



Public Affairs Council

# EU Decision-Making: *Procedures and Engagement*

June 2026  
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[ireis@pac.org](mailto:ireis@pac.org)  
[www.pac.org/europe](http://www.pac.org/europe)



# **Overview of Europe's International Blocks**

**European Commission, Parliament, Council**

**Mapping the main stakeholders**

**The Ordinary Legislative Procedure**

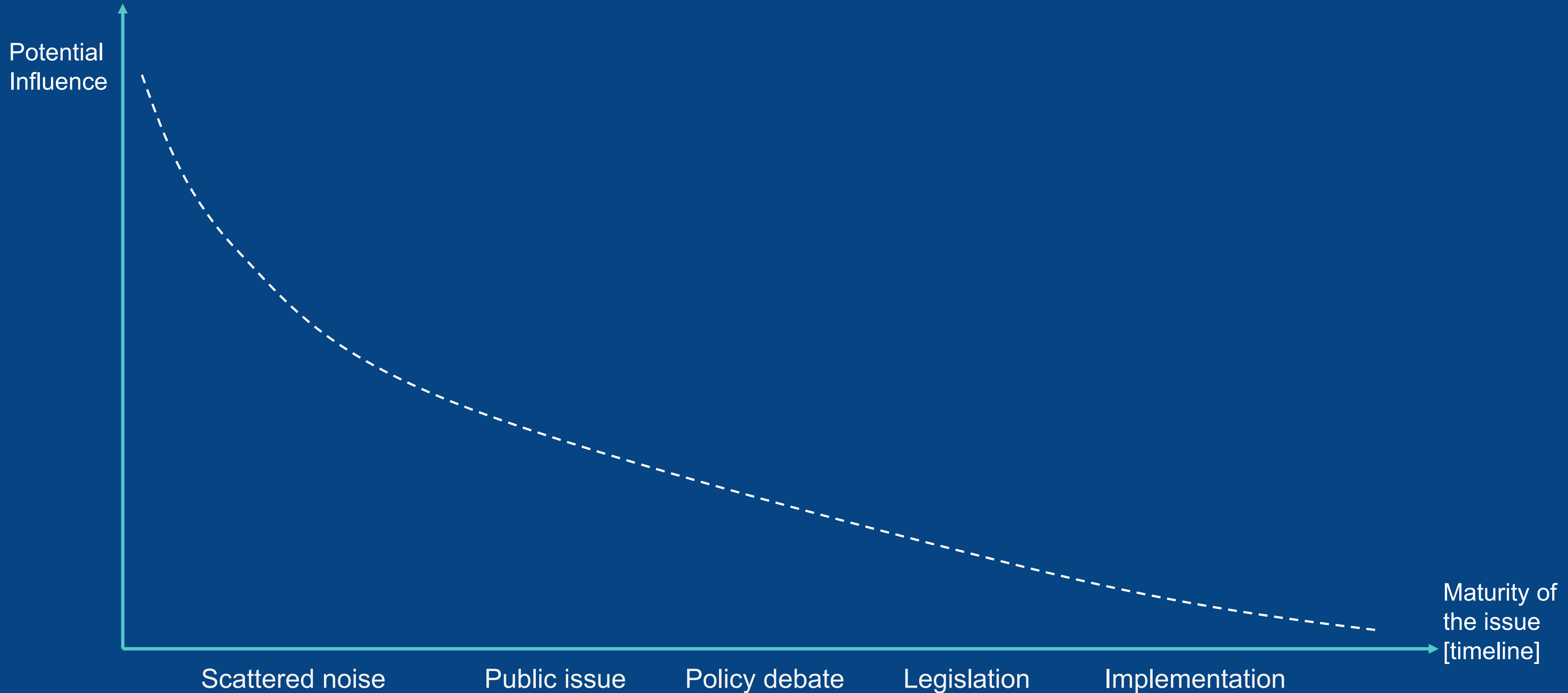
**Tools and resources: essential info/intel**

