

The European Parliament

Introduction



Visits and Seminars Unit

- Visits in all 24 EU languages
- 41 000 visitors per month
- Everyone has a right to learn about (and engage in) EU democracy



What is the European Union?



Peace and prosperity

- Second World War (1939 – 1945)
- Schuman declaration (1950)
- Six countries establish the European Coal and Steel Community (1952)



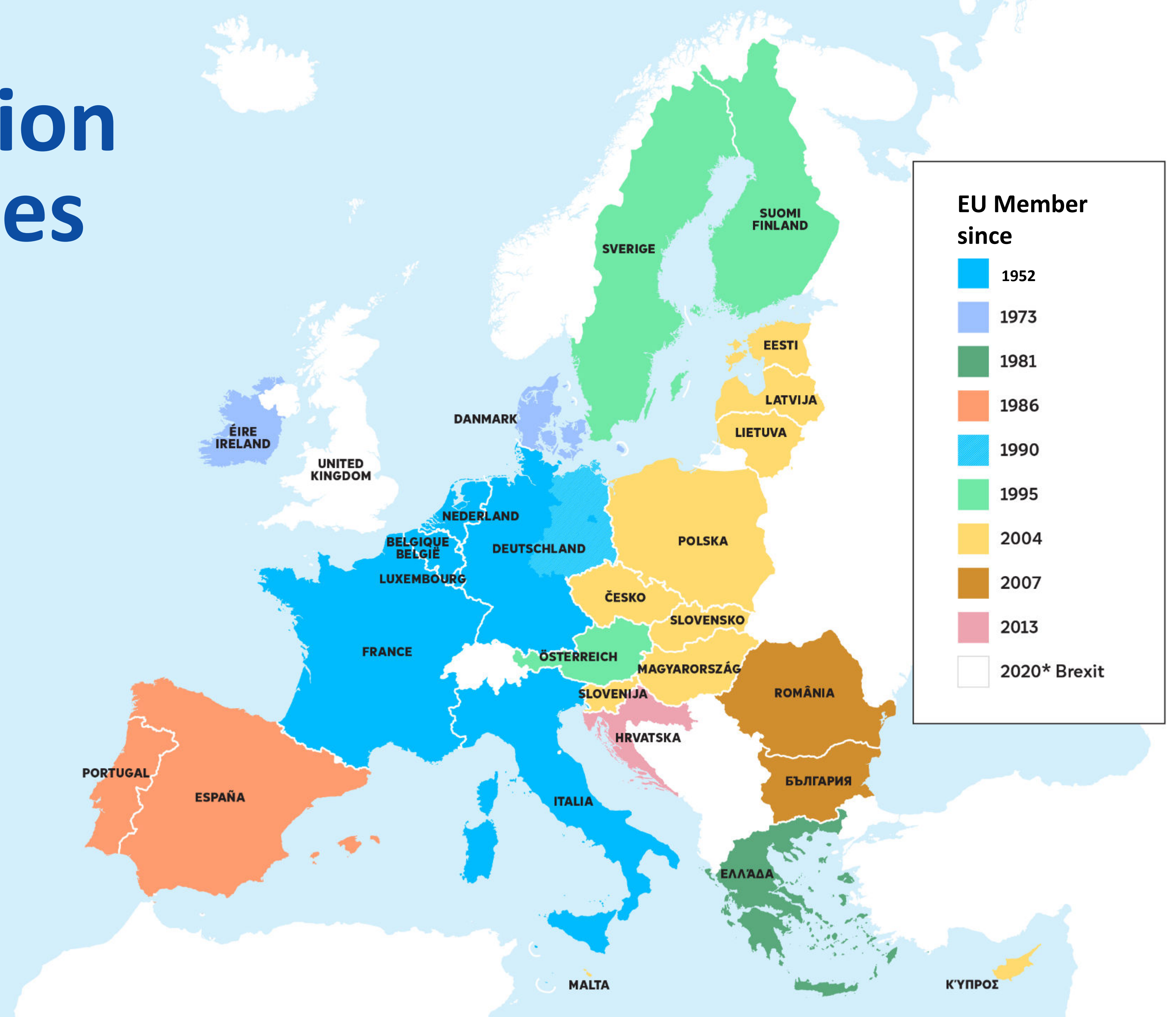
EU values

(Art. 2 TUE)

