

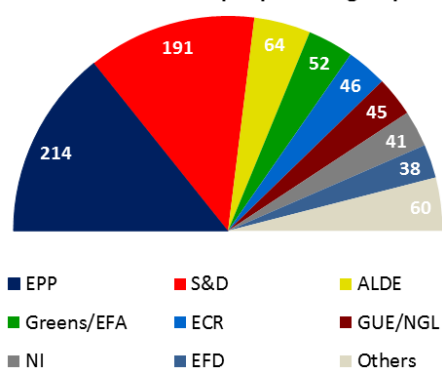
European Elections Project
May 28th, 2014

WEEKLY UPDATE

Election Results

Political Group	Seats	Percentage
EPP Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)	214	28.50%
S&D Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament	191	25.43%
ALDE Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe	64	8.52%
Greens/EFA The Greens/European Free Alliance	52	6.92%
ECR European Conservatives and Reformists	46	6.13%
GUE/NGL European United Left/Nordic Green Left	45	5.99%
NI Non-attached Members - Members not belonging to any political group	41	5.46%
EDF Europe of Freedom and Democracy Group	38	5.06%
Others Newly elected Members not allied to any of the political groups set up in the outgoing Parliament	60	7.99%

Number of seats per political group



According to the [provisional results provided by the Parliament](#), the European People's Party (EPP) has elected 214 MEPs, with 28.50% of the votes, and the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D) has elected 191 MEPs, with 25.43% of the votes.

[EUobserver](#) reported that [centre-right won most EP seats, but anti-establishment parties scored well](#), with the biggest upset in France, Denmark and the UK (where populist parties were put in the lead: the National Front, the Danish People's Party and UKIP). [France saw the biggest political](#)

[earthquake](#) as the governing Socialists came in third place with less than 14% of the votes, while the National Front obtained almost 25% of the votes.

“With negotiations still to take place about where the newcomers will sit and whether the eurosceptics or far-right will form a coherent political group in the EP, it could be weeks before the political foundations of the EU are settled”, reports EUobserver.

The turnout increased from 43% to 43.09%, but with very different trends if analysed country by country.

Country	Turnout		
	2014	2009	Difference
Austria	45.70%	45.97%	-0.27%
Belgium	90.00%	90.39%	-0.39%
Bulgaria	35.50%	38.99%	-3.49%
Croatia*	25.06%	20.84%	4.22%
Cyprus	43.97%	59.40%	-15.43%
Czech Republic	18.20%	28.22%	-10.02%
Denmark	56.40%	59.54%	-3.14%
Estonia	36.52%	43.90%	-7.38%
Finland	40.90%	38.60%	2.30%
France	43.50%	40.63%	2.87%
Germany	47.90%	43.27%	4.63%
Greece	58.20%	52.61%	5.59%
Hungary	28.92%	36.31%	-7.39%
Ireland	51.60%	58.64%	-7.04%
Italy	58.68%	66.46%	-7.78%
Latvia	30.25%	53.70%	-23.45%
Lithuania	44.91%	20.98%	23.93%
Luxembourg	90.00%	90.76%	-0.76%
Malta	74.81%	78.79%	-3.98%
Netherlands	37.00%	36.75%	0.25%
Poland	23.82%	24.53%	-0.71%
Portugal	34.50%	36.77%	-2.27%
Romania	32.16%	27.67%	4.49%
Slovakia	13.00%	19.64%	-6.64%
Slovenia	24.13%	28.37%	-4.24%
Spain	45.90%	44.87%	1.03%
Sweden	48.80%	45.53%	3.27%
United Kingdom	36.00%	34.70%	1.30%

* 2014 vs 2013 results

The preliminary results are available in the Parliament's [elections website](#). Interesting data on turnout, seats by political group, seats by member state, and men and women distribution trends since 1979 is provided.

[ENAR](#) has prepared an analysis of the results from their perspective as an anti-racist movement in Europe, entitled "Alarming 50% increase of the far right in the European Parliament elections", which is available [here](#).