**Q&A**

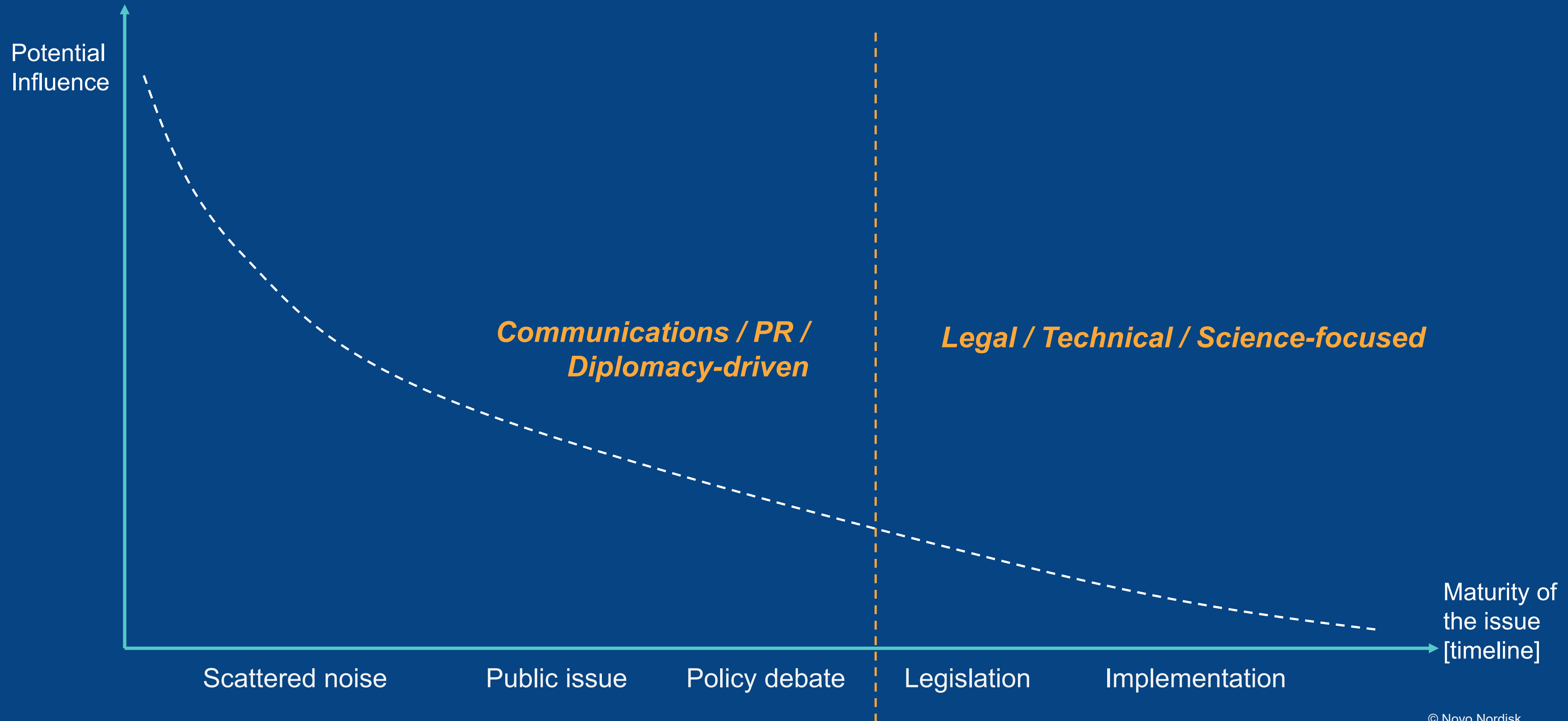
**TODAY'S  
AGENDA**

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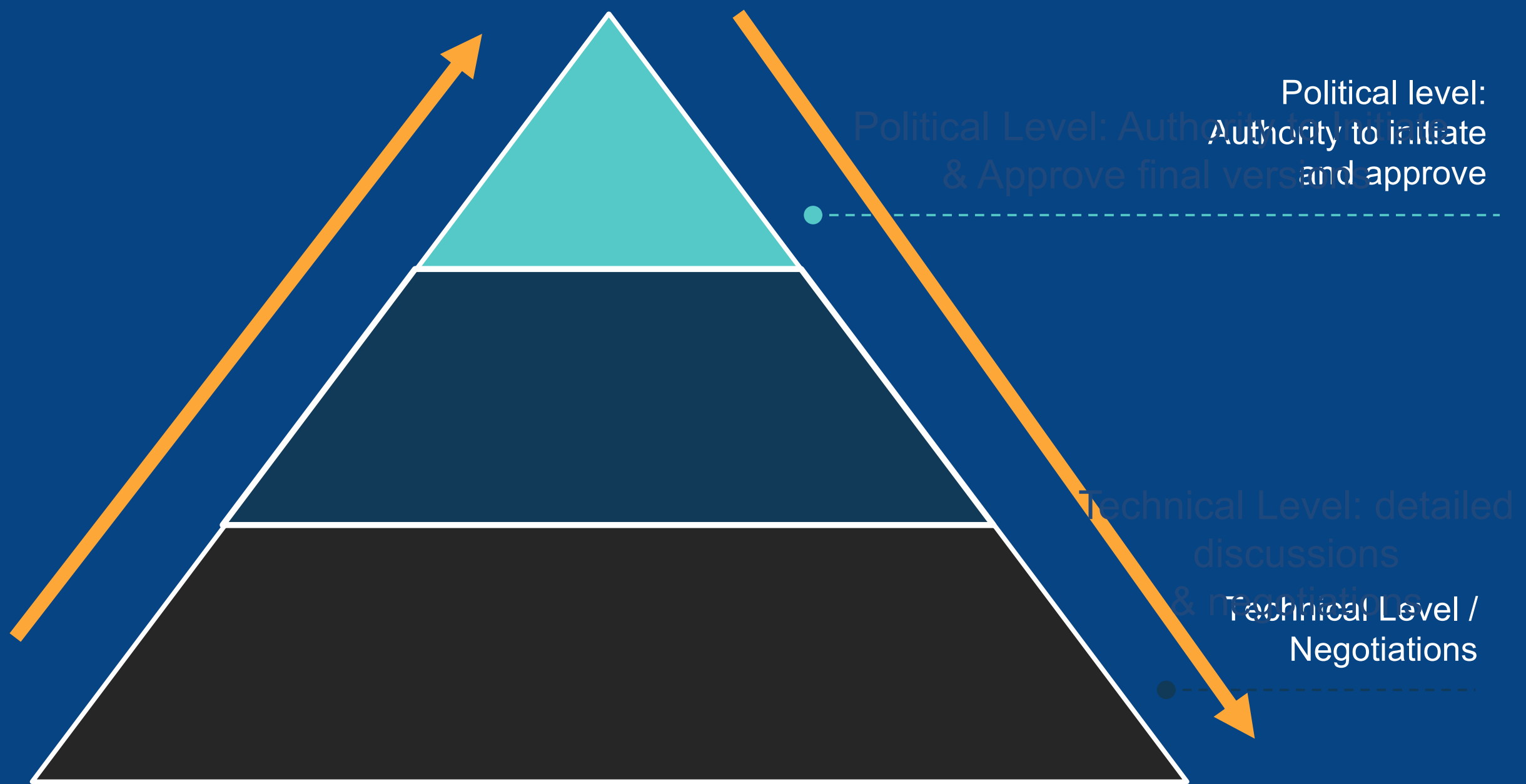
# What Can You Achieve... And When



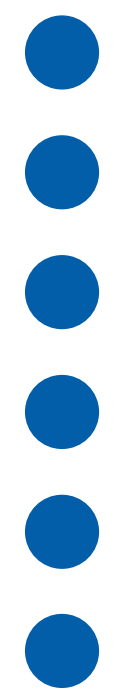
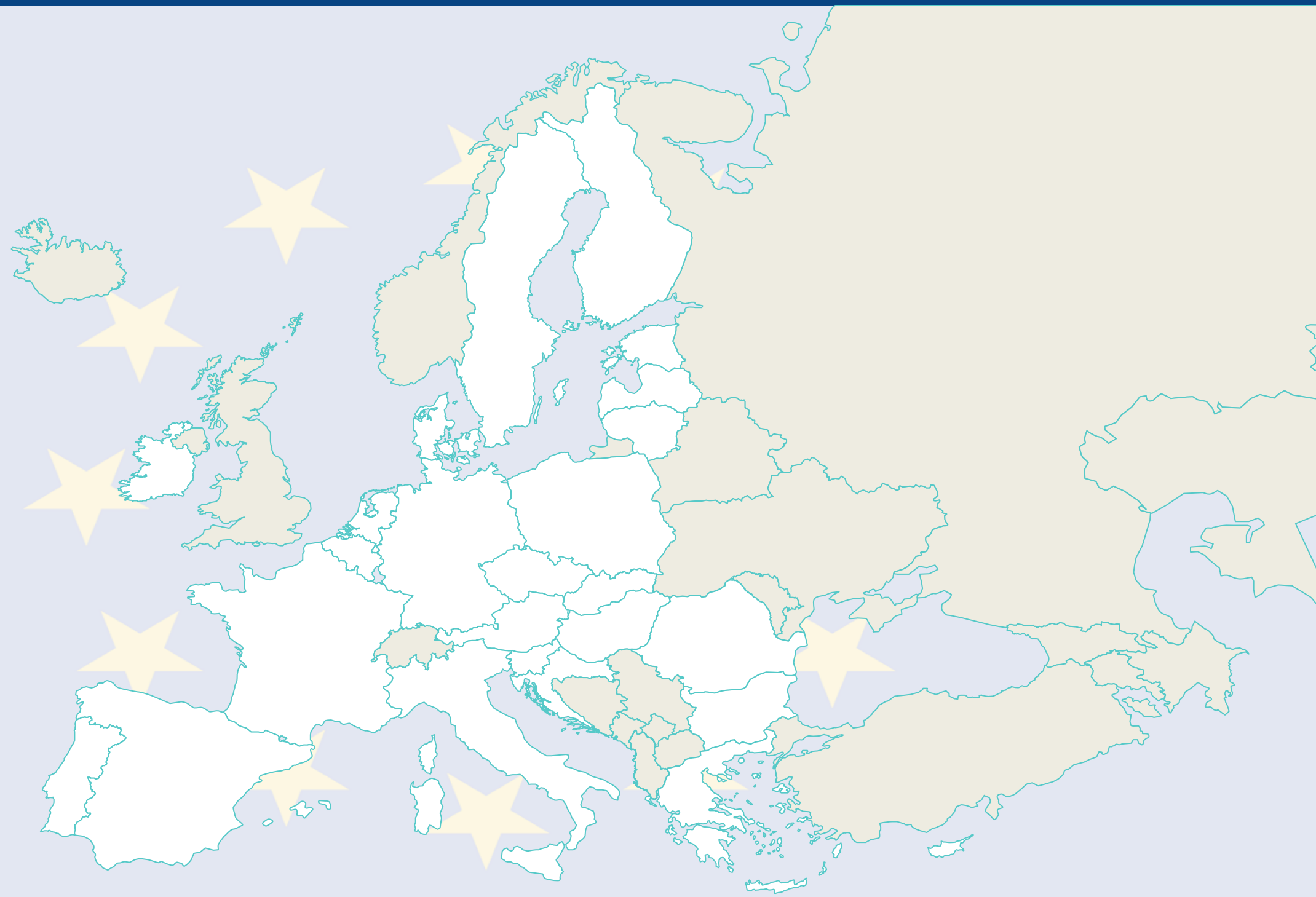
# What Can You Achieve... And When