- Human dignity
- Freedom
- Democracy
- Equality
- Rule of law
- Human rights



European Union Member States



European Union Member States

Non-continental
and overseas territories
of member states



Candidate countries

1999



2005



2010



2012



2014



2022



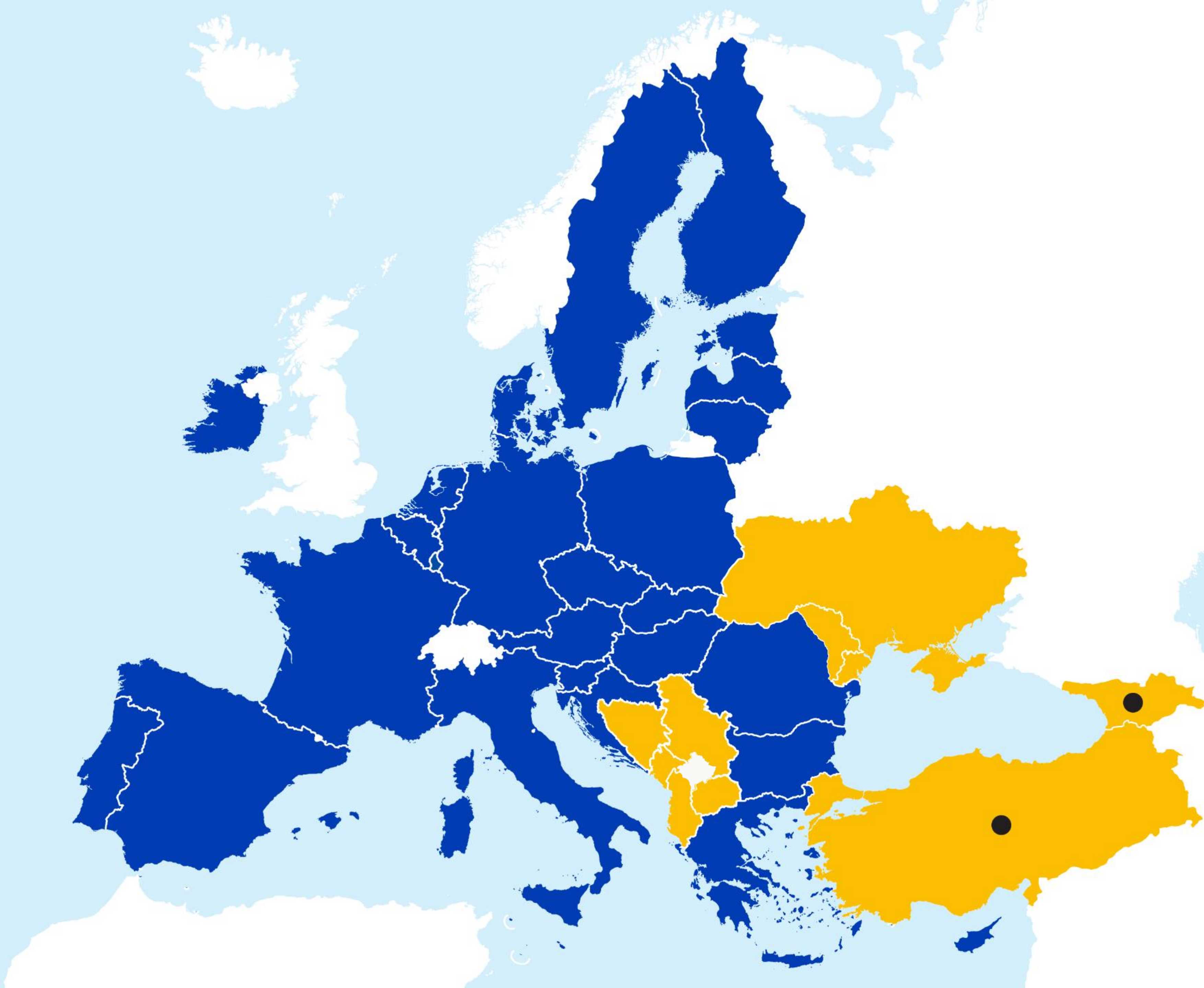
2023



 EU Country

 Candidate Country

 Frozen negotiations



The map displays the geographical distribution of EU member states and candidate countries. EU member states are colored blue, while candidate countries are colored yellow. Turkey and North Macedonia are marked with black dots, indicating that their negotiations for EU membership are frozen. The map includes the following countries:

- EU Countries (Blue):** Ireland, United Kingdom, France, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Bulgaria, Romania, Greece, Italy, Malta, Cyprus, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Bulgaria, Romania, Greece, Italy, Malta, Cyprus, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg.
- Candidate Countries (Yellow):** Turkey, North Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, Ukraine, Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia.
- Frozen negotiations (Black dots):** Turkey, North Macedonia.

