

European Elections Project
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WEEKLY UPDATE

Five qualities you need to lead Europe

“The rhetoric on who we need as European presidents and commissioners over the next five years has often focused on specific names without exploring the leadership qualities that are required in navigating today’s complex world.

There are five qualities that are becoming more important for all leaders, and they transcend the macroeconomics and geopolitics of today’s world. They are qualities all our European leaders need to demonstrate”.



What are these five qualities? Read the complete [opinion article](#) published by [EUobserver](#), and remember to visit their [post-election news section](#)!

It’s amazing what migrants bring

[New Europeans](#) is collaborating on a new international project called *Migrants Contribute*, which aims to transform the debate about European citizenship and Britain’s EU membership, by focusing on the real life experiences of the 2.3m European expats in the UK and the 2.2m British expats in Europe and the contributions they make to the communities in which they live.

In the UK, the campaign is being taken forward by a partnership which includes, in addition to New Europeans, [Migrants’ Rights Network](#), and other agencies and voluntary associations.



Make sure to follow the campaign on Twitter: [#migrantscontribute](#).

Five Romanians elected as councillors in Italy following the local elections



For the local elections on May 25th in Italy, a record number of Romanian citizens presented themselves as candidates. At least 157 Romanians requested clearance from the Electoral Authority in Romania, the authorization document required for them to submit their candidacy in Italy. This doesn’t take into account the Romanian candidates with Italian citizenship, which is why the number may be even higher. The report is available [here](#).

Stop targeting Hungarian NGOs!

Since its re-election, the Hungarian government launched a campaign attacking the credibility of Hungarian NGOs and they are striving to gain controlling power over their funding distributed independently from the government. An independent and dynamic civil society plays a fundamental role in a democratic society, as it is one of the key checks and balances to governing power. As demonstrated by Putin's Russia, the harassment of the civil sector could easily lead to the criminalization of NGOs and could effectively hinder their work. We stand in solidarity with the Hungarian NGOs and call on the Hungarian and all other governments to refrain from harassing civil society!



If you agree with the statement please share and use the #SpeakUpForHungary hashtag!

[GONG](#) has expressed solidarity with the Hungarian NGOs in [this release](#) (in Croatian).

An analysis of the vote for the European elections in Italy

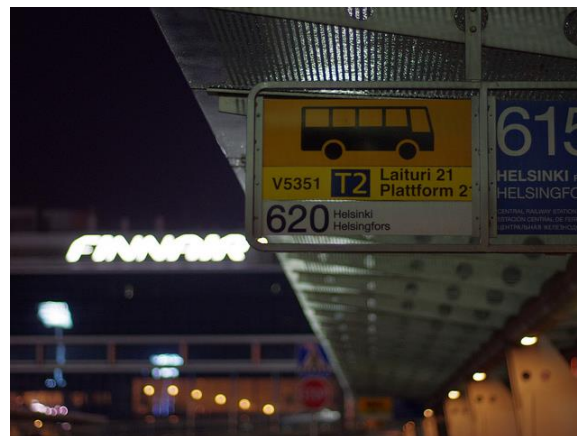
The results of the European elections confirmed fears about the growth of anti-European parties and a low turnout in some countries. Certain categories of voters all over Europe, however, were more active and interested in the elections, despite the existence of bureaucratic difficulties.

Romanian migrants in Italy are an example worth studying to understand the dynamics of the elections and the degree of interest of migrant workers in other EU countries. More than 45,000 Romanians registered to be able to vote for Italian candidates, which is an increase of 50% if compared to 2009. In addition, 3639 Romanians in Italy voted for Romanian candidates.

Read the [full report](#) (in Italian) published by [COSPE](#).

Bondy Blog's European Tour

After travelling nearly 9,500 km through the roads of Europe, the bloggers from [Bondy Blog](#) have returned to France with many questions and some certitude on what Europe means for the youth. You can read the conclusion of their journey [here](#) (in French).



This report contains some updates and information related to the European Elections Projects. The views expressed are not necessarily shared nor supported by OSF/OSIFE. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Francisco Malavassi (osife.intern@opensocietyfoundations.org).