# Policy-Making in the Institutions



# Defining the context – What is “the European level?”



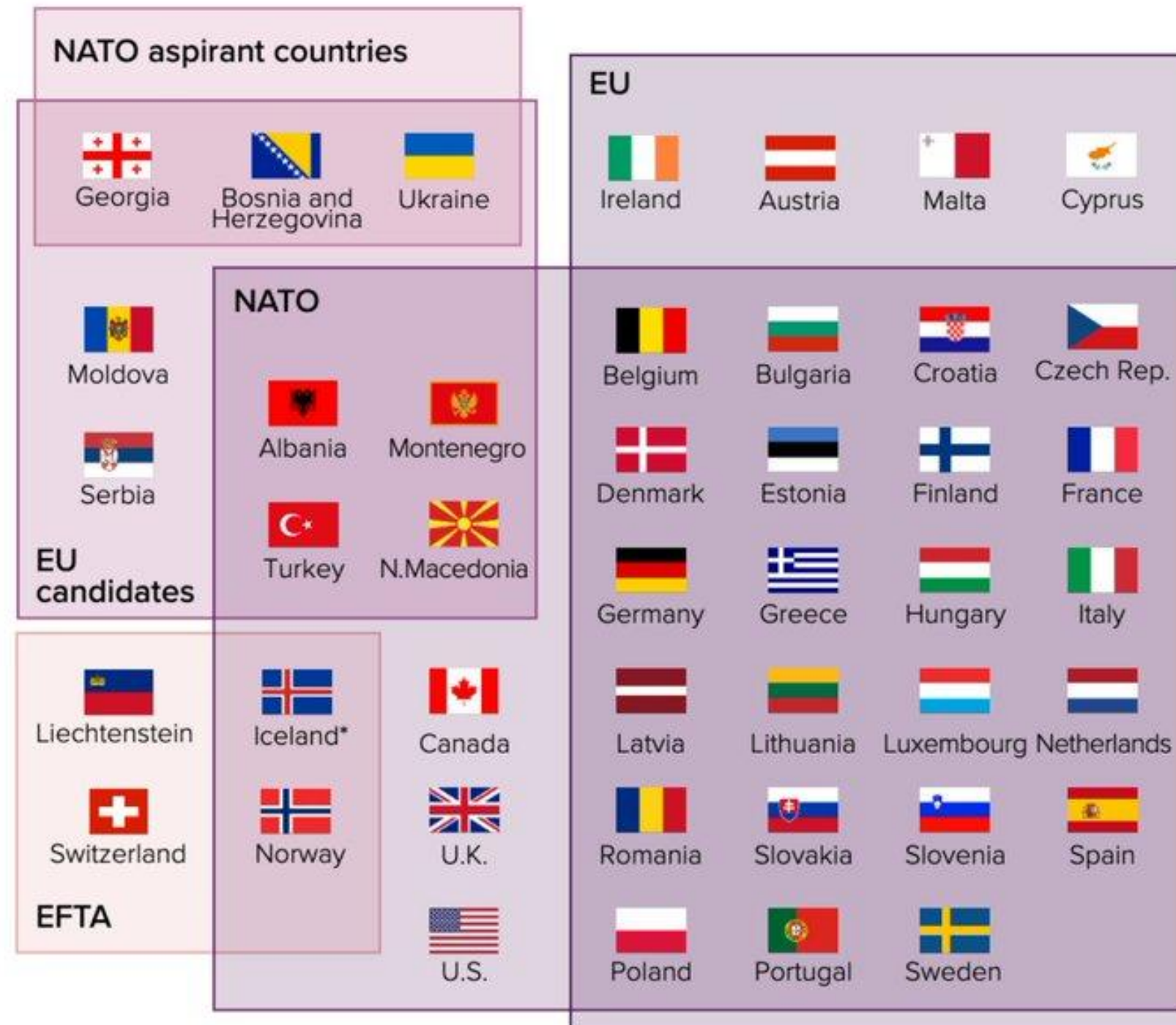
# The European Union

- 27 Member States. Population: 450 million
- 24 Official Languages
- € Zone: 20 Member States + 6 non-EU
- Schengen Area: 25 EU Member States + EFTA (Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland)



## SWEDEN JOINS NATO CLUB

Sweden has officially become the Western military alliance's 32nd member. That leaves only four EU member countries now out of the club — Ireland, Malta, Austria and Cyprus.



\*Iceland has not officially withdrawn its EU application, but in 2015 its government requested that "Iceland should not be regarded as a candidate country for EU membership."

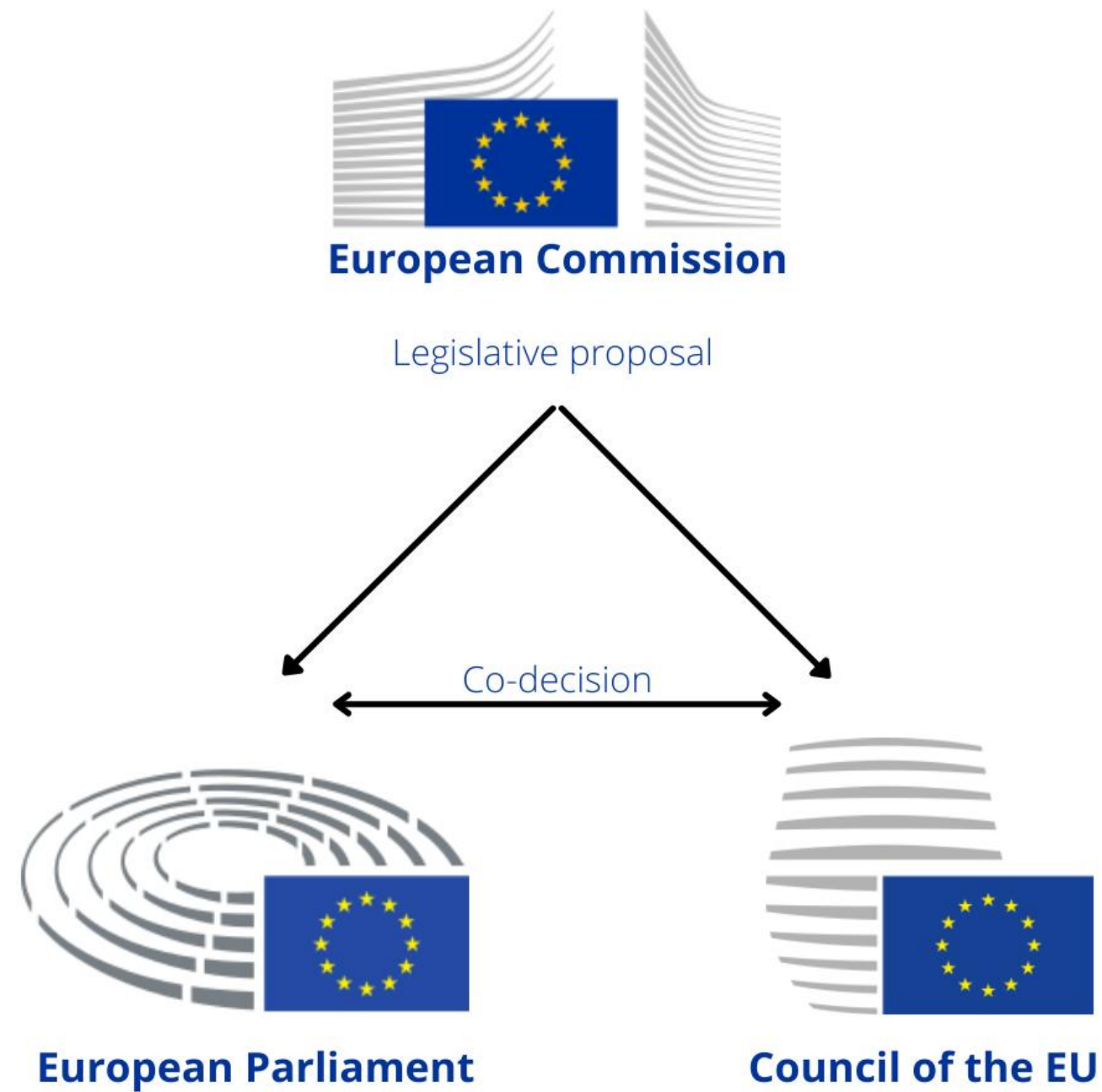
**SOURCE:** POLITICO research, European Union, NATO, EFTA

By Arnau Busquets Guàrdia and Lucia Mackenzie

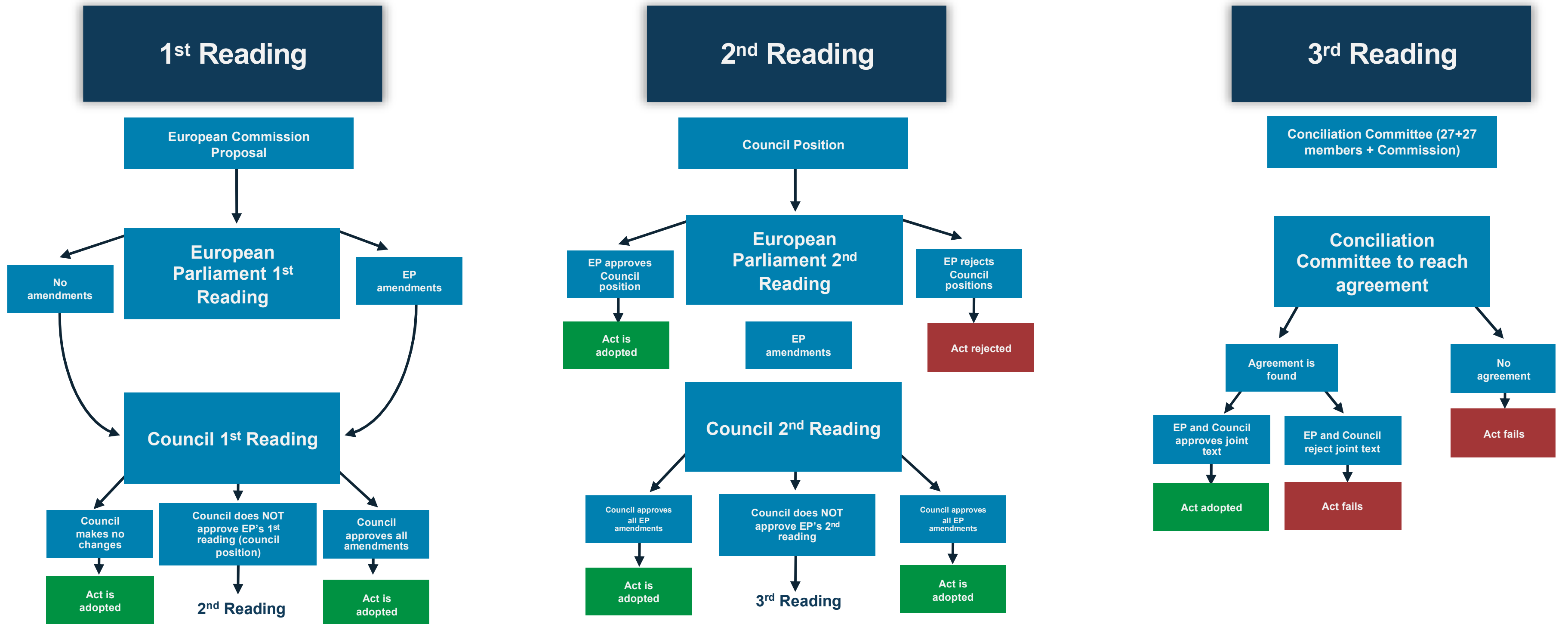
Source: POLITICO, last update March 2024

