. COLLABORATIONS ↑↓	ACTIONS
BRUNET, Sylvie	REG	🇫🇷 France	1285	🔍View
CICUREL, Ilana	REG	🇫🇷 France	1119	🔍View
PÎSLARU, Dragoş	REG	🇷🇴 Romania	1116	🔍View
VEDRENNE, Marie-Pierre	REG	🇫🇷 France	1078	🔍View
BIJOUX, Stéphane	REG	🇫🇷 France	732	🔍View
CAÑAS, Jordi	REG	🇪🇸 Spain	709	🔍View
RODRÍGUEZ RAMOS, María Soraya	REG	🇪🇸 Spain	676	🔍View

EU MATRIX

MEP's network outside her own political group

| VIEWS AND INFLUENCE | STATEMENTS | MEPS' EP NETWORK | DETAILED INFLUENCE | STAKEHOLDERS NETWORK |

Political group
Group of the Progress... (4)

Country
Select...

Committee
Select...

See top X MEPs
Top 50

Network graph / Table

COLLABORATIVE MEP	POLITICAL GROUP	COUNTRY	NO. COLLABORATIONS	ACTIONS
MAXOVÁ, Radka	S&D	Czechia	118	View
MATTHIEU, Sara	Greens/EFA	Belgium	49	View
DANIELSSON, Johan	S&D	Sweden	49	View
VILLUMSEN, Nikolaj	The Left	Denmark	47	View
FRANSSEN, Cindy	EPP	Belgium	46	View

EU Matrix

MEP's meeting with other stakeholders

Stakeholder
Search by stakeholder

Topic
cancer

Procedure name
Search by procedure name

Committee
Select...

DATE	STAKEHOLDER	TOPIC	PROCEDURE NAME	COMMITTEE
11 Sep 2022	European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)	Participation à un débat de l'institut Curie "Cancer in Europe: notice of storm" à l'occasion du congrès de l'ESMO		
30 Nov 2021	European Cancer leagues	Meeting of the MEPs against cancer group - discussion about 2022 action plan	strengthening Europe in the fight against cancer – towards a comprehensive and coordinated strategy (2020/2267(INI))	
17 Nov 2021	European Cancer Organisation	European Cancer Summit: Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: From Plans to Action	strengthening Europe in the fight against cancer – towards a comprehensive and coordinated strategy (2020/2267(INI))	
30 Sep 2021	International Agency for Research on Cancer	Presentation of the draft report on strengthening Europe in the fight against cancer – towards a comprehensive and coordinated strategy (2020/2267(INI))	strengthening Europe in the fight against cancer – towards a comprehensive and coordinated strategy (2020/2267(INI))	
		Webinar for Gold September: towards a transformational		

EU Matrix

Shadow rapporteurs:

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
BECA Special Committee on Beating Cancer	TRILLET-LENOIR Véronique	28/09/2020
	– Shadow rapporteur	
	LIESE Peter	
	GONZÁLEZ CASARES Nicolás	
	RIVASI Michèle	
	MÉLIN Joëlle	
	FIOCCHI Pietro	
	GEORGIOU Giorgos	

Drafting amendments

Amendment 267
Nicolás González Casares, Maria Arena, Romana Jerković, Sara Cerdas, Patrizia Toia, Tudor Ciuhodaru, Marc Angel, Estrella Durá Ferrandis

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 – point c

Motion for a resolution	*Amendment*
(c) a ban on flavourings in all tobacco products to reduce the appeal of these products to non-smokers and young people;	(c) a ban on flavourings in all tobacco products to reduce the appeal of these products to non-smokers and young people, *as well as a ban on flavours in new and emerging nicotine containing products, especially electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS)*;

PE697.536v01-00   130/162   AM\1238997EN.docx

EN

Amendment introduced by **S&D Members**

Negative impact on the producers of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) known as e-cigarettes and vaping devices

Drafting amendments

Amendment 269
Peter Liese, Tomislav Sokol, Dolors Montserrat, Sunčana Glavak

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 – point c

Motion for a resolution	Amendment
(c) a ban on flavourings in all tobacco products to reduce the appeal of these products to non-smokers and young people;	(c) a ban on flavourings in all tobacco products, *which should not apply to electronic cigarettes,* to reduce the appeal of these products to non-smokers and young people;

Or. en

Or. en

Amendment introduced by **EPP Members**

Positive impact on the electronic cigarettes producers

EP: policy views and influence of each MEP on key debates
Pharmaceutical regulations
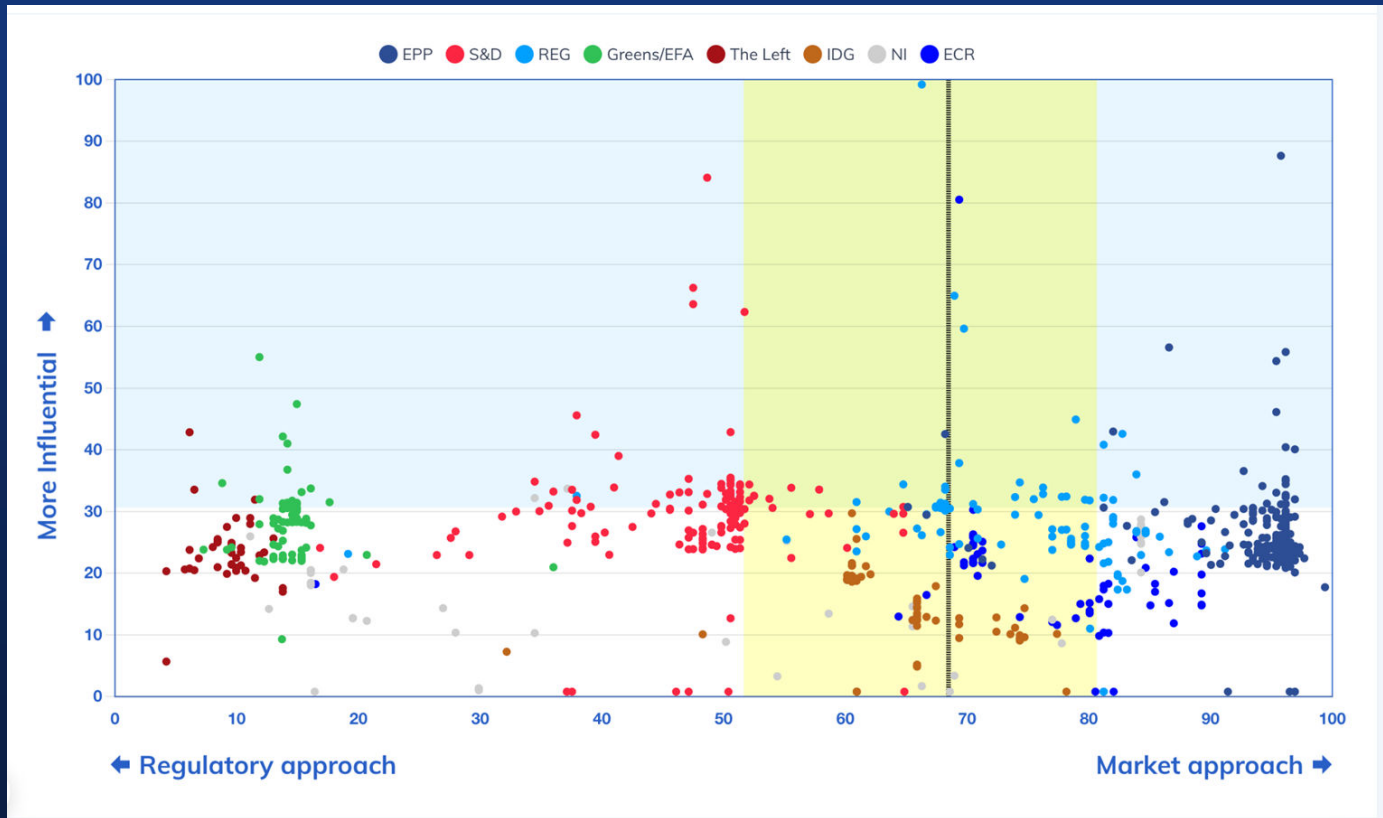
Policy views and influence of each national government on pharmaceutical regulations
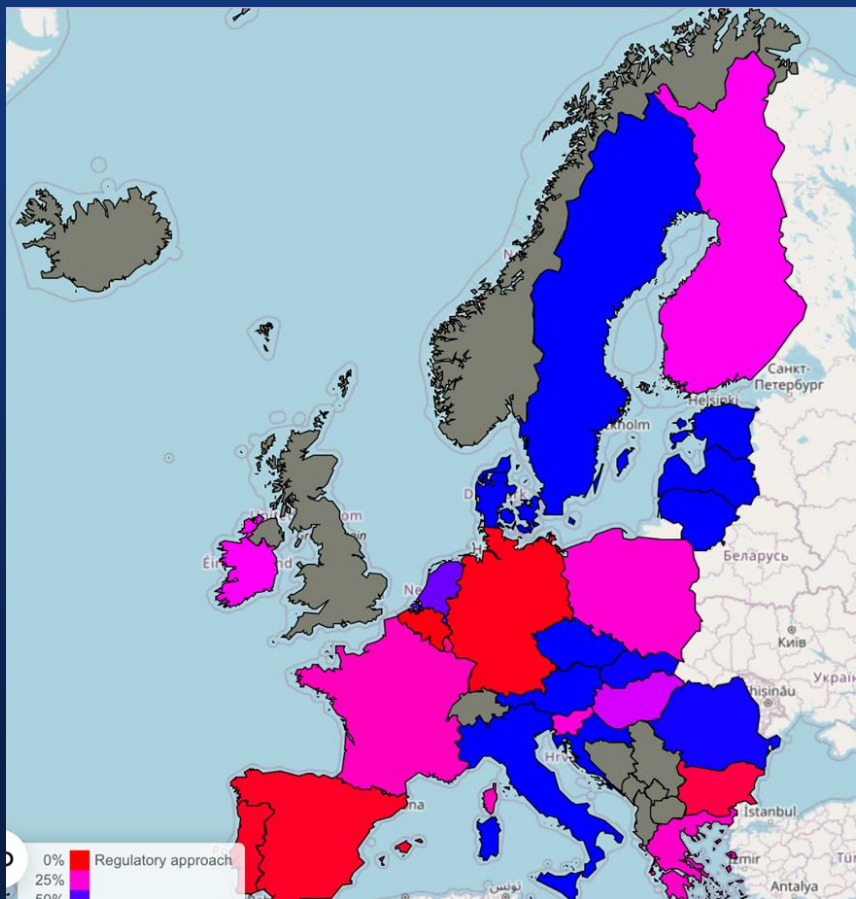
GOVERNMENT	MEPS BEHAVIOR	WEIGHT
Government of Austria	100%	1.99%
Government of Belgium	1.91%	2.58%
Government of Bulgaria	8.4%	1.55%
Government of Croatia	99.23%	0.90%
Government of Cyprus	18.27%	0.20%
Government of Czechia	83.97%	2.36%
Government of Denmark	73.67%	1.30%
Government of Estonia	68.69%	0.30%
Government of Finland	28.24%	1.24%
Government of France	22.14%	15.07%
Government of Germany	3.06%	18.57%
Government of Greece	23.28%	2.39%
Government of Hungary	34.74%	2.17%
Government of Ireland	29%	1.12%
Government of Italy	84.35%	13.38%