Russian aggression against Ukraine



Functioning of the European Union



European
Parliament

Main EU Institutions



European
Commission



European
Parliament



European
Council



Council of the
European Union

European Union leadership



Roberta Metsola
President of the
European Parliament



Ursula von der Leyen
President of the
European Commission



Antonio Costa
President of the
European Council

Who does what? (Subsidiarity & Proportionality)



Exclusive

Trade
Customs
Competition
Marine conservation
Monetary (Euro zone)



Shared

Agriculture
Energy
Research & Innovation
Environment
Transport
Consumer Protection
Freedom, security and justice



Supporting

Education
Social security
Human health
Culture
Tourism

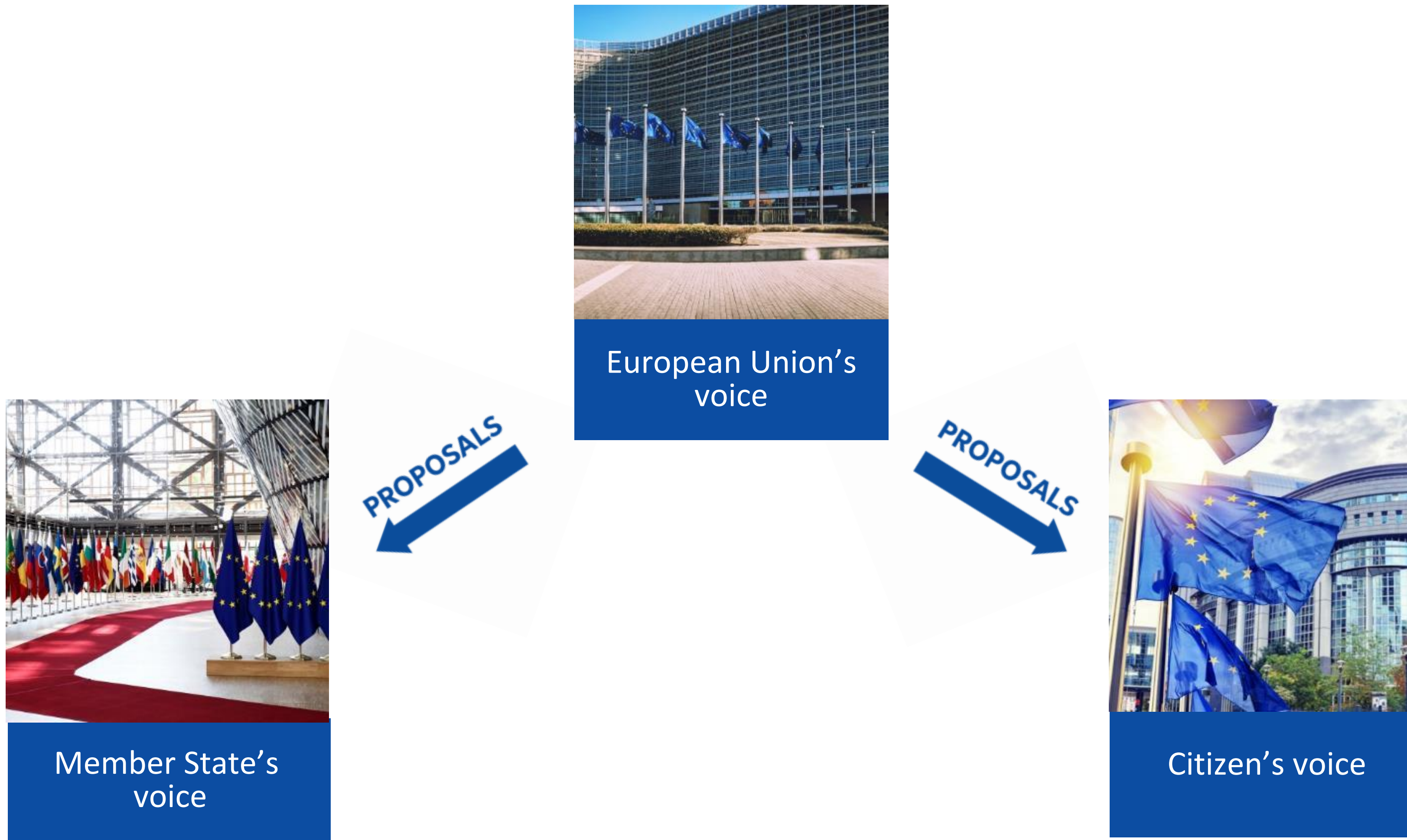
Foreign policy, security and defence

- Preserve peace
- Reinforce international security
- Promote international cooperation, democracy, the rule of law and the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms
- Decision making by European Council and Council of the European Union
- No legislation