**POLITICO**

# Decision-making in the EU Institutions



# The Ordinary Legislative Procedure. Any Questions?



# The Competences: What does the EU Regulate?



## Trade Policy ([Art. 207 TFEU](#))

Exclusive competences include:

- **Management of trade and investment relationships w/ non-EU countries**
- Making laws on trade matters
- Negotiating and concluding international trade agreements
- The EU's responsibilities cover: trade in goods and services; commercial aspects of intellectual property, such as patents; public procurement; foreign direct investment

# Decision-making in the EU Institutions

Power of initiative by Commission

Sends to Parliament and Council, who: Legislative proposal

➤ Adopt without changes;

➤ Amend the proposal and adopt it;

➤ Reject proposal



Co-decision

Council and Parliament may:

➤ Adopt official

recommendations

➤ Ask the Commission for a

proposal on a given topic

➤ Shape the mandate of a

new Commission

# The European Commission

## Executive Body of the EU

1 Commissioner per Member State

Initiates and Fiscalizes EU Legislation

## President:

Elected by EU Parliament

Currently: **Ursula Von der Leyen (DE)**

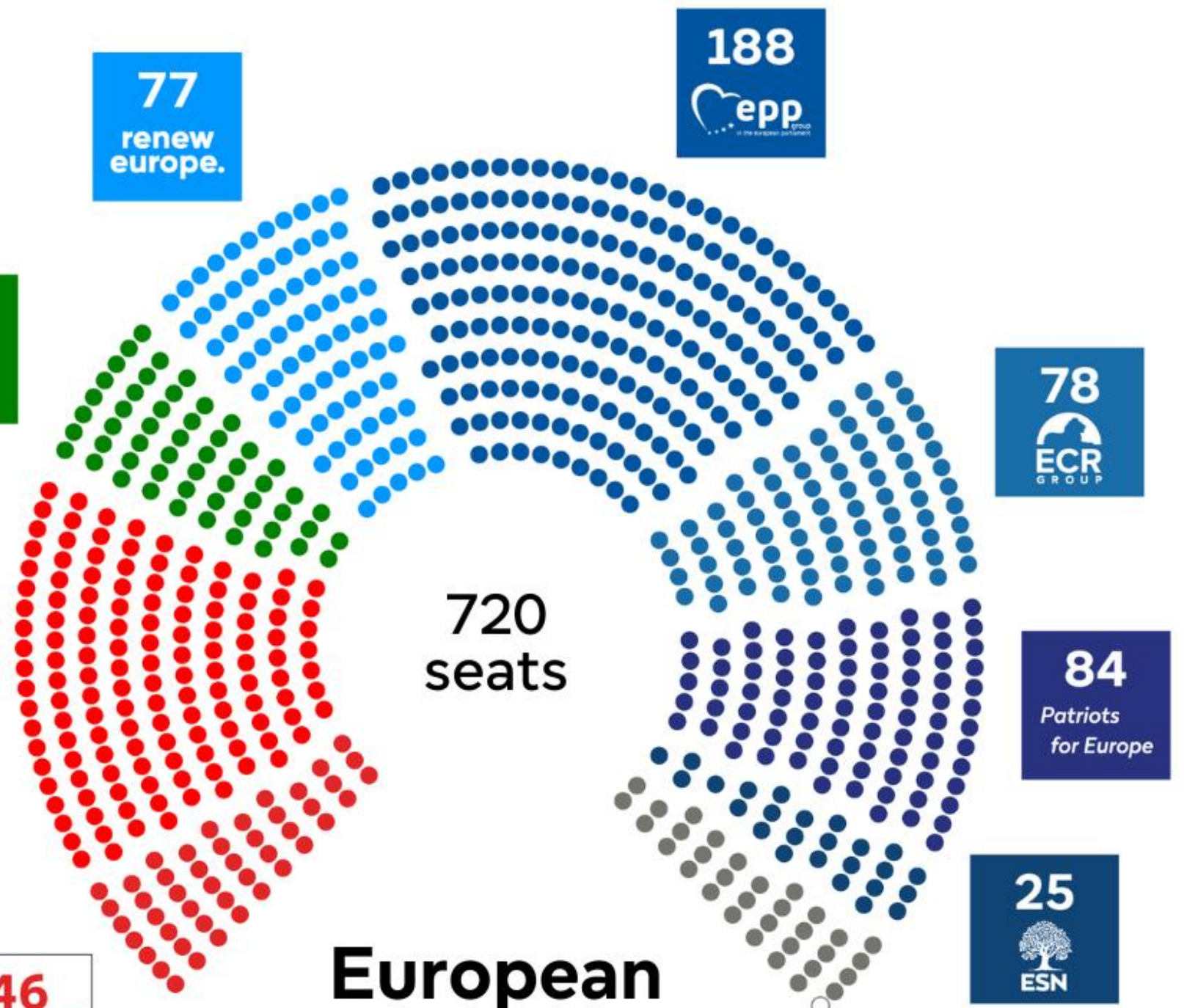
As an organization: 33 DGs, 6 agencies

> 32.000 employees



# The European Parliament

8 Political Groups  
 # of Members (MEPs)  
 per country = Population  
 24 Committees  
 Monthly Plenaries in  
 Brussels / Strasbourg  
 President elected by  
 MEPs. Currently **Roberta  
 Metsola (MT, EPP)**



## European Parliament 2024-2029

Constitutive session  
as of 16 July 2024



How many **Parliament members**  
will each EU country elect **this June?**

DE  96	CZ  21	IE  14
FR  81	SE  21	HR  12
IT  76	PT  21	LT  11
ES  61	HU  21	SI  9
PL  53	AT  20	LV  9
RO  33	BG  17	EE  7
NL  31	DK  15	CY  6
BE  22	FI  15	LU  6
EL  21	SK  15	MT  6



# The Council of the EU vs. European Council



## Council of the European Union:

Highest Political Institution of the Union

Forum for negotiation of 27 Governments

Dozens of thematic Working Groups

**Presidency** rotates every 6 months

**European Council** : Periodic Official Meeting of the 27 Heads of State  
+ Parliament & Commission Presidents

**President** 2.5 Years renewable once. Currently **António Costa** (PT)





# Main EU Stakeholders

**Mind the Transparency Rules!**

[Transparency Register](#)

[GDPR and Privacy](#)

[Code of conduct and appropriate behavior](#)

[Access to Documents](#)