Regulatory approach
0%
25%
50%

Part III: European Parliament after 2024

Projection breakdown of European Parliament in 2024

Based on latest opinion polls in 27 EU countries
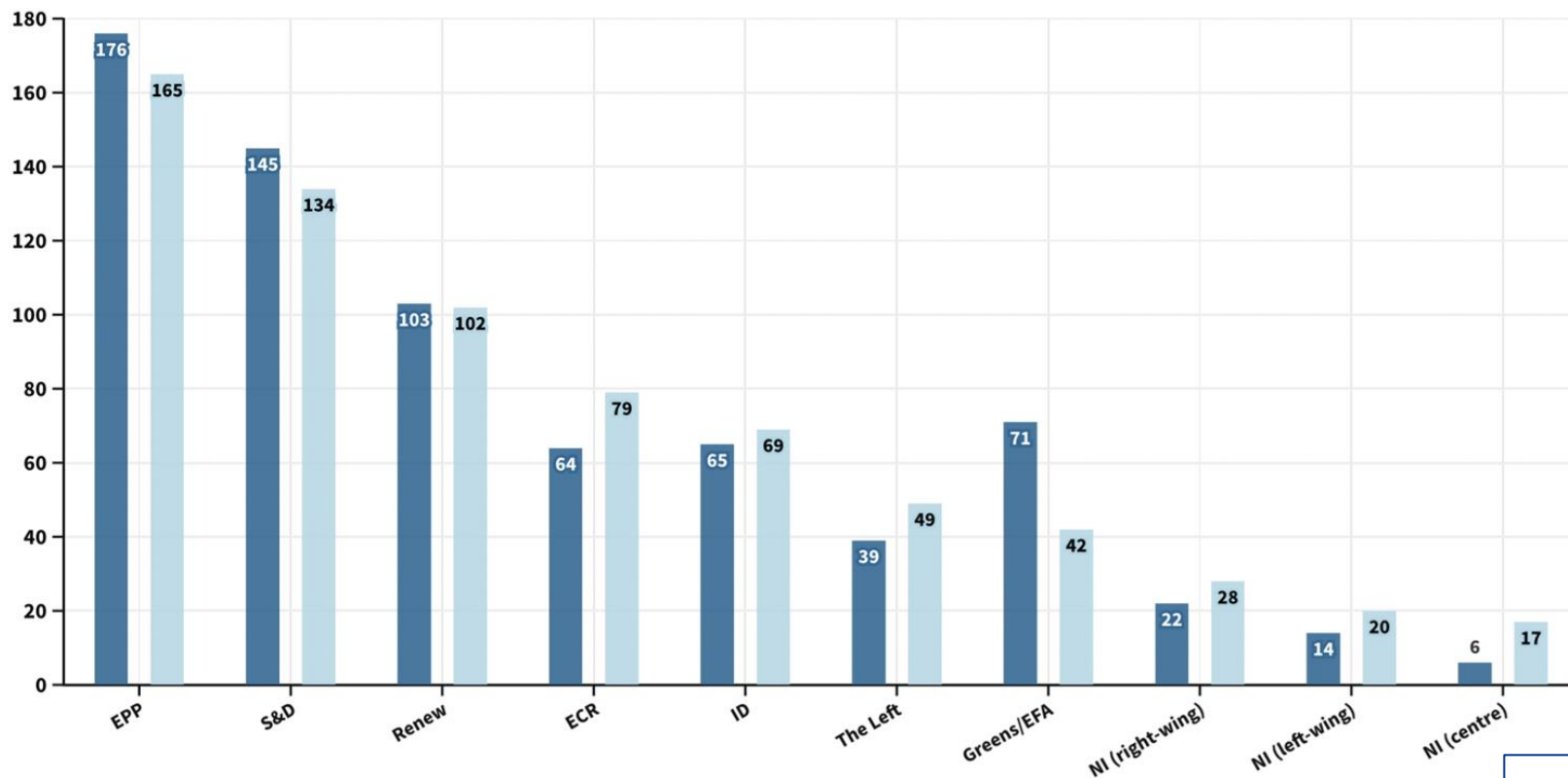
Note: Data elaborated in March 2023

Combined share of seats for largest group and centrist forces
Based on our latest projections for the European Parliament in 2024

🟩 EPP + S&D 🟨 EPP + S&D + Renew 🟪 Largest group (EPP)
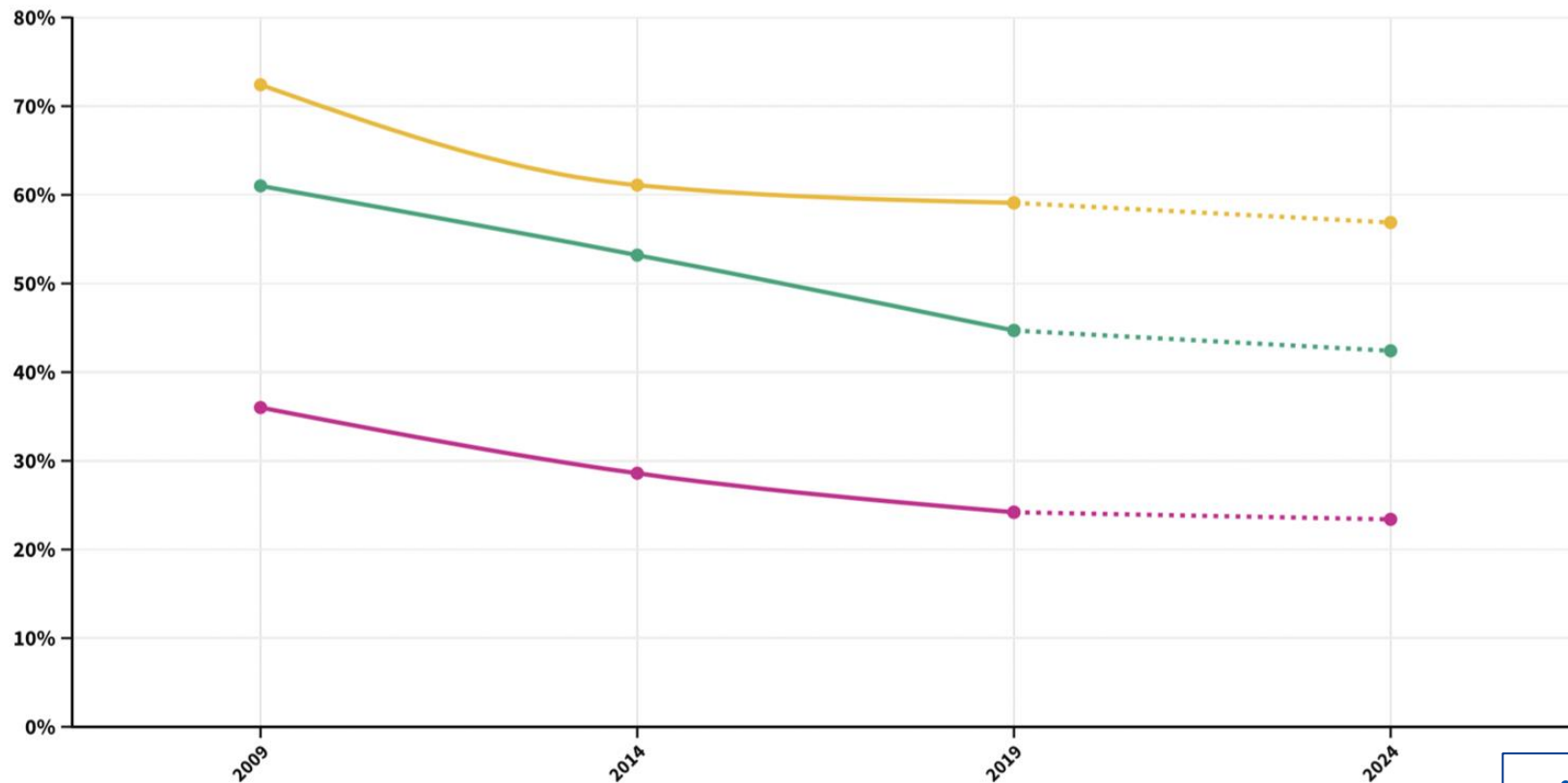
Note: Data elaborated in March 2023