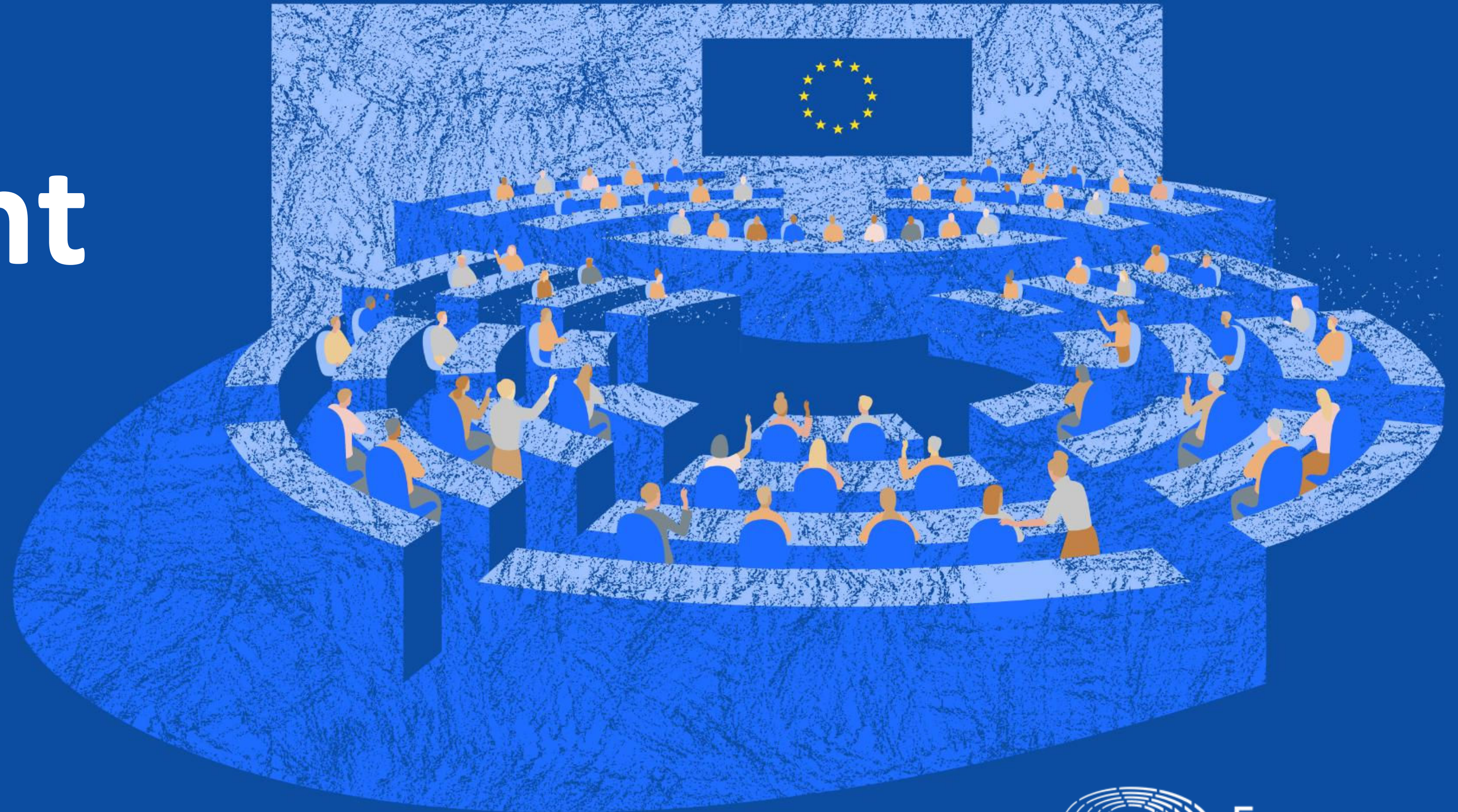


EU decision making

Ordinary legislative procedure



Inside the European Parliament



European
Parliament

Powers of the Parliament

- Adopts and amends EU laws
- Elects the Commission President and approves the European Commission
- Adopts the EU budget
- Approves international treaties
- Exercises oversight over other EU institutions and bodies