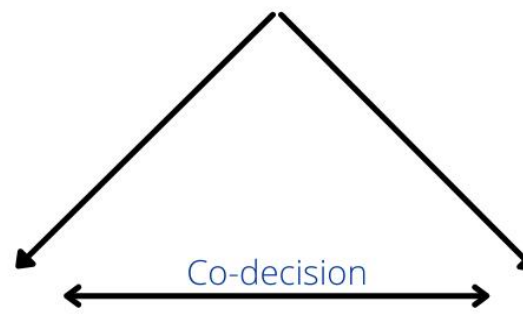
**MEPs leading Committees/Groups**

Rapporteurs

*APAs – Policy Assistants*



Legislative proposal



European Parliament



Council of the EU

**Commissioners**

Heads of Unit/ Sector /Directors

*Policy Officers*

**Ministers**

Ambassadors

*National attachés*

**Teresa Ribera Rodríguez**  
Executive Vice-President  
Clean, Just and Competitive Transition



**Ursula von der Leyen**  
President



**Henna Virkkunen**  
Executive Vice-President  
Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy



**Maroš Šefčovič**  
Commissioner  
Trade and Economic Security  
Interinstitutional Relations and Transparency



**Valdis Dombrovskis**  
Commissioner  
Economy and Productivity  
Implementation and Simplification



**Dubravka Šuica**  
Commissioner  
Economy and Productivity  
Mediterranean



**Olivér Várhelyi**  
Commissioner  
Health and Animal Welfare



**Wopke Hoekstra**  
Commissioner  
Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth



**Andrius Kubilius**  
Commissioner  
Defence and Space



**Marta Kos\***  
Commissioner  
Enlargement



**Stéphane Séjourné**  
Executive Vice-President  
Prosperity and Industrial Strategy



**Jozef Síkela**  
Commissioner  
International Partnerships



**Costas Kadić**  
Commissioner  
Fisheries and Oceans



**Maria Luís Albuquerque**  
Commissioner  
Financial Services and the Savings and Investments Union



**Hadja Lahbib**  
Commissioner  
Preparedness and Crisis Management  
Equality



**Kaja Kallas**  
High Representative/Vice-President  
Foreign Affairs and Security Policy



**Magnus Brunner**  
Commissioner  
Internal Affairs and Migration



**Jessika Roswall**  
Commissioner  
Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy



**Piotr Serafin**  
Commissioner  
Budget, Anti-Fraud and Public Administration



**Dan Jørgensen**  
Commissioner  
Energy and Housing



**Ekaterina Zaharieva**  
Commissioner  
Startups, Research and Innovation



**Michael McGrath**  
Commissioner  
Democracy, Justice and the Rule of Law



**Apostolos Tzitzikostas**  
Commissioner  
Sustainable Transport and Tourism



**Roxana Mînzatu**  
Executive Vice-President  
People, Skills and Preparedness



**Christophe Hansen**  
Commissioner  
Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Food



**Glenn Micallef**  
Commissioner  
Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport

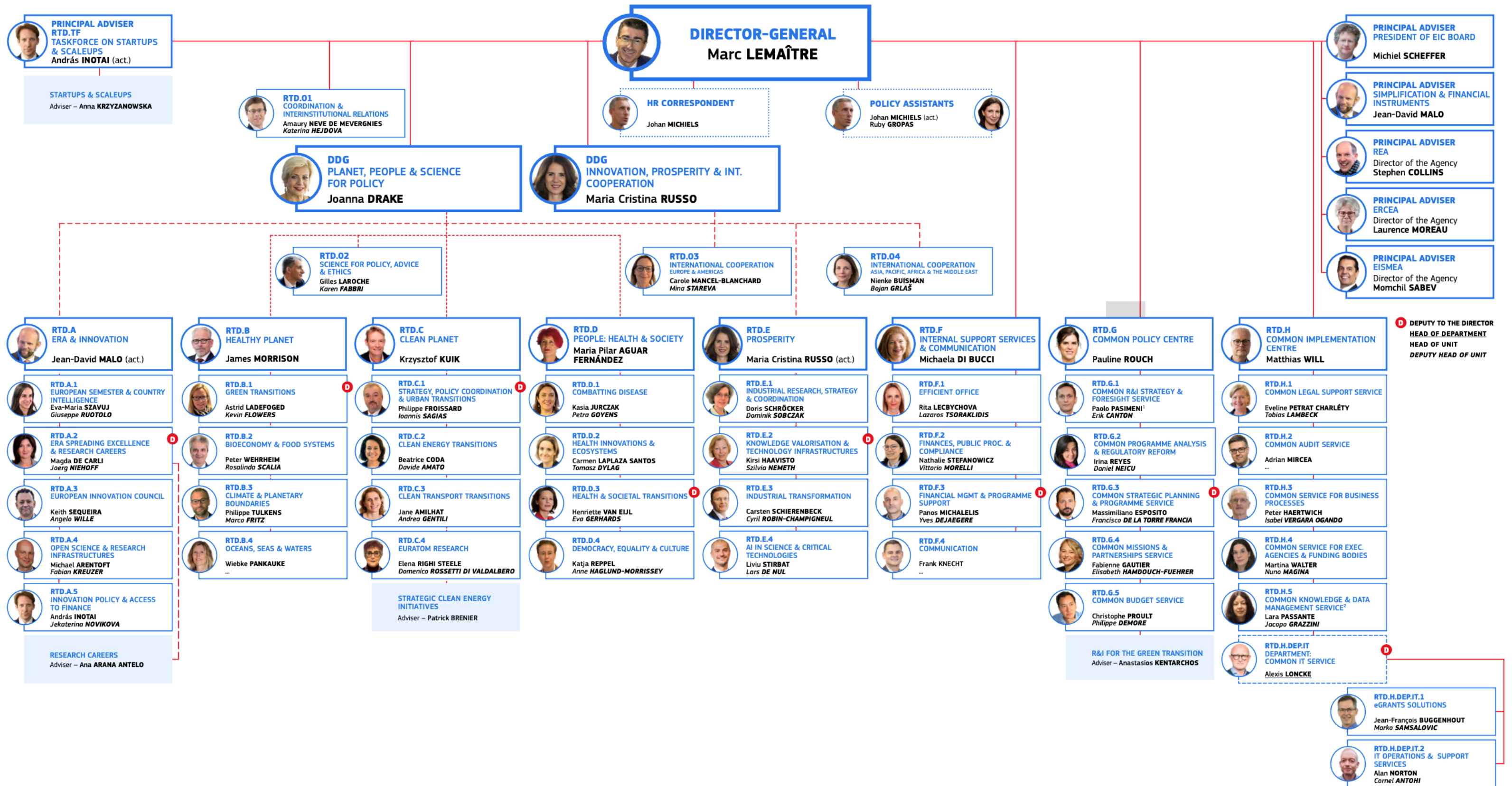


**Raffaello Fitto**  
Executive Vice-President  
Cohesion and Reforms





16/06/2026



DDG PLANET, PEOPLE & SCIENCE FOR POLICY					DIRECTORATE A			DIRECTORATE B		DIRECTORATE C		DIRECTORATE D		DIRECTORATE E		DIRECTORATE H					
ERCEA.A.1 Alban KELLERBAUER	ERCEA.A.2 Martin PENNY	ERCEA.B Philippe CUPERS	ERCEA.B.1 Raluca IONESCU	ERCEA.B.2 Josefina ENFEDAQUE	EISMEA.E Stephane DUAKI	EISMEA.E.1 Timo HALLANTIE Grzegorz AMBROZIEWICZ	EISMEA.E.3 Denisa PERRIN Andrei LINTU	REA.B Paul WEBB	CINEA.C Matthias LANGEMEYER	CINEA.C.2 Peter PETROV	HADEA.A.3 Stephane HOGAN	HADEA.B.3 Natascia LAI	CINEA.A.1 Francisco LOPEZ MENCHERO	CINEA.A.2 ...	CINEA.A.3 Céline VANDRECHÉ- TENIERS	EISMEA.C Maarit VILJANEN	EISMEA.C.1 Alice LANGEROVA	EISMEA.C.2 Kyriakos GEORGIOPOULOS			
ERCEA.B.3 Catherine BERENS	ERCEA.B.4 Pablo PEREZ-ILLANA	ERCEA.B.5 Lino PAULA	ERCEA.C Mila BAS SANCHEZ	ERCEA.C.1 Niki ATZOULATOU	EISMEA.I.1 Francesca DORIA	REA.C Minna WILKKI	REA.C.3 Ales FIALA	REA.B.3 Arnoldas MILUKAS Attila BERCIK	CINEA.C.3 Ivan KONAKTCHIEV	REA.C.1 Kristien VAN GOEY Bart VAN CAENEGEM	REA.B.1 Sebastiano FUMERO Julio RIESGO ARNALDO	ERCEA.C.4 Nikola CAR	ERCEA.D Pascale CID	ERCEA.D.1 Philippe VIJGHEN	ERCEA.D.2 Carole MICMACHER	HADEA.C.1 Alexandros IATROU Katarzyna STRYJNIAK	REA.A.5 Michel VANBIERVELIET Frederic MICHELIS				
ERCEA.C.2 Mila BAS SANCHEZ (act.)	ERCEA.C.3 Anita KUCHARSKA	ERCEA.D.3 Gwennael JOLIFF- BOTREL			REA.C.4 Sari VARTAINEN- MATHIEU Wainer LUSOLI			CINEA.C.1 Dominika SLOMINSKA				READ Gaia FANTECHI	READ.1 Gaia FANTECHI (act.)	READ.2 Barbara KAMPIS Jean-Christophe GAYRAND	READ.3 Griet VAN CAENEGEM Filippo DE ROSA	READ.4 Elena SIMOVA					

# What Influences the Commission to Initiate Legislation?

## TECHNICAL ACTORS

- Input from scientific and advisory committees
- Expert Groups
- EU Agencies

Important: check the relevant institutional stakeholders to your sector!

## POLITICAL ACTORS

- European Parliament
- Member States in the Council
- European Citizens' Initiative: 1 million citizens from at least 7 Member States

## PUBLIC ACTORS

- Public Consultations
- Stakeholder Consultations
- Member States Engagement
- Media
- "Real Life", Political Events

# The Commission Work Programme



EN English





Search

Home > Publications > 2021 Commission work programme – key documents

## 2021 Commission work programme – key documents

Part of collections: Commission work programme  
 First published on: 19 October 2020  
 Author: Secretariat-General

### Files

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- 
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- Available languages (22) [v](#)
- 
2021 Commission work programme explained - factsheet  
English (158.5 KB - PDF)
Download [↓](#)

No.	Policy objective	Initiatives
<b>A European Green Deal</b>		
1.	<b>Zero pollution package</b>	a) <b>Revision of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 114 TFEU, Q2 2022) b) <b>Integrated water management – revised lists of surface and groundwater pollutants</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 192 TFEU, Q3 2021) c) <b>Revision of EU ambient air quality legislation</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 192 TFEU, Q3 2022)
2.	<b>Climate measures package</b>	a) <b>Review of EU rules on fluorinated greenhouse gases</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 192(1) TFEU, Q2 2022) b) <b>EU framework for harmonised measurement of transport and logistics emissions</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Articles 91 and 100(2) TFEU, Q4 2022) c) <b>Review of the CO2 emission standards for heavy-duty vehicles</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 192(1) TFEU, Q4 2022) d) <b>Carbon removal certification</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 192(1) TFEU, Q4 2022)
3.	<b>Circular economy</b>	<b>Initiative on the right to repair</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Q3 2022)
4.	<b>Plastics package</b>	a) <b>Policy framework for bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics</b> (non-legislative, Q2 2022) b) <b>Restriction on microplastics</b> (non-legislative, Q4 2022) c) <b>Measures to reduce the release of microplastics in the environment</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 114 TFEU, Q4 2022)
5.	<b>Biodiversity and Farm to fork</b>	<b>Sustainable use of pesticides – revision of the EU rules</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Article 192(1) TFEU, Q1 2022)
<b>A Europe Fit for the Digital Age</b>		
6.	<b>Cyber resilience</b>	<b>European cyber resilience act</b> (legislative, incl. impact assessment, Q3 2022)
7.	<b>Semi-conductors</b>	<b>European chips act</b> (legislative or non-legislative, Q2 2022)
8.	<b>Security and defence</b>	<b>Roadmap on security and defence technologies</b> (non-legislative, Q1 2022)

77  
renew  
europe.