Projected seats by coalitions
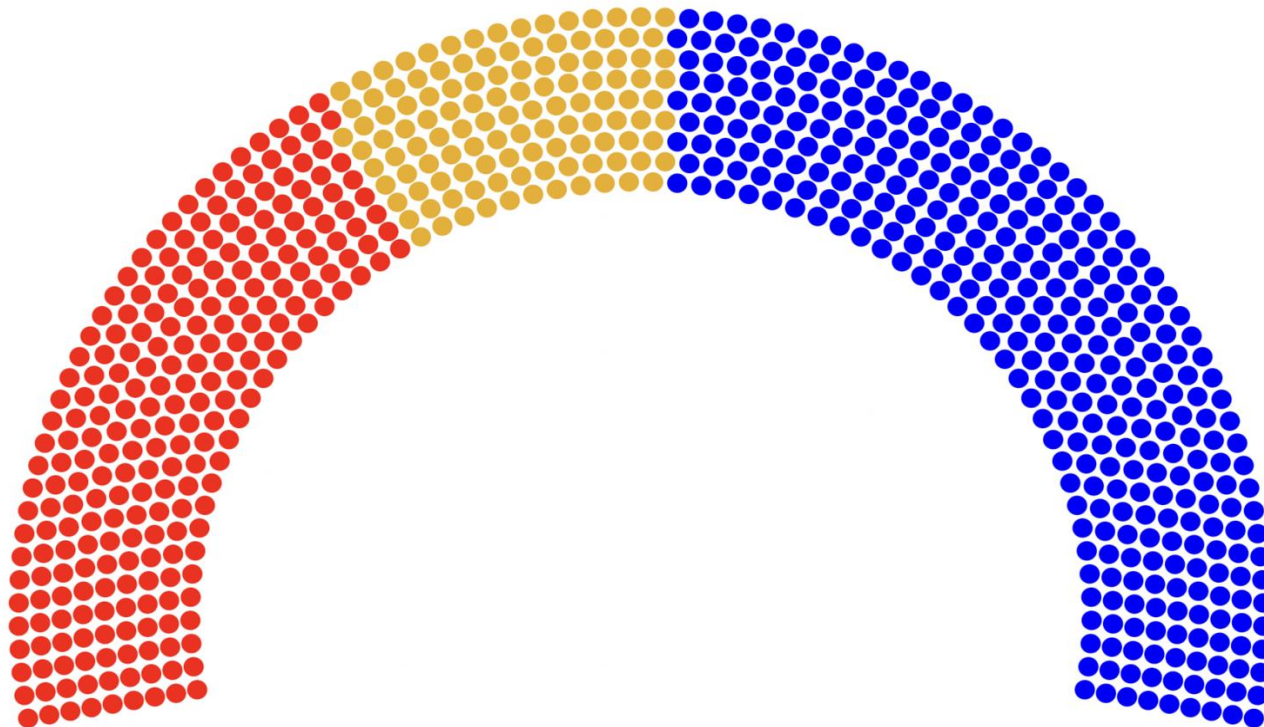
● The Left + Greens/EFA + S&D + NI (Left)   ● Renew + NI (Centre)   ● EPP + ECR + ID + NI (Right)

Coalitions	Projected seats
● The Left + Greens/EFA + S&D + NI (Left)	245
● Renew + NI (Centre)	119
● EPP + ECR + ID + NI (Right)	341

Note: Data elaborated in March 2023

Projected share of new MEPs after 2024

■ Re-elected MEPs ■ New MEPs due to changing size of parties ■ New MEPs due to lists' turnover

- 42.19%
- 33.41%
- 24.4%
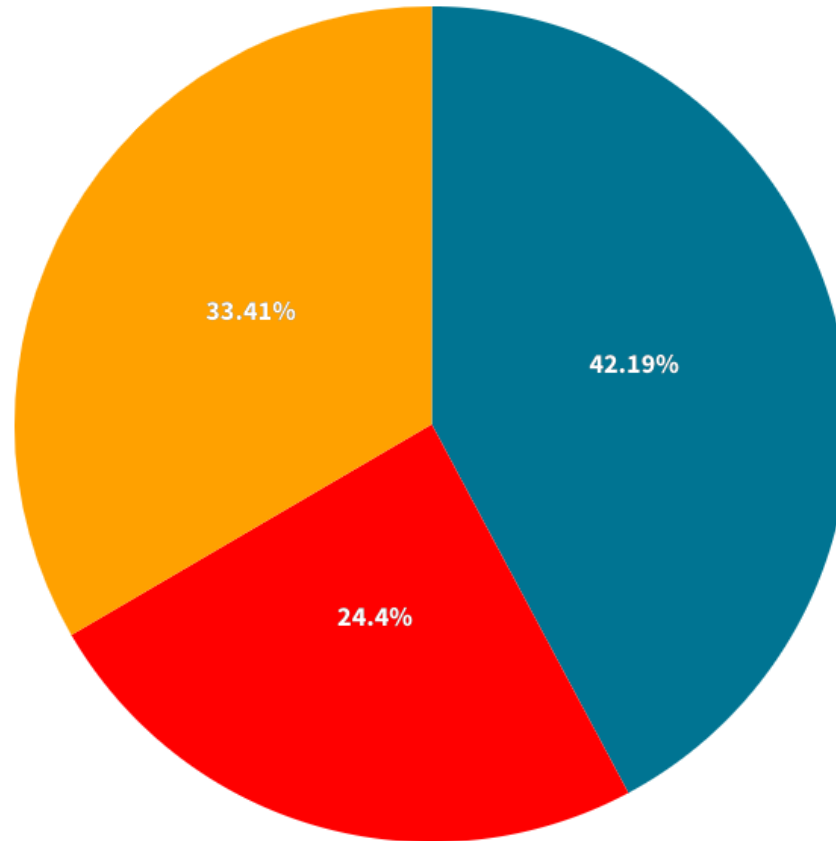
Calls on the Commission to propose decoupling electricity prices from the price of gas

For · Abstain · Against

Likely approved

Rejected

46.95%

50.7%

49.79%

48%

2024

05 Oct 2022
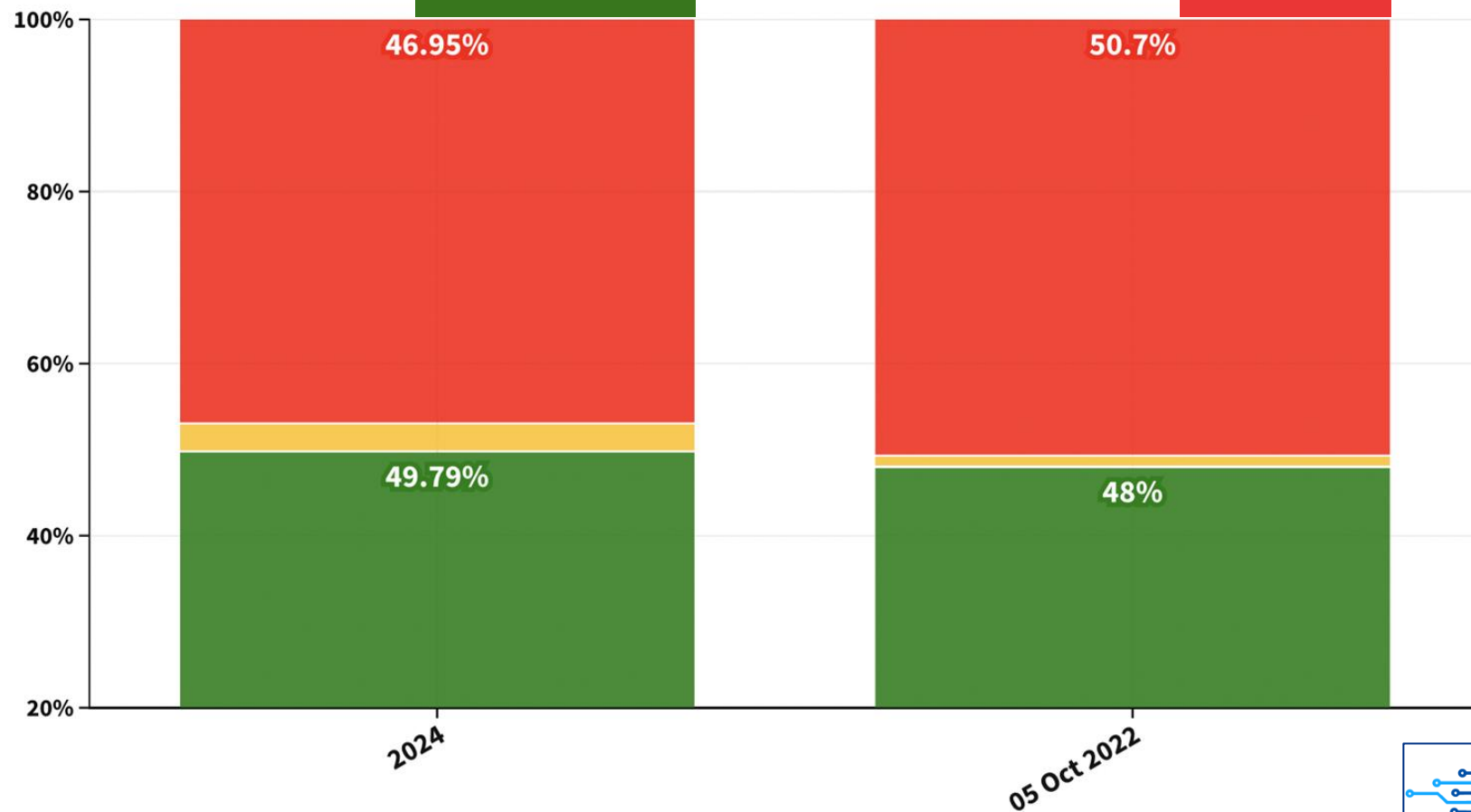
Argues that the pesticide reduction targets need to be of a binding nature, including as part of the reviews of the CAP strategic plans