[OSF's European elections website](#) features a couple of voice pieces analysing the elections and the results: [What's at stake in the EU elections](#) and [What do the results of the European elections mean for Open Society?](#)

Mobilisation of voters abroad: Romania and Poland

Romania: According to [Soros Foundation Romania](#), 30.248 Romanians voted abroad for the Romanian candidates, more than double compared to 2009 (14.330). In addition, a high number of Romanians voted abroad but for candidates of the countries where they live. In Italy, for example, [COSPE](#) has reported that [more than 45,000 Romanians registered in the electoral lists for the European elections](#).



Poland: 36% more Poles registered to vote abroad in polling stations created in consulates than in 2009, according to [Poland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#). The city with the highest number of registered voters

was London, with 3181. The "[You are at home. Vote!](#)" campaign that was initiated by the [Association School for Leaders](#), Forum Polonia-Ireland and the [Polish City Club](#) from the UK, aimed at mobilising Poles in the UK to register and vote.

Vote Europe!

"Vote Europe!" is a project implemented by the [Milestone Institute](#) to inform Hungarians living in the UK about their right to vote in the place of their residency and encourage them to participate in the elections. The campaign focused on London but also extended its activities to other university cities, such as Cambridge, Oxford and York. The Institute envisions a project that acknowledges the specific socio-demographics of the expat population. As part of their campaign, they launched a series of videos which are available in their [Facebook page](#). "[Against the odds](#)" tells the story of a Hungarian migrant making it and voting in the UK.



Politics for People Campaign

More than 1330 MEP candidates signed the [Politics for People](#) pledge in the run up to the election (a project carried out by [ALTER-EU](#)), promising, if elected, to "stand-up for citizens and democracy against the excessive lobbying influence of banks and big business." This makes Politics for People one of the most successful civil society pledge campaigns around the 2014 elections. 165 of these candidates have now been elected and ALTER-EU will work with these MEPs to implement their

commitments and start to tackle the problems of corporate lobbying and promote a Parliament which operates in the public interest with strong ethics and transparency.

Why were EU citizens denied a vote?

According to [an article published by the Huffington Post](#), some EU citizens in the UK were “denied the right to vote by confused polling station staff and incomprehensible bureaucratic requirements”. This was denounced by some of OSIFE’s grantees, such as New Europeans ([read the article](#)).



Why is Racism the Biggest Debate in the European Elections?

Oana Romocea from [New Europeans](#) explains in an [article](#) for the Huffington Post’s blog how in the UK some candidates were fighting for power by employing hate.

Transeuropa: 6 Caravans across Europe

Over the past four weeks, in a project led by [European Alternatives](#), [six caravans](#) have travelled intensively throughout Europe to meet with different initiatives, organisations and citizens, with the aim of mapping demands and suggestions for alternative policies on various [topics](#) in occasion of the European elections. It is now more important than ever to widely present the voices and demands from different organisations and struggles throughout Europe, and that civil society throughout Europe is unified and able to propose a

strong alternative to the rising xenophobic and nationalist discourses.

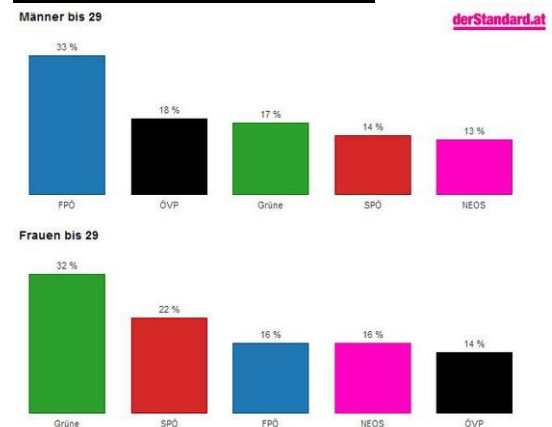
All of the material produced as a result of this experience is available [here](#).



Aussie expats encouraged to vote in EU elections

Our friends from [European Citizens Abroad](#) discussed with SBS news about the right for EU citizens in Australia to vote, as part of the campaign they are leading for equal voting rights. The article is available [here](#).

The Austrian EP elections



An interesting trend to study in Austria, a country where voting starts at 16 years old: the different vote of young men and women. Men younger than 30 years old put FPÖ in the first place, while women of the same age group voted mostly for the Greens.

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).