188  
epp  
group  
in the European Parliament

53  
THE GREENS/EFA  
in the European Parliament

78  
ECR  
GROUP

136  
S&D

46  
THE  
LEFT

720  
seats

84  
Patriots  
for Europe

25  
ESN

32  
NI

Non-attached

# European Parliament 2024-2029

Constitutive session  
as of 16 July 2024



# Committee chairs in the European Parliament

July 2024 - January 2027













Committee chairs are elected for a term of two and a half years. Committees handle legislative proposals, appoint negotiation teams for talks with EU ministers, adopt reports, organise hearings, and oversee other EU bodies and institutions.

## COMMITTEES




Foreign Affairs	Security and Defence	Development	International Trade	Budgets				
 David MCALLISTER EPP Germany	 Marie-Agnes STRACK-ZIMMERMANN Renew Germany	 Barry ANDREWS Renew Ireland	 Bernd LANGE S&D Germany	 Johan VAN OVERTVELDT ECR Belgium				
Budgetary Control	Economic and Monetary Affairs	Employment and Social Affairs	Environment, Climate and Food Safety	Public Health				
 Niclas HERBST EPP Germany	 Aurore LALUCQ S&D France	 Li ANDERSSON The Left Sweden	 Antonio DECARO S&D Italy	 Adam JARUBAS EPP Poland				
Industry, Research and Energy	Internal Market and Consumer Protection	Transport and Tourism	Regional Development	Agriculture and Rural Development				
 Borys BUDKA EPP Ukraine	 Anna CAVAZZINI Greens/EFA Germany	 Elissavet VOZEMBERG-VRIONI EPP Greece	 Adrian-Dragos BENEA S&D Romania	 Veronika VRECIONOVA ECR Czechia				
Fisheries	Culture and Education	Legal Affairs	Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	Constitutional Affairs				
 Carmen CRESCO DÍAZ EPP Spain	 Nela RIEHL Greens/EFA Germany	 Ilhan KYUCHYUK Renew Ukraine	 Javier ZARZALEJOS EPP Spain	 Sven SIMON EPP Germany				
Women's Rights and Gender Equality	Petitions	SUBCOMMITTEES						
 Lina GÁLVEZ S&D Spain	 Bogdan RZONCA ECR Poland	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Human Rights</th> <th>Tax Matters</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> Mounir SATOURI Greens/EFA France</td> <td> Pasquale TRIDICO The Left Italy</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Human Rights	Tax Matters	 Mounir SATOURI Greens/EFA France	 Pasquale TRIDICO The Left Italy
Human Rights	Tax Matters							
 Mounir SATOURI Greens/EFA France	 Pasquale TRIDICO The Left Italy							

EPP: Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)  
S&D: Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament  
ECR: European Conservatives and Reformists Group  
Renew: Renew Europe Group  
Greens/EFA: Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance  
The Left: The Left group in the European Parliament - GUE/NGL

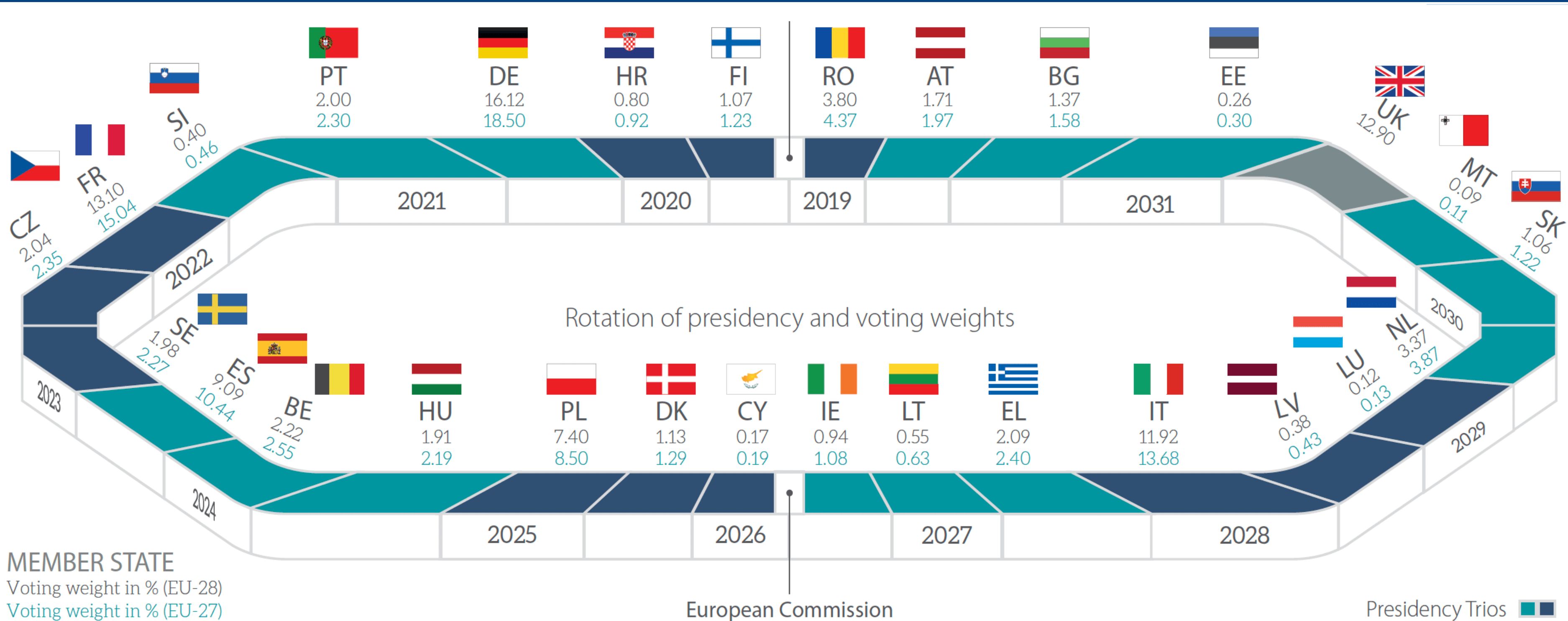
Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	 RIES Frédérique Shadow rapporteur  FLORENZ Karl-Heinz  PAOLUCCI Massimo  DEMESMAEKER Mark  BOYLAN Lynn  AUKEN Margrete  PEDICINI Piernicola  GODDYN Sylvie	07/05/2018
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>ECON</b> Economic and Monetary Affairs	 KAPPEL Barbara	20/06/2018
	<b>ITRE</b> Industry, Research and Energy	 KAPPEL Barbara	25/06/2018
	<b>AGRI</b> Agriculture and Rural Development	 ROPÉ Bronis	10/07/2018
	<b>PECH</b> Fisheries	 BRIANO Renata	14/06/2018
	<b>JURI</b> Legal Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Environment	VELLA Karmenu	

Key events

28/05/2018	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">COM(2018)0340</a>	Summary
11/06/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		
10/10/2018	Vote in committee, 1st reading/single reading		
11/10/2018	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A8-0317/2018</a>	Summary
22/10/2018	Debate in Parliament		
24/10/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
24/10/2018	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">T8-0411/2018</a>	Summary
24/10/2018	Matter referred back to the committee responsible		
22/01/2019	Approval in committee of the text agreed at 1st reading interinstitutional negotiations	<a href="#">PE632.990 GEDA/A/(2019)000622</a>	
27/03/2019	Debate in Parliament		
27/03/2019	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">T8-0305/2019</a>	Summary
21/05/2019	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
05/06/2019	Final act signed		
05/06/2019	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/06/2019	Final act published in Official Journal		

# The Council of the European Union





## Council preparatory bodies

### Filter by topic

Consumer protection

[+ See all topics](#)

### Working parties by Council configuration

Agriculture and Fisheries Council

Competitiveness Council

Economic and Financial Affairs Council

Education, Youth, Culture and Sports Council

Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council

[+ See all Council configurations](#)

- [> Ad Hoc Working Party on Genetically Modified Organisms \(GMO\)](#)
- [> Coreper I](#)
- [> Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers](#)
- [> Working Party of Veterinary Experts](#)
- [> Working Party on Agricultural Questions](#)
- [> Working Party on Consumer Protection and Information](#)
- [> Working Party on Foodstuff Quality](#)
- [> Working Party on Foodstuffs](#)
- [> Working Party on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices](#)
- [> Working Party on Technical Harmonisation](#)

**COVID-19:** This page is constantly updated to reflect the latest changes to the calendar of summits, ministerial meetings and video conferences.