■ For ■ Abstain ■ Against

Likely rejected

Approved

- 48.5%
- 47%
- 43.9%
- 50.8%

2024

19 Oct 2021

EU MATRIX
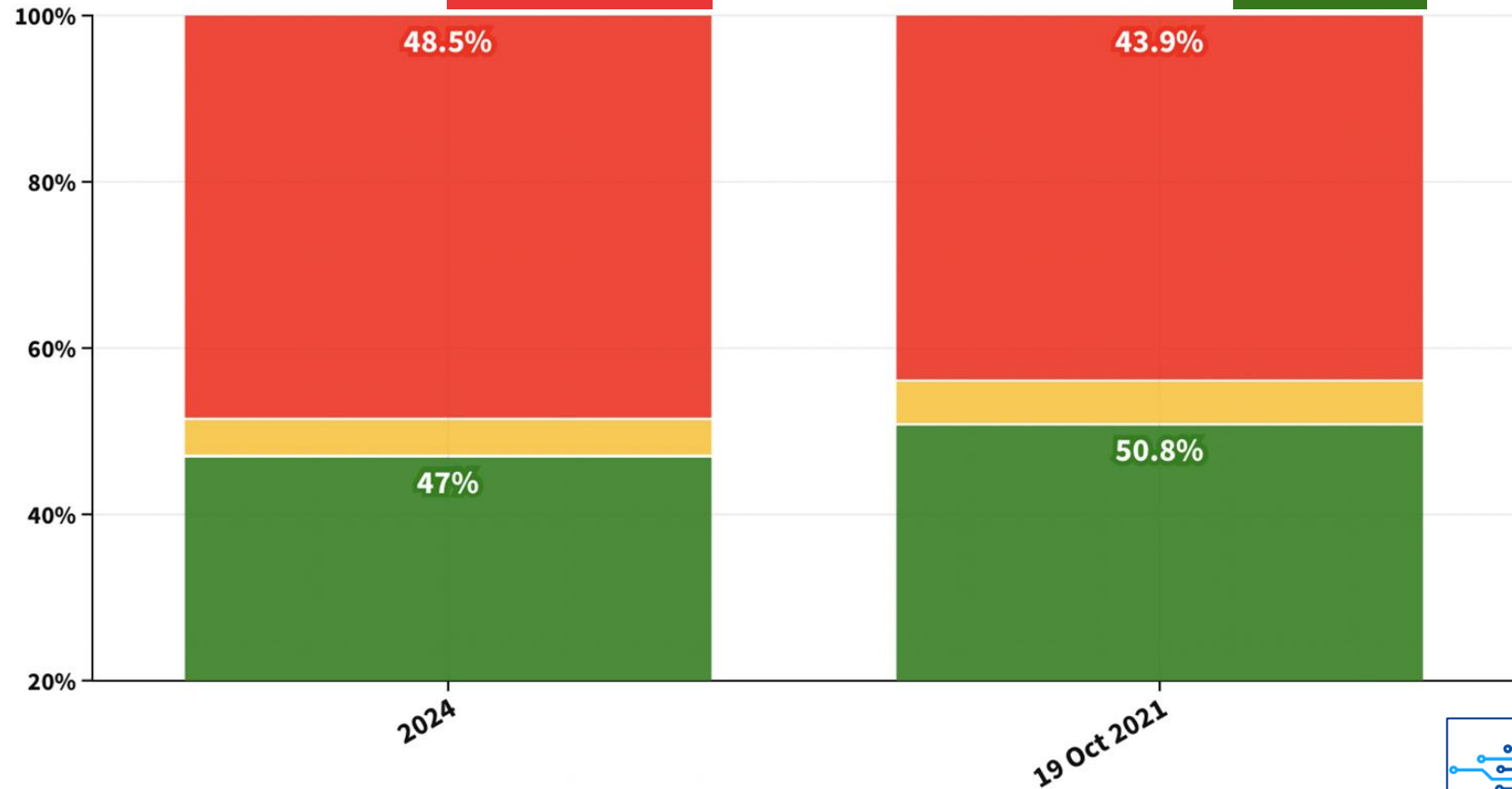
Calls for a regulatory moratorium on acts that would unnecessarily increase costs for businesses already under strain (such as REACH)
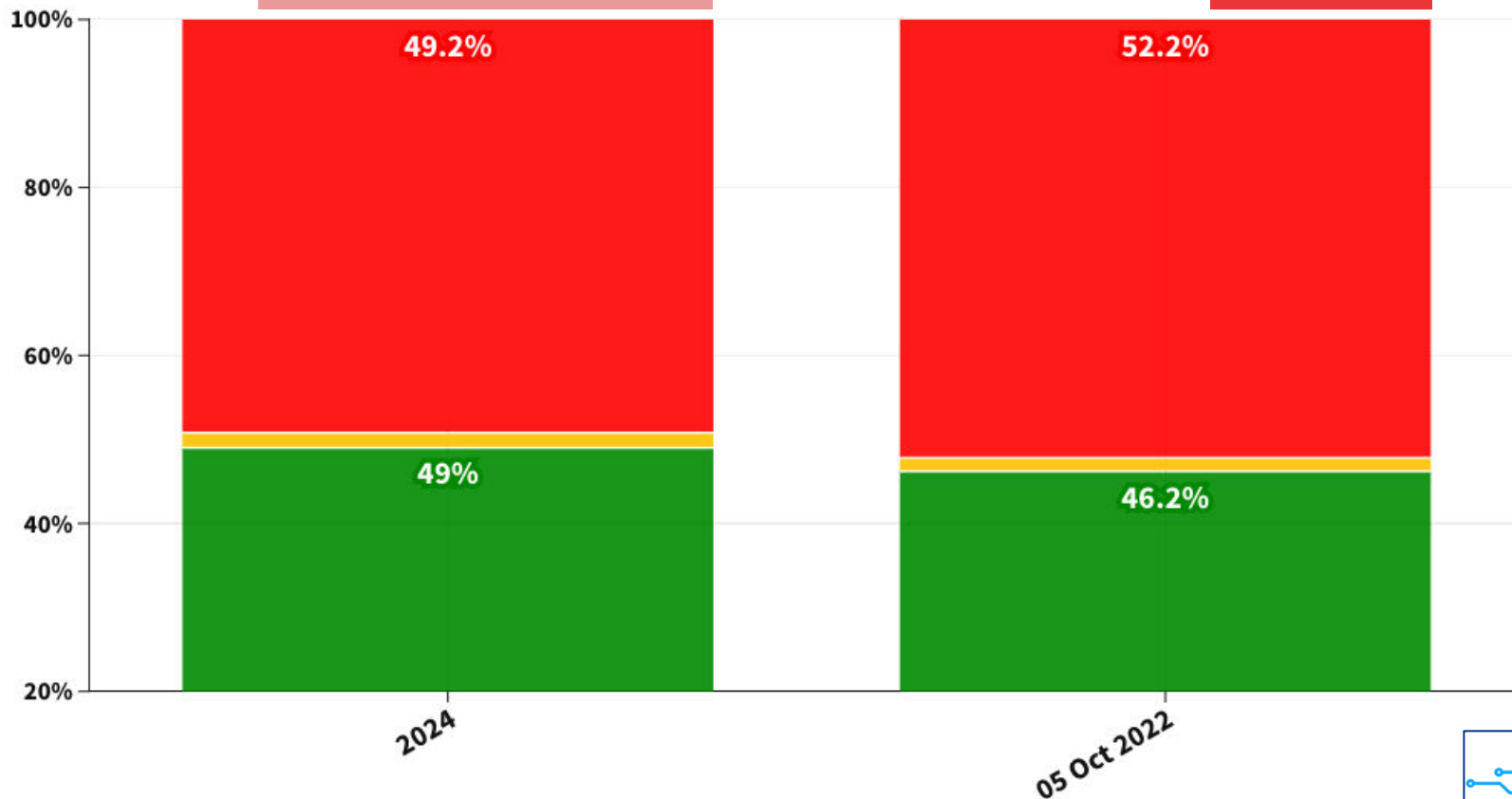
Calls for cutting CO2 emissions by 60 % by 2030

Legend: For (green), Abstain (yellow), Against (red)

