

UNDERSTANDING NATIONAL PARTY SYSTEMS

2024 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT GROUPS AS A 'SHORTHAND'

Groups require minimum 23 members from ¼ member-states

2024: 2 far right groups replace Identity and Democracy

Radical Left	Social Democrats	Greens & Regionalists	Liberals and Centrists	Christian Democrats & Conservatives	Eurosceptic Conservatives	Radical Right Nationalists	Far Right Nationalists
GROUP OF THE EUROPEAN UNITED LEFT / NORDIC GREEN LEFT (GUE-NGL)	GROUP OF THE PROGRESSIVE ALLIANCE OF SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS IN EUROPE (S&D)	GROUP OF THE GREENS / EUROPEAN FREE ALLIANCE (Greens - FEA)	RENEW EUROPE GROUP (RENEW)	GROUP OF THE EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (EPP)	EUROPEAN CONSERVATIVES & REFORMISTS GROUP (ECR)	PATRIOTS FOR EUROPE (Pfe or PATRIOTS)	EUROPE OF SOVEREIGN NATIONS (ESN or SOVEREIGN TISTS)

EUROPEAN PEOPLE'S PARTY

Christian Democrats / centre-right, Pro-European

- 1 of original EP groups (as Christian Democrats)
- Acronym: EPP
- 188 MEPs from 27 member-states in October 2025 (177 in October 2023)
- Main countries: Germany 31, Poland 23, Spain 22, Romania 10, Italy 9
- Member parties include:
 - CDU / CSU (Germany, 30)
 - Partido Popular (Spain, 22)
 - Civic Platform (Poland, 17)
 - National Liberal Party (Romania, 8)
 - Forza Italia (Italy, 8)
 - Respect & Freedom Party (Peter Magyar) (Hungary, 7)
 - New Democracy (Greece, 7)
 - Les Républicains (France, 5)



GROUP OF THE PROGRESSIVE ALLIANCE OF SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS

Social democrats / centre-left, Pro-European

****Oct 2025: Unanimous decision to expel SMER (Slovakia, 6 MEPs, suspended 2023)****

- Acronym: S&D
- 136 MEPs from 25 countries (143 in October 2023)
 - Not represented: Czech Republic, Slovakia
- Main countries: Italy 21, Spain 20, Germany 14, France 13, Romania 11
- Member parties include:
 - Democratic Party (Italy, 21)
 - PSOE (Spain, 19)
 - SDP (Germany, 14)
 - Socialist Party (France, 10)
 - Social Democratic Party (Romania, 11)
 - Socialist Party (Portugal, 8)
 - Social Democratic Party (Austria, 5)
 - Green Left/Labour Party alliance(Netherlands, 6)
 - PASOK-KINAL (Greece, 3)



Group of the Progressive Alliance of
Socialists & Democrats
in the European Parliament

PATRIOTS FOR EUROPE

New group (founded July 2024), radical right, sovereigntist

- Acronym: PfE
- 84 MEPs from 14 countries
- Main states: France 30, Hungary 11, Italy 8, Austria/Netherlands/Spain 6
- Main parties
 - National Rally (France, 29)
 - Fidesz (Hungary, 10)
 - Lega (Italy, 8)
 - Freedom Party (Netherlands, 6)
 - Freedom Party (Austria, 6)
 - Vox (Spain, 6)
 - Voice of Reason (Greece, 1)

***Patriots
for Europe***

EUROPEAN CONSERVATIVES AND REFORMISTS GROUP

Conservative right / eurosceptic

- Acronym: ECR
- 79 Members from 18 member-states (66 in October 2023)
- Main countries: Italy 24, Poland 20, Romania 6
- Member parties include
 - Brothers of Italy (24)
 - Law and Justice (Poland, 20)
 - Romanian National Conservative Party (3)
 - Alliance for the Union of Romanians (3)
 - Sweden Democrats (3)
 - New Flemish Alliance (N-VA) (Belgium, 3)
 - Civic Democratic Party (ODS) (Czech Republic, 3)
- Greek Solution (2)



RENEW EUROPE

Liberals / centre
Pro-European

- Acronym: Renew (former Liberal Group acronym: ALDE)
- 74 MEPs from 20 countries (101 from 24 countries in Oct 2023)
- Main countries: France 12, Germany 8, Netherlands 7, Ireland/Slovakia 6,
- Member parties include:
 - Progressive Slovakia (6)
 - Renaissance (France, 5, was 23 in 2023)
 - Free Democratic Party (FDP) (Germany, 5)
 - VVD (Netherlands, 4)
 - Fianna Fail (Ireland, 4)
 - Democratic Movement (France, 3)

The logo for Renew Europe, featuring the words "renew" and "europe." in a bold, blue, lowercase sans-serif font. The word "europe." is on a second line and includes a period at the end.

GROUP OF THE GREENS / EUROPEAN FREE ALLIANCE

Greens, some regional parties, Pirate parties

- Acronym: Greens-EFA
- 53 MEPs from 17 countries (72 from 18, 2023)
- Main countries: Germany 15, Netherlands 6, France 5, Spain/Italy 4
- Member parties include:
 - Greens (Germany, 12)
 - Ecologists (France, 5)
 - Groenlinks (Netherlands, 4)
 - Green Party (Sweden, 3)
- Also includes 4 Spanish parties (incl Sumar)
- Pirate Party (Czech Republic, 1)



The Greens | EFA
in the European Parliament

THE LEFT GROUP IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Radical left – for ‘Another Europe’

- Acronym: GUE-NGL (from old name, Group of the European United Left- Nordic Green Left)
- 46 MEPs from 13 member-states (37 from 13 countries in Oct 2023)
- Main countries: Italy 10, France 9, Germany/Spain/Greece 4
- Member parties include:
 - La France Insoumise (9)
 - Five Star Movement (Italy, 8)
 - SYRIZA (Greece, 4)
 - Left Alliance (Finland, 3)
 - Die Linke (Germany, 2)
 - Podemos (Spain, 2) + 1 