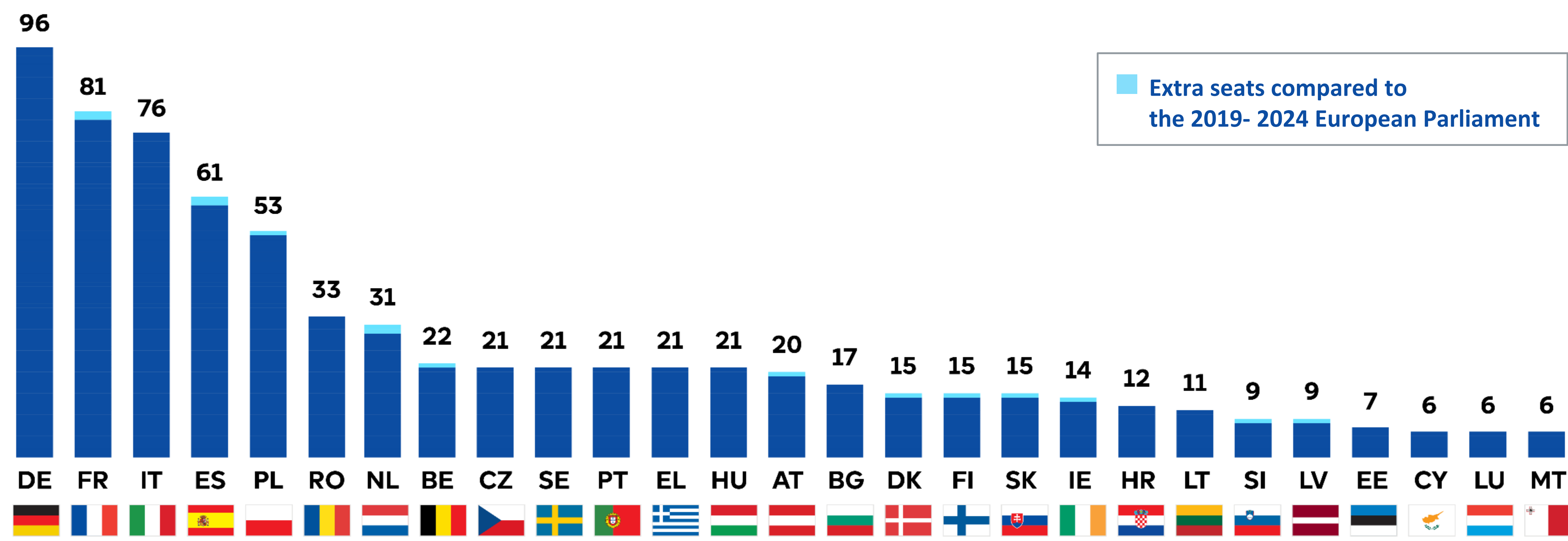
Electing a new European Commission president

- European Parliament elects the President of the European Commission
 - upon proposal from the European Council
 - taking EU election results into account
 - with absolute majority
- Organises hearings with the commissioners-designate from all EU Members States
- Approves the college of European Commissioners