Likely narrowly rejected

Approved

2024:
- Against: 50.07%
- For: 49.79%

10 Feb 2021:
- Against: 46.53%
- For: 52.75%
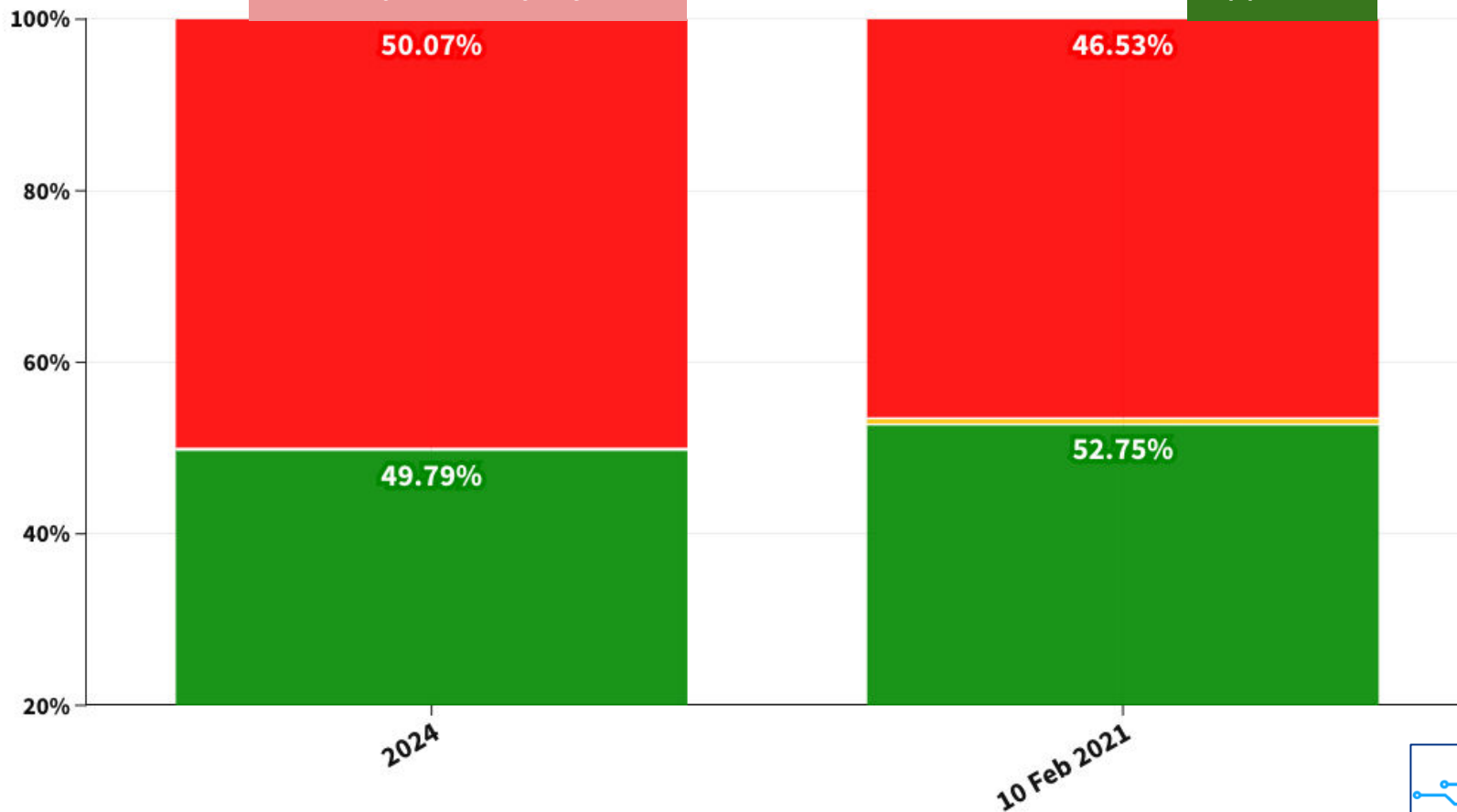
EU due diligence rules should make companies and their financiers DIRECTLY responsible for ensuring that their imports are not tainted by human rights abuses

For   Abstain   Against

Likely rejected

Approved

49.65%

46.81%

47.66%

50%

2024

05 Oct 2021

EU Matrix
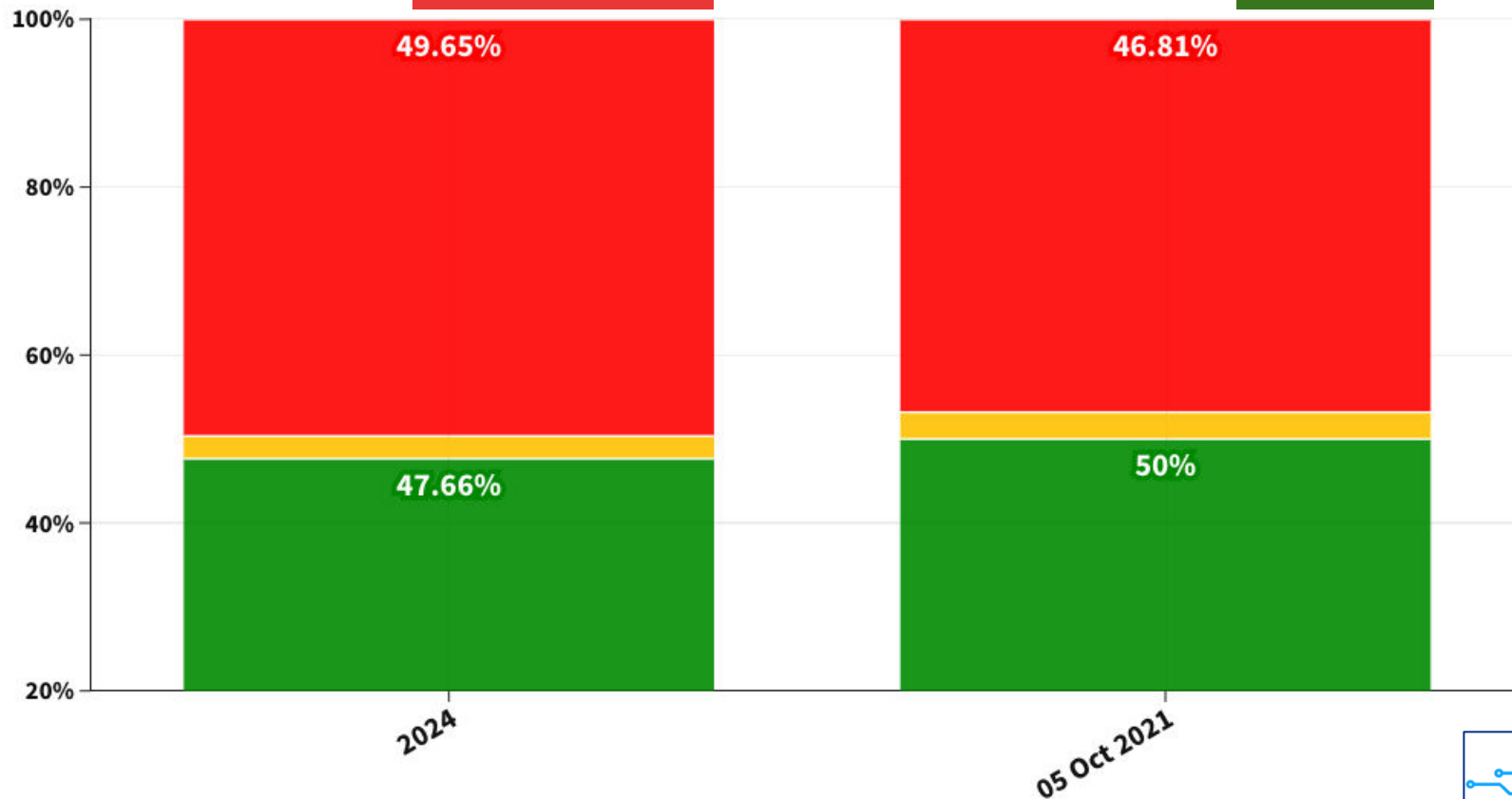
Calls on the EU to grant temporary waiver from certain provisions of the TRIPS agreement for COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics
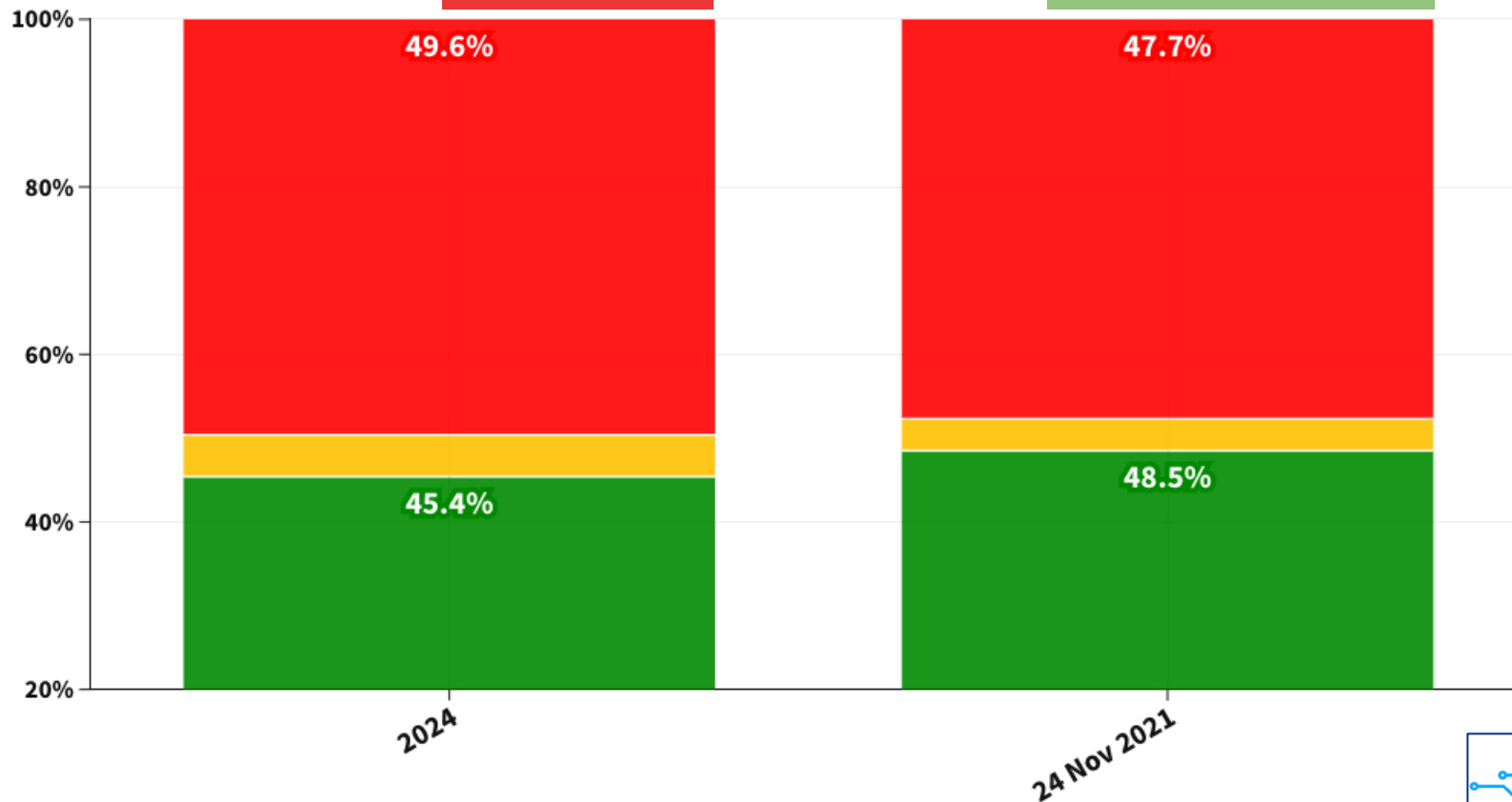
Calls on the Commission to evaluate the consequences of the implementation of a moratorium on the use of facial recognition systems