The list of meetings of the Council preparatory bodies is included in the following document:

The Council is supported by the Committee of Permanent Representatives of the Governments of the Member States to the European Union (**Coreper**) and more than **150 highly specialised working parties and committees**, known as the 'Council preparatory bodies'.

The preparatory bodies can be divided into two main categories:

# Voting calculator

Council of the EU

Download the voting calculator also for your mobile device.



> Download from App Store

> Download from Google Play

## Set the votes for each country

Countries participating	Votes	Reset all to Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All countries participating <input type="checkbox"/> Only Eurozone countries participating		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Austria 1.98% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Belgium 2.56% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bulgaria 1.56% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Croatia 0.91% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cyprus 0.20% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Czech Republic 2.35% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denmark 1.30% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estonia 0.30% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finland 1.22% of population	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	

## Choose the voting rule

Voting rule

Qualified majority

## Voting result



### Final result

Approved

[Download results as pdf](#)

27 member states  
Minimum "Yes" required for adoption: (55%) 15

27

Yes

0


No

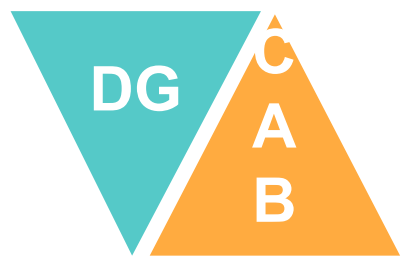
0

Abstain



# Hierarchy of EU Law

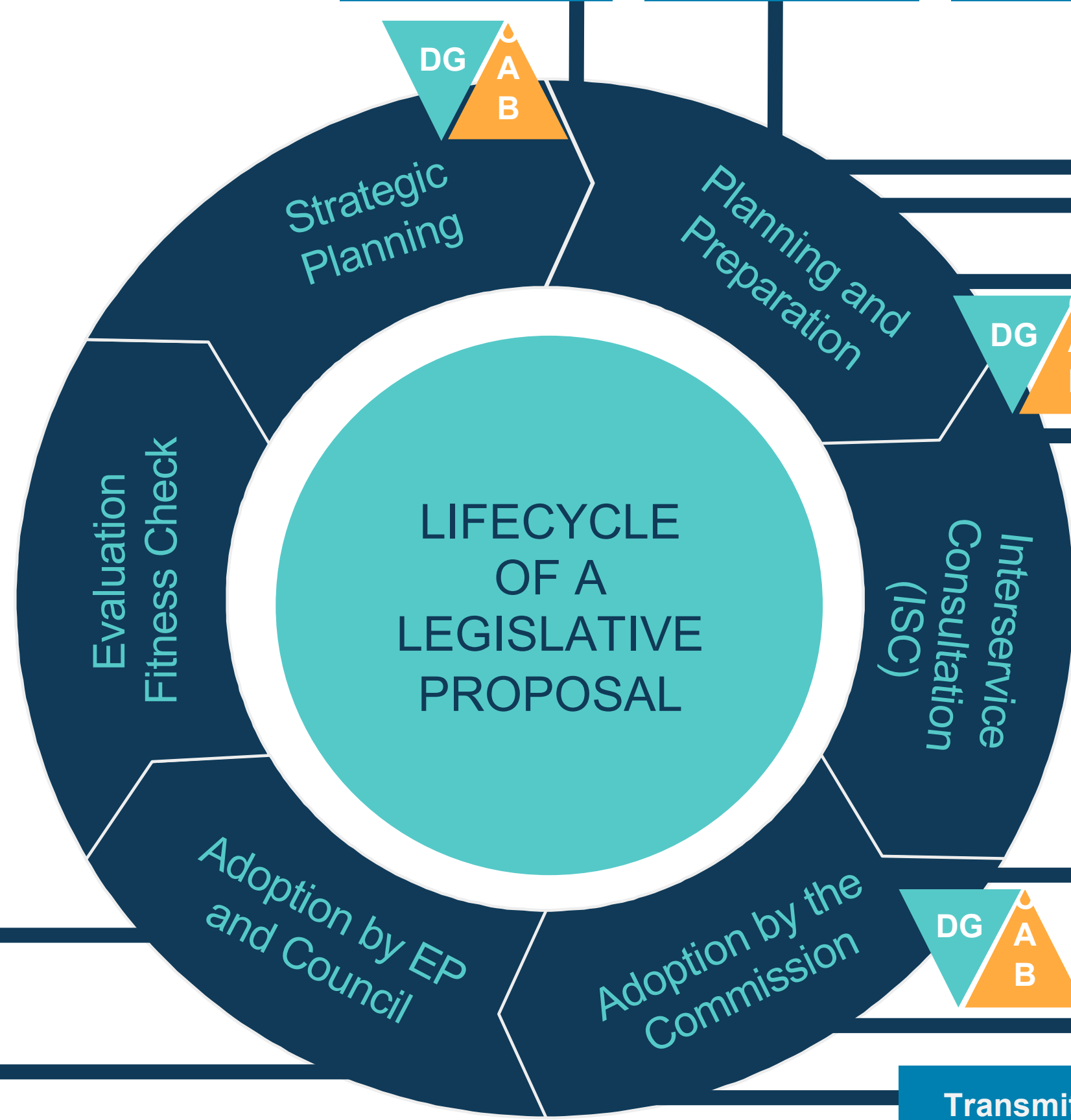
- 
- . Soft law [recommendations, guidelines]
  - . Other EU law [inter-institutional agreements, rules of procedure]
  - . Implementing + Delegated Acts [Regulation, Directive, Decision]
    - . Legislation [Regulation, Directive, Decision]
    - . Treaties [TEU, TFEU, as amended by ToL]



Prior agreement by the responsible Director-General & Cabinet(s)