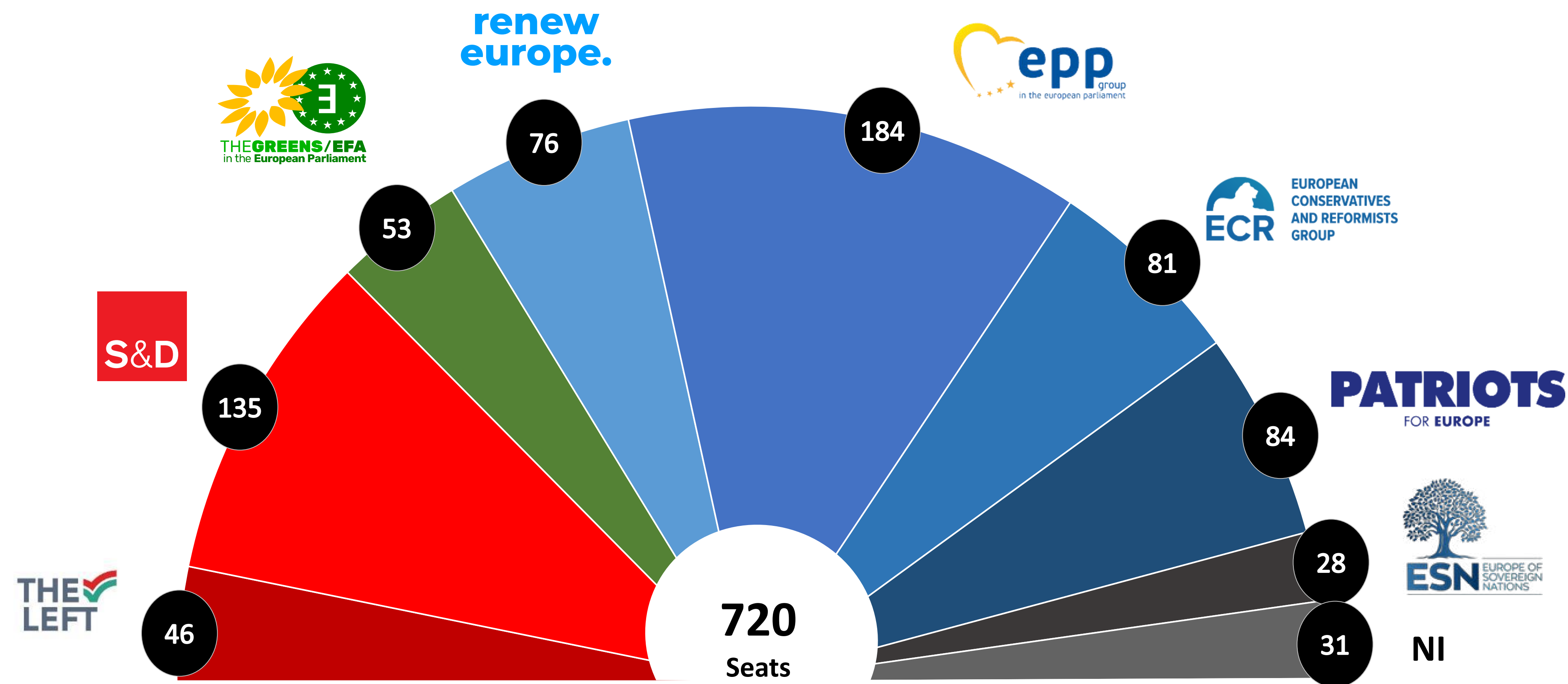


720 Members of the Parliament

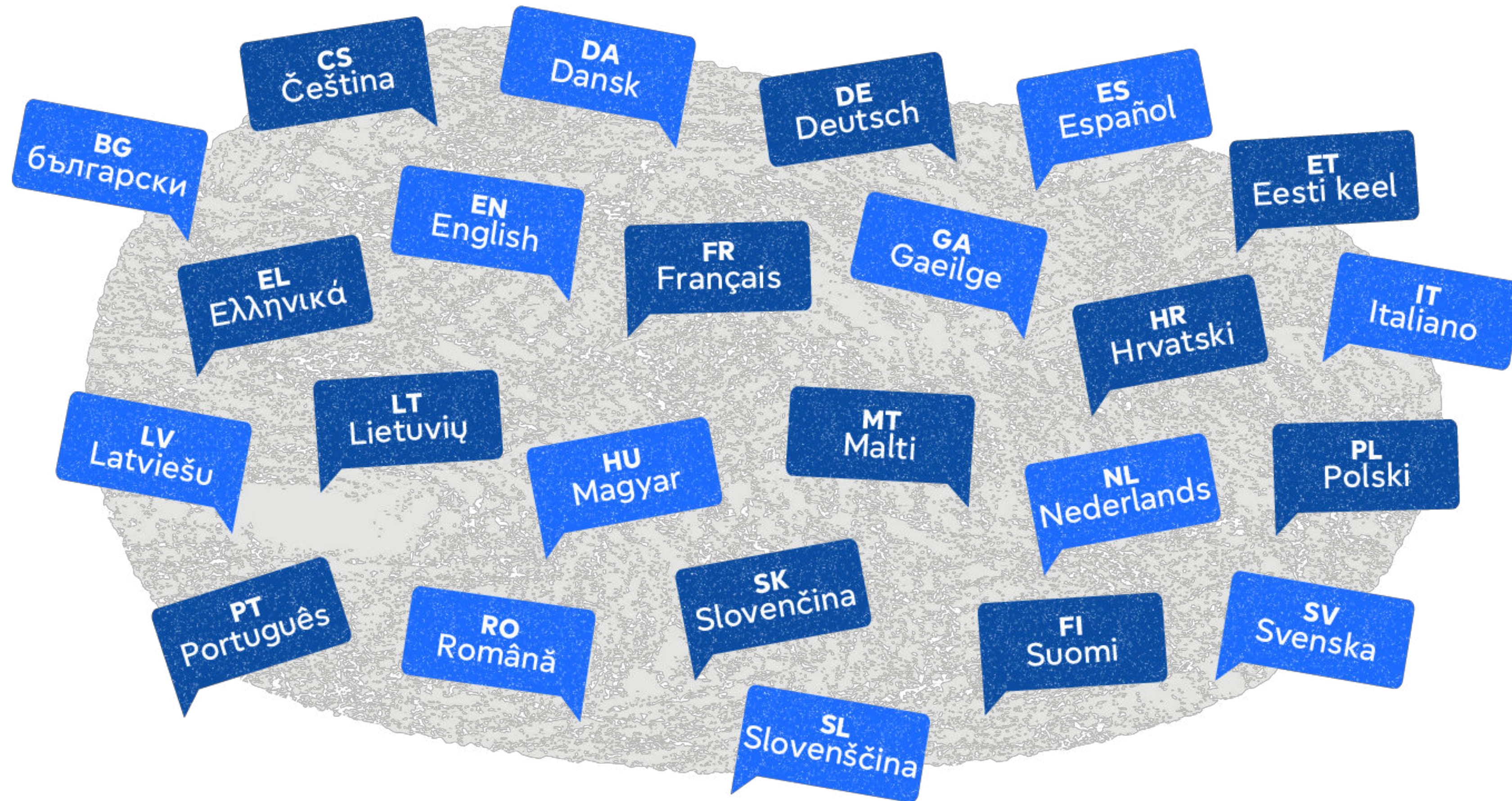
Distribution of seats per country



Political groups



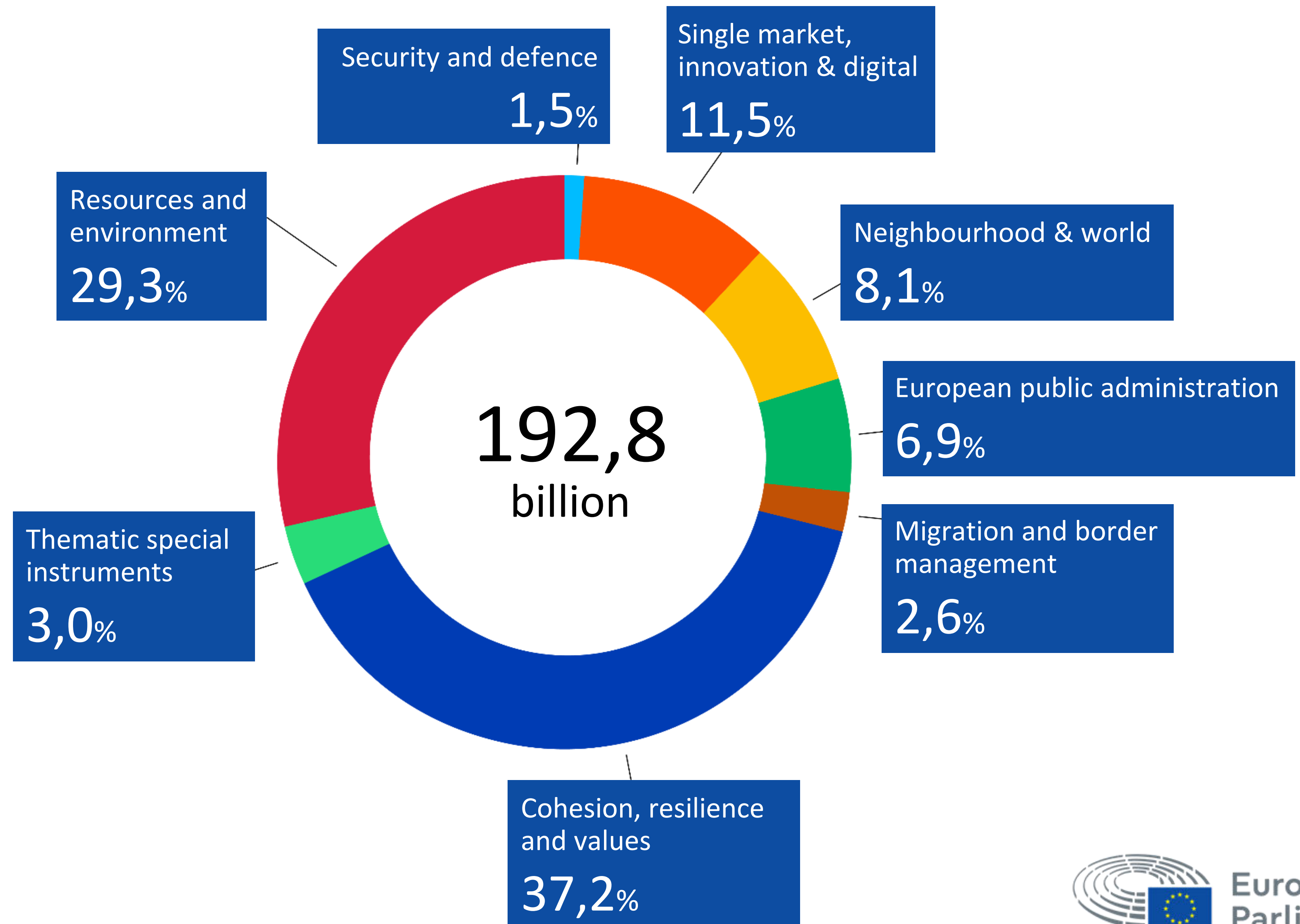
24 official EU languages



EU budget 2026

(Commitments)

The EU budget is just around 1 per cent of the EU GDP



Calendar

- Plenary sessions
- Committee meetings
- Political group meetings
- External parliamentary activities

2026



01							02							03						
	1	2	3	4	5		5	6	7	8	9		9	10	11	12	13	14		
①		5	12	19	26			2	9	16	23			2	9	16	23	30		
②		6	13	20	27			3	10	17	24			3	10	17	24	31		
③		7	14	21	28			4	11	18	25			4	11	18	25			
④	1	8	15	22	29			5	12	19	26			5	12	19	26			
⑤	2	9	16	23	30			6	13	20	27			6	13	20	27			
⑥	3	10	17	24	31			7	14	21	28			7	14	21	28			
⑦	4	11	18	25			1	8	15	22			1	8	15	22	29			
04							05							06						
	14	15	16	17	18		18	19	20	21	22			23	24	25	26	27		
①		6	13	20	27			4	11	18	25			1	8	15	22	29		
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	40	41	42	43	44		44	45	46	47	48	49		49	50	51	52	53		
①		5	12	19	26			2	9	16	23	30			7	14	21	28		
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Parliamentary committees



Parliamentary committees (by size)

Committees

Environment, Climate and Food Safety

Industry, Research and Energy

Foreign Affairs

Human Rights

Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Economic and Monetary Affairs