Likely narrowly rejected

Approved

Legend: For (green), Abstain (yellow), Against (red)

2024:
- Against: 46.38%
- Abstain: 7.52%
- For: 46.1%

19 Jan 2021:
- Against: 46.61%
- For: 49.78%
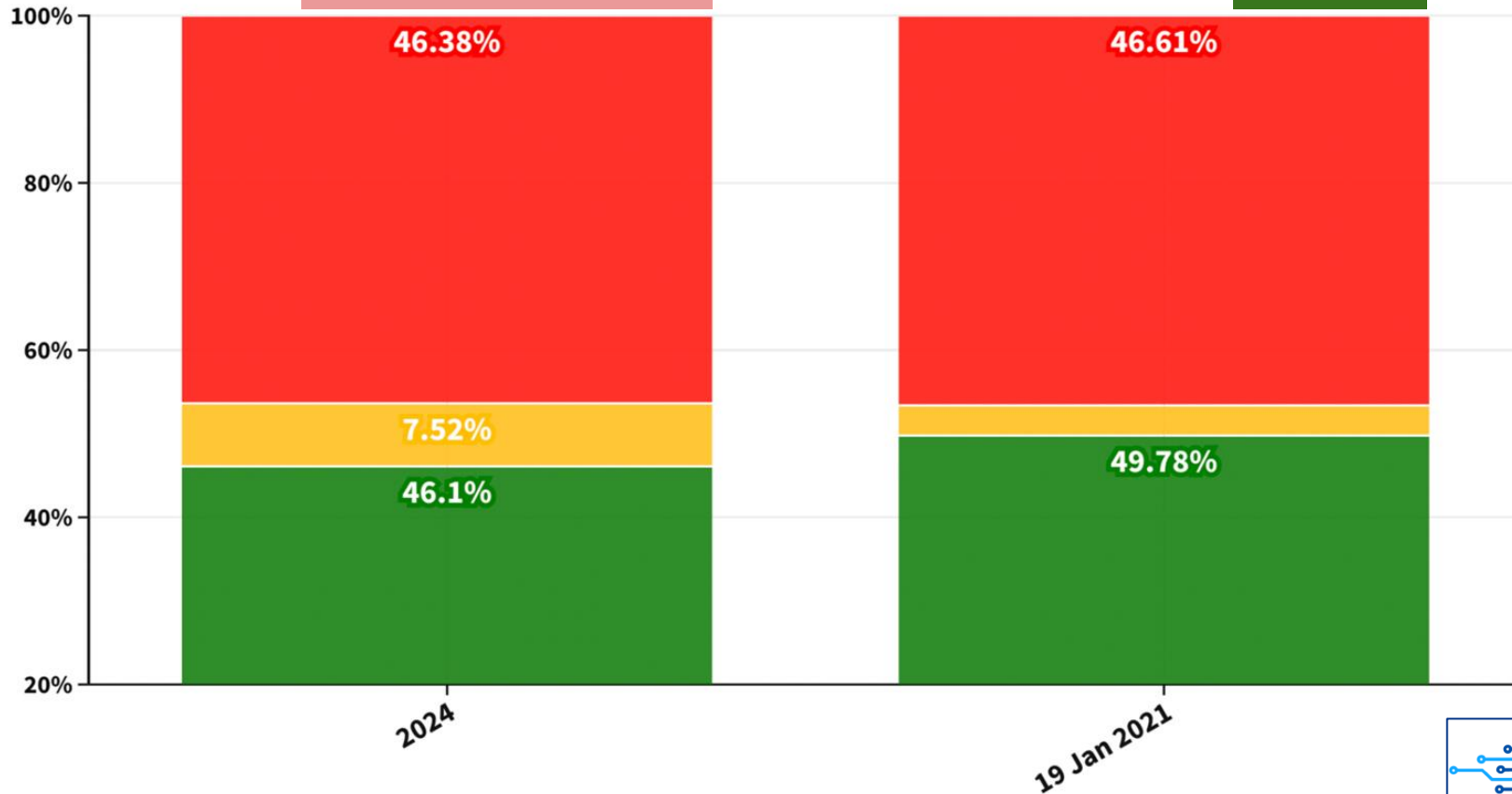
Projected European political affiliation of the European Council members in July 2024

Legend: EPP | Renew | NI (Centre) | ECR | S&D | NI (right-wing)
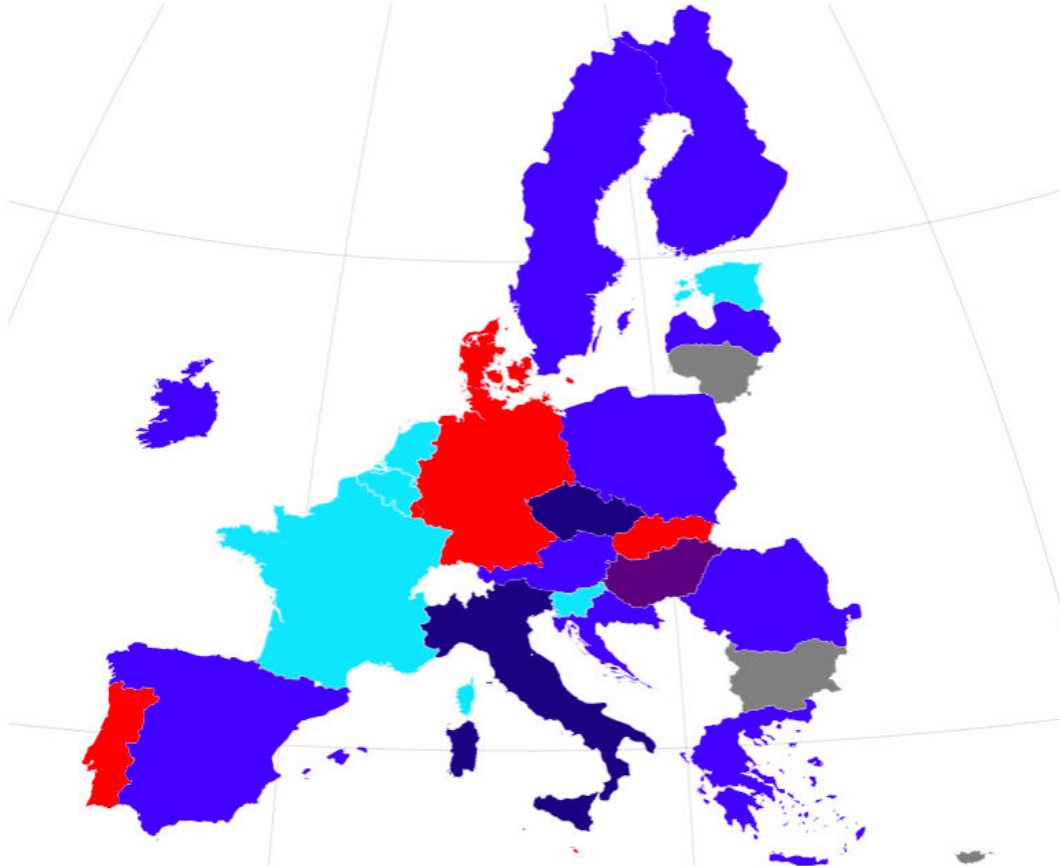
Average duration of national governments (in years)

■ Duration of governments in the decade 2002 - 2012　■ Duration of governments in the decade 2012 - 2022