Initiative Planned      Roadmap      Public Consultation



Impact assessment

Draft

Launch of ISC

Revised documents

Translation request

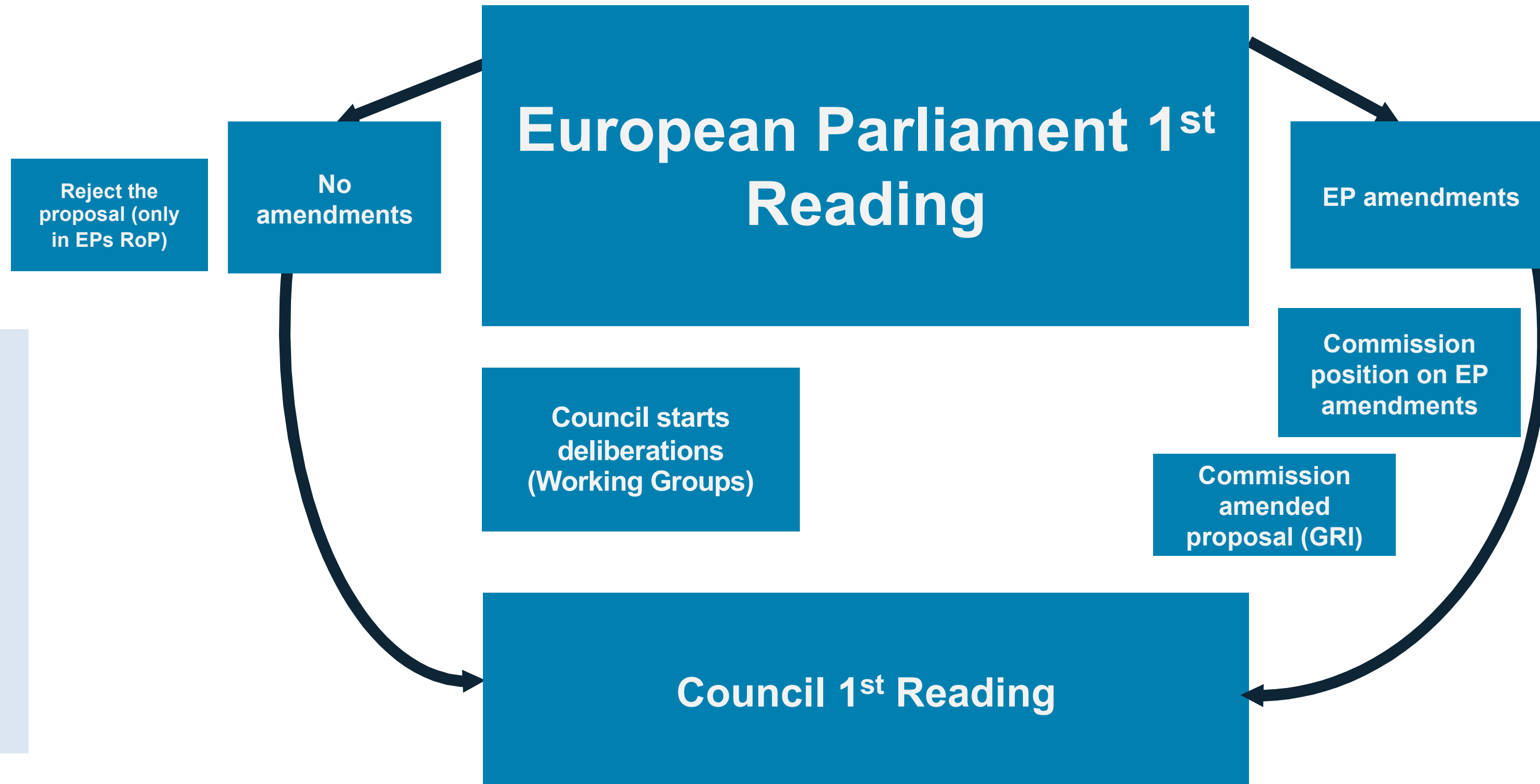
Adopted

Published in the official journal

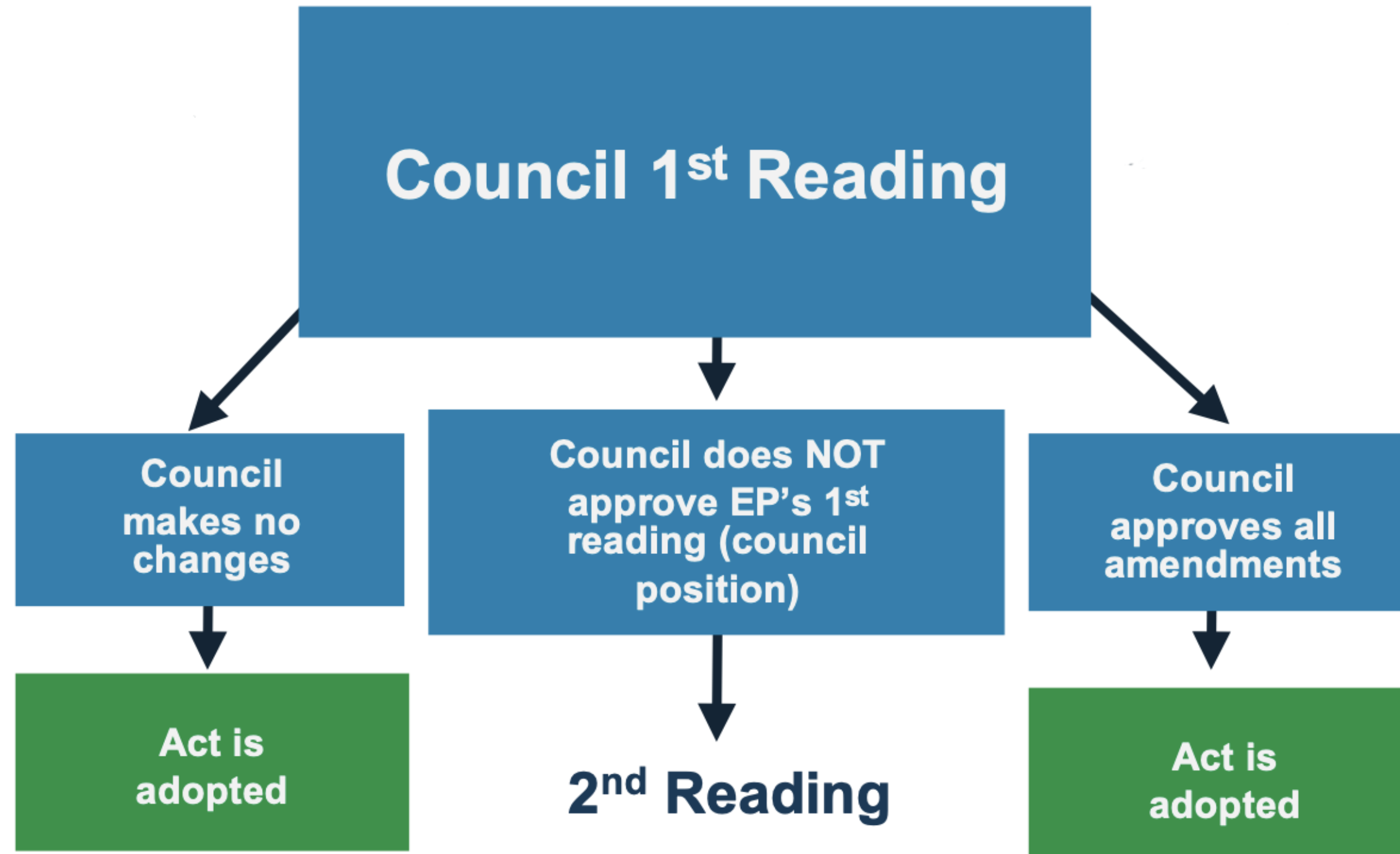
Adopted

Transmitted to EU institutions

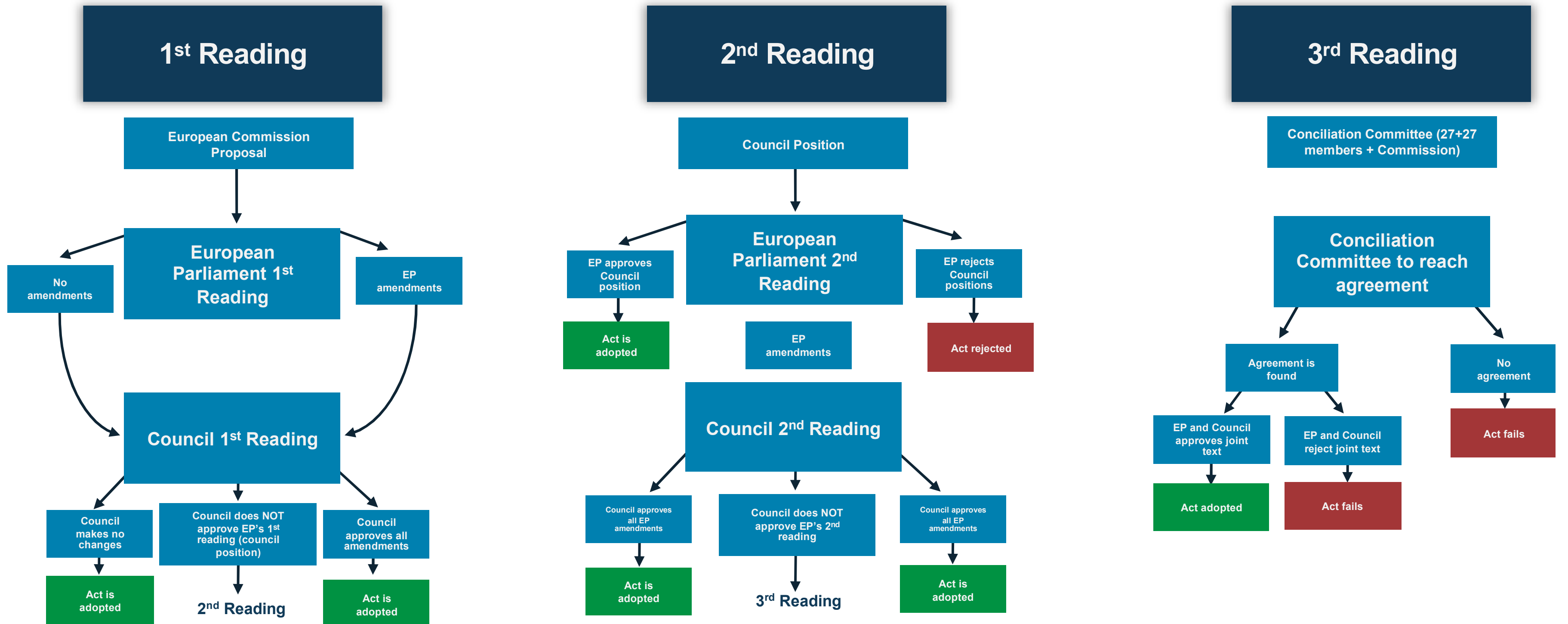
# The Ordinary Legislative Procedure



# The Ordinary Legislative Procedure



# The Ordinary Legislative Procedure







# TODAY'S RESOURCES

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[Voting Calculator of the Council of the EU](#)

[EU Legislative Observatory](#)

[European Agencies and other EU bodies](#)

[European Register of delegated & implementing acts](#)

[EU Public Register of Documents](#)

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[EU Who is Who](#)

[www.pac.org/europe](http://www.pac.org/europe)

# LET'S CONNECT!

## Inês Reis Basto

Senior Advisor (Europe)  
INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE

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