Tax Matters

Employment and Social Affairs

Internal Market and Consumer Protection

Agriculture and Rural Development

Transport and Tourism

International Trade

Public Health

Security and Defence

Regional Development

Budgets

Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Petitions

Budgetary Control

Constitutional Affairs

Culture and Education

Fisheries

Development

Legal Affairs

Special Committees

European Democracy Shield

Housing Crisis in the EU

Parliamentary committees (by size)

Committees

ENVI	90
ITRE	90
AFET	79
↳ DROI	30
LIBE	75
ECON	60
↳ FISC	30
EMPL	60

IMCO	52
AGRI	49
TRAN	46
INTA	43
SANT	43
SEDE	43
REGI	41
BUDG	40

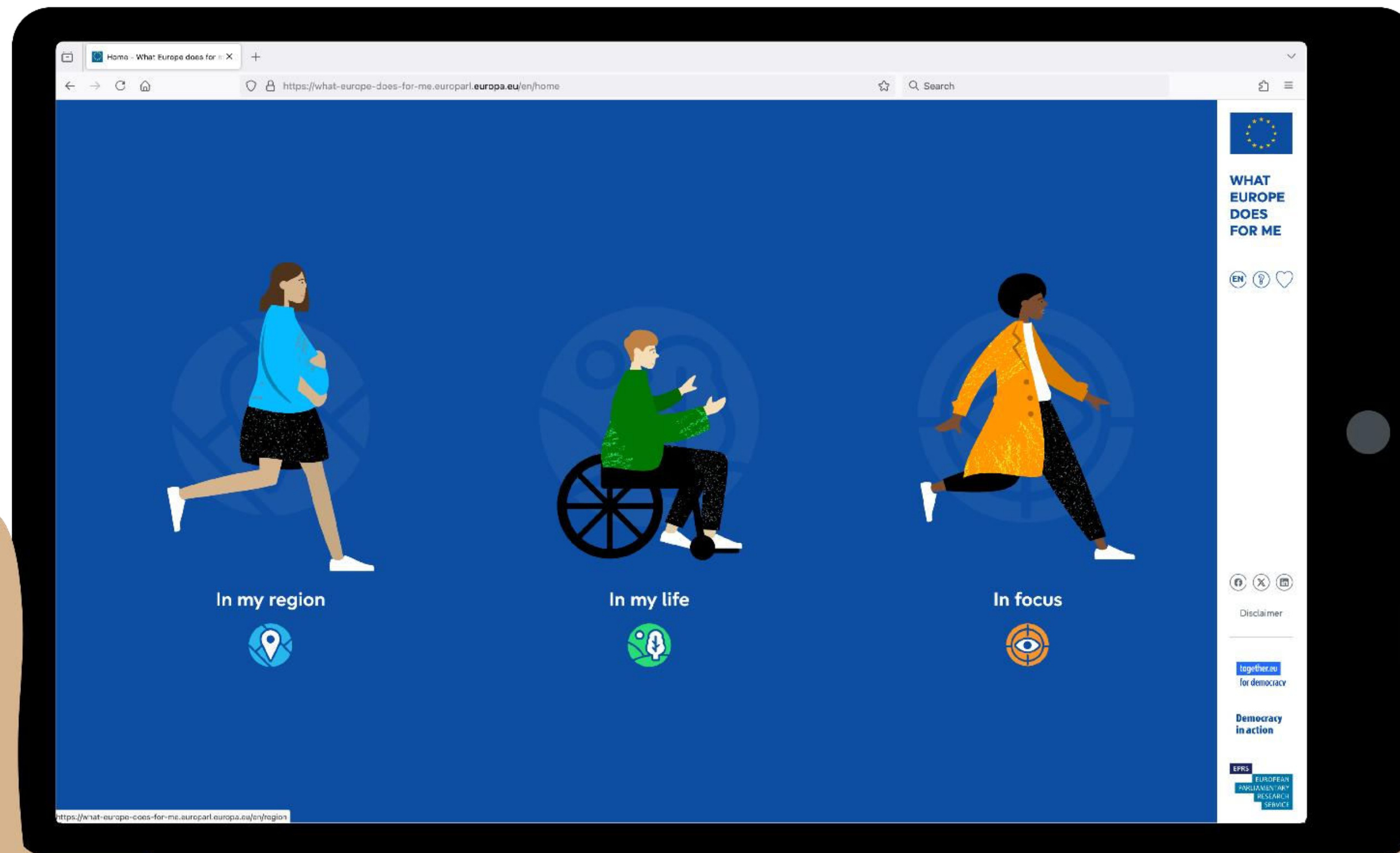
FEMM	40
PETI	35
CONT	30
AFCO	30
CULT	30
PECH	27
DEVE	25
JURI	25

Special Committees

EUDS	33
HOUS	33

Find out more on WHAT EUROPE DOES FOR ME

What the EU can do for you (and what you can do for the EU)



The digital journey of the European Parliament