Country	2002-2012	2012-2022
Romania	2.22	0.82
Bulgaria	3.88	1.07
Austria	3.6	1.32
Greece	2.42	1.43
Italy	2.61	1.56
France	2.01	1.67
UK	2.98	1.78
Slovenia	3.05	1.86
Poland	1.69	2
Slovakia	3.16	2.25
EU average	2.93	2.56
Spain	3.89	2.68
Germany	3.69	3.99
Hungary	2	4
Netherlands	2.08	4.59
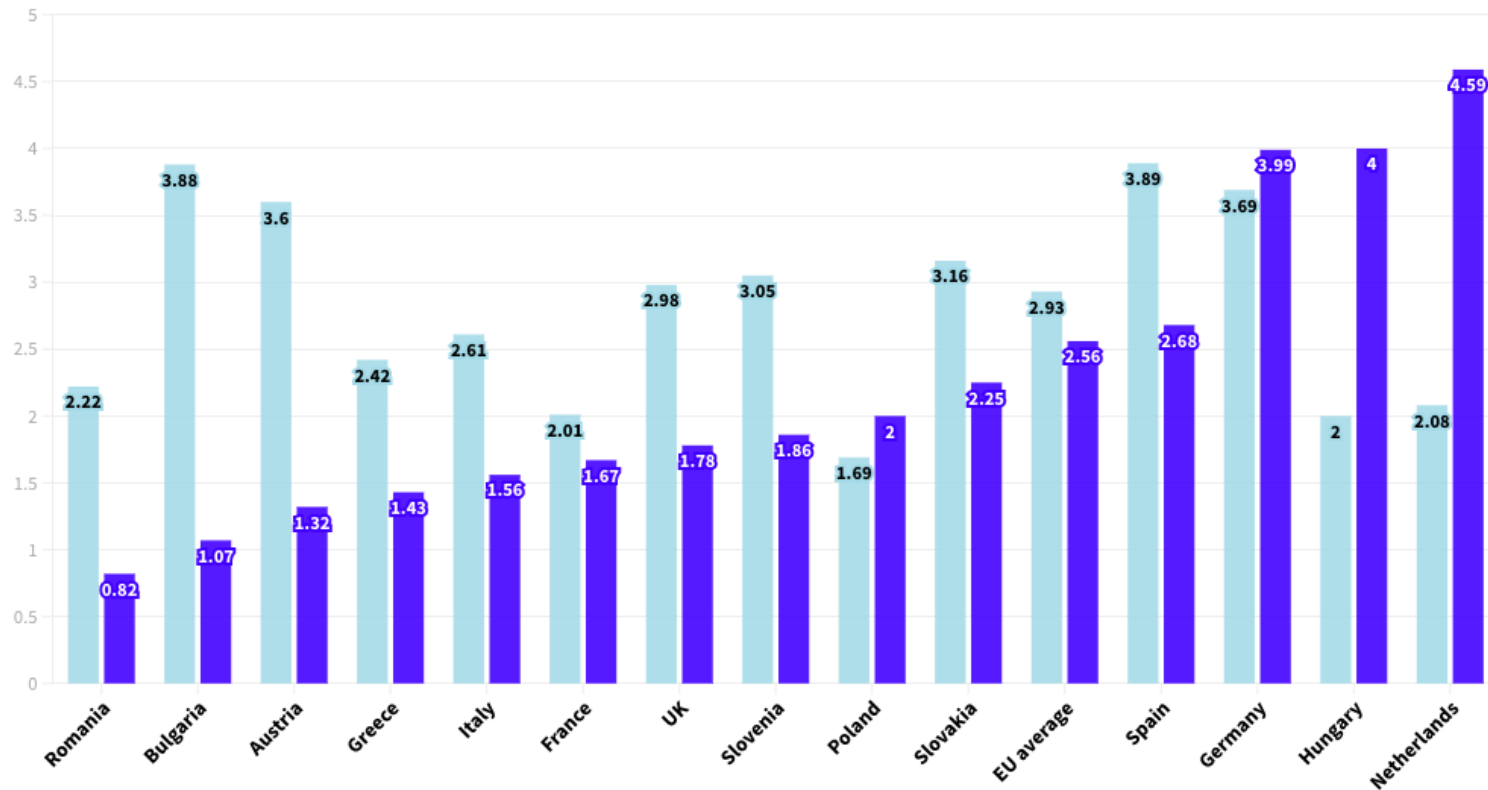
Note: Data elaborated in November 2022

EU MATRIX

Part IV: How to engage ethically and effectively

Transparency: the latest changes in a nutshell

Proposed changes (the final formal decision will be taken by EP bureau):

- **Stronger disclosure of MEPs' activities (new transparency tab on EP website)**: all MEPs, assistants or civil servants will have to disclose all their meetings related to EP legislation or reports, gifts, trips not paid for by the EP, etc. MEPs will provide also more details on their sources of income in their financial declarations.

- **Diminished role for former MEPs**: 6-months cooling off period and only daily access badges for former MEPs.

- **Stronger scrutiny of activities in the EP:** all persons entering the EP premises will have to provide information for an entry log stating the date, time and purpose of visit.

- To be proposed by the European Commission: an **EU Ethics Body** that could initiate investigations on possible conflicts of interest or "revolving door" cases for Commissioners, MEPs and staff, propose and advise on ethics rules.

Transparency: how will this impact advocacy action?

- **The increasing scrutiny of meetings, gifts, etc. poses significant challenges for:** stakeholders engaging MEPs with questionable reputation (e.g. extreme factions) or MEPs engaging with stakeholders with questionable policy positions.

- **New ethics body might create additional disincentives for using loopholes,** especially if it is able to conduct its own investigations. The reputational risk of undisclosed engagement with MEPs will become bigger, also depending on how strictly the new rules will be enforced/interpreted.

- As the number of loopholes decreases, **stakeholders need to work on their reputation** in order to encourage MEPs interactions with them and avoiding negative coverage. It is essential to frame advocacy action in a positive light.

The number of meetings disclosed by MEPs has increased massively (from 30.000 declared at the end of November 2022 to about 40.000 meetings now)

68% of MEPs are now declaring their meetings, with an average of 84 meetings per MEP.

The biggest increase in the number of published meetings after Qatargate is noticeable among Southern European delegations (especially Cypriots, Spanish and Portuguese), although these delegations still lag behind their Northern counterparts.

Some changes are also notable among CEE members, especially Latvians, Polish and Romanians. However, only about half of their MEPs reported some of their meetings. Currently, Greek MEPs are by far at the bottom of the ranking.

% of MEPs who disclosed some of their meetings with stakeholders (by national delegation)

Delegation	%
Ireland	100
Luxembourg	100
Malta	100
Netherlands	97
Sweden	95
Denmark	93
Finland	93
Slovenia	88
Germany	84
Portugal	81
Austria	79
Slovakia	79
Belgium	76
Spain	71
France	70
Croatia	67
Czechia	67
Bulgaria	53
Romania	52
Cyprus	50
Latvia	50
Italy	49
Hungary	48
Lithuania	45
Estonia	43
Poland	42
Greece	24
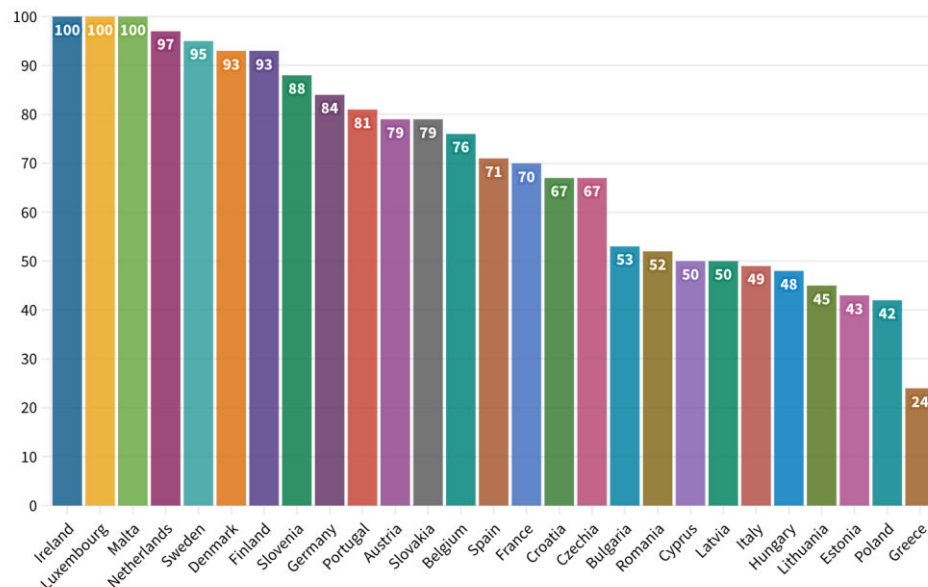
Note: Data elaborated in March 2023

EU MATRIX

Thank you for your attention!

E-mail: doru.frantescu@eumatrix.eu

Annex: the key files on the EP agenda

Agri-food

Key files on the EP agenda (Agri-food - under discussion)

- <u>Industrial Emissions Directive</u> (Trilogues to start soon): expansion of the scope to include the emissions by some of the largest livestock farms in the EU

- <u>Sustainable use of plant protection products regulation</u> (Committee stage): binding reduction targets for the use and risk of pesticides by half

- <u>Carbon removals certification framework</u> (Early committee stage): common minimum standards for what should count as carbon removals, for which farmers will be remunerated

Key files on the EP agenda (Agri-food - to be proposed)

- <u>Legislation for plants produced by certain new genomic techniques</u> (2023 Q2): a potential liberalisation of NGTs (now considered the same as GMOs due to ECJ ruling)

- <u>Waste Framework Directive revision</u> (2023 Q2): legally binding targets to reduce food waste across the EU, and provisions to make all textiles placed on the EU market more durable, reusable, repairable and recyclable

- <u>Animal welfare – revision of EU legislation</u> (2023 Q3): revising the Directive on the protection of animals kept for farming purposes, four Directives laying down minimum standards for the protection of laying hens, broilers, pigs and calves and the Regulations on the protection of animals during transport and at the time of killing

- <u>Legislative framework for sustainable food systems</u> (2023 Q4): proposal for an EU-wide nutritional labelling system

Energy
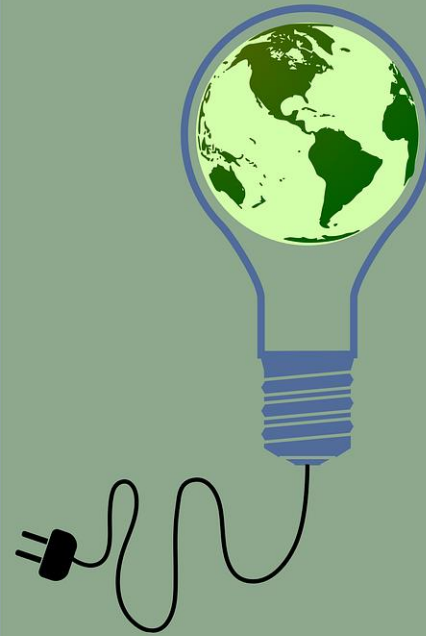
Key files on the EP agenda (Energy - to be finalised soon)

- Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (Waiting for trilogues): targets to renovate the 15% worst-performing commercial and residential buildings by 2027 and 2030

- Methane Regulation (Waiting for plenary vote): new rules to tackle methane emissions from the oil and gas industry

- Gas Directive (Ongoing trialogue): aims to extend the scope of the existing Gas Directive to cover hydrogen networks

- Gas Regulation (Ongoing trialogue): ramping up the production of renewable gases and hydrogen across the EU, and facilitating their integration in existing or new gas networks

- Delegated act on hydrogen (Submitted to the Parliament and the Council for approval): will govern the requirements for hydrogen to be certified as renewable, the so-called additionality rules linking green hydrogen production to new renewable energy installations only

Key files on the EP agenda (Energy - under discussion)

- Energy Taxation Directive (Advanced committee stage): aims to align the taxation of energy products with EU energy and climate policies, promote clean technologies and remove exemptions and reduced rates that encourage the use of fossil fuels

- Revision of EU's internal electricity market rules (Commission proposal presented on March 14): reform of the wholesale power market which is currently based on so-called merit order (when the last input sets the price for the whole market) — in this case expensive natural gas, with the purpose to decouple the effect of gas prices on electricity prices

- Hydrogen Bank (2023 Q3): a new platform to connect users with producers and generate private sector interest in the green and low-carbon hydrogen technologies
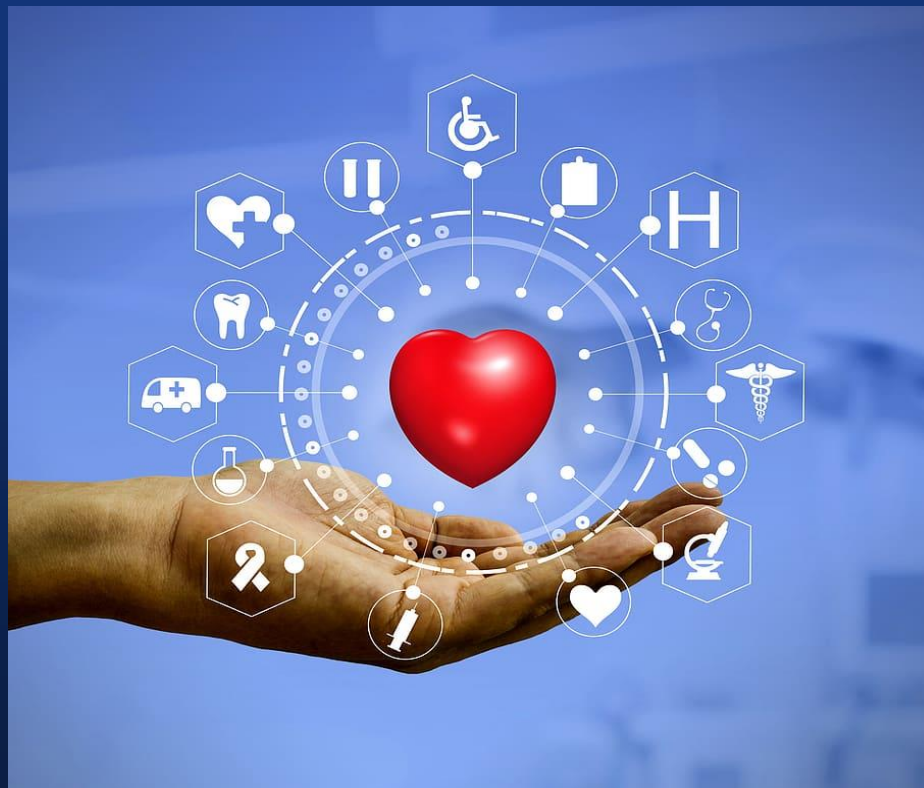
Health

Key files on the EP agenda (Health)

Under discussion:

- <u>European Health Data Space</u> (Committee stage): access to health data and its secondary use -> for a different purpose than initial collection purpose (some uses to be potentially banned: advertising, insurance premiums, access for researchers and algorithms)

To be proposed by the Commission:

- <u>Pharmaceutical strategy</u> (Commission publication delayed, initially expected in late March): special benefits for companies launching new drugs to rolling them out together across all 27 member countries

- <u>Patent licensing package</u> (2023 Q2): general objective is to create a compulsory licensing system for EU-wide crises of a health, environmental, nuclear or industrial nature.

- <u>Smoke-free environments</u> (2023 Q3): an update of the 2009 Council's smoke-free environments recommendation

- <u>Orphan and paediatric medicines legislation revision</u> (2023 Q4): aims to to improve the therapeutic landscape and address unmet needs (e.g. in paediatric cancer) through more tailored incentives.

Environment

Key files on the EP agenda (Environment)

- F-Gases (EP plenary voted, waiting for the trilogues): tighter restrictions and faster phasing out of greenhouse F-gases

- Ecodesign for Sustainable Products (Advanced committee stage): extends requirements for sustainability from just energy to all products (durability, reusability, recyclability and repairability) to be taken into account in the entire product (pre-)development phase

- Directive on Urban Wastewater Treatment revision (Committee stage): water pollution down to zero by 2050 and "polluter pays" principle applied to toxic micro-pollutants in water

- Ambient Air Quality Directive (Committee stage): air pollution down to zero by 2050 by introducing stricter thresholds by 1 January 2030

- Revision of Packaging Directive - PPWD (Early committee stage): new targets for reuse and recycling & reuse targets for packaging, from drinks bottles to delivery boxes

- Green Claims Directive (Commission proposal published on March 22): setting rules on what type of environmental claims companies can make — and insisting they should be verifiable

- REACH Regulation revision (2023 Q4): targeted revision of REACH - repeatedly postponed

Transportation

Key files on the EP agenda (Transportation)

- <u>Multimodal digital mobility services (MDMS) initiative </u>(Upcoming adoption by Commission): aims to better integrate public transport and rail services to achieve seamless multimodal passenger transport

- <u>Euro7 update</u> (Early committee stage): final air quality regulation for petrol and diesel cars before the shift to zero-emission vehicles in 2035

- <u>Revision of CO2 emission standards for heavy-duty vehicles</u> (Consultation open until April 17): a 90% reduction in carbon emissions from new heavy-duty vehicles sold from 2040

- <u>Hyperloop framework</u> (2023 Q3): a legislative framework for the Hyperloop, a mode of transport championed by Elon Musk, which involves transporting floating pods through airless tubes using magnets

- <u>EU Green Taxonomy - aviation</u>: plans to add aircraft manufacturing and leasing to the green taxonomy if they meet strict criteria -> from 2030, passenger aircraft will have to use a minimum 10% share of Sustainable Aviation Fuels

Trade

Key files on the EP agenda (Trade)

- Chips Act (Ongoing trialogue): legislative proposal to fund and facilitate the development of the EU's semiconductor capacity

- Corporate sustainability due diligence (Advanced committee stage): requirements for companies to identify and prevent, end, or mitigate the actual and potential impacts of their activities on the environment and on human rights abuses

- EU Single Market Emergency Instrument (Committee stage): monitoring mechanism of the supplies of certain key resources and products, and power to the EC to make companies prioritise the production of certain products

- Prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market (Early committee stage): ban products made with forced labour from being sold on the EU market

- Net Zero Industry Act (Proposed by Commission on March 23): aiming to ensure that the EU meets 40% of its clean technology development needs with domestic production capacity by 2030

- Critical Raw Materials Act (Proposed by Commission on March 16): aiming to improve the refining of raw materials in Europe and shift import sources to trade partners in order to reduce dependence on China

Digital

Key files on the EP agenda (Digital - Online content)

- <u>Political Advertising Regulation</u> (Ongoing trialogue): intended to increase the transparency of political advertising and tackle the issue of foreign involvement in electoral campaigns

- <u>Media Freedom Act</u> (Early committee stage): intended to increase the transparency of media ownership within the EU and introduce safeguards on editorial independence and media pluralism

- <u>Rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse online</u> (Early committee stage): obligation for tech platforms to scan the communications of their users to detect CSAM, upon a "detection order" coming from national authorities

- <u>Combating online piracy of live content</u> (Q2 2023): a toolbox to combat illegal streaming of live events, in particular sport events

- <u>Metaverse initiative</u> (Q2 2023): a non-legislative initiative on virtual worlds, such as the metaverse (with the focus on the human component)

Key files on the EP agenda (Digital competition)

- <u>Data Act</u> (Ongoing trialogue): facilitates sharing of data, introducing new sharing obligations especially for the largest companies

- <u>Gigabit Infrastructure Act</u> (Very early committee stage): new rules on the roll-out of gigabit networks across the EU; main controversy: whether platforms should share the cost of investment in next generation connectivity with telco operators

- <u>Infrastructural contributions - "Fair share"/ "Sender pays"</u> (Exploratory consultation started in late March): determining whether tech giants Alphabet (Google), Meta and Netflix should also pay costs of upgrading telecoms networks

Key files on the EP agenda (Digital - Artificial Intelligence)

- <u>Platform Workers Directive</u> (Ongoing trialogue): aims to restrict workers management by algorithms and introduce a list of control criteria to determine whether the digital platform is an "employer"

- <u>AI Act</u> (Advanced committee stage): new rules on data quality, transparency, human oversight and accountability

- <u>AI Liability Directive</u> (Early committee stage): new rules specific to damages caused by AI systems, introducing a 'presumption of causality', to ease the burden of proof for victims to establish damage caused by an AI system

- <u>Product Liability Directive</u> (Early committee stage): revising the liability regime that allows the victims of material damages to ask for compensation from the product manufacturer to cover all types of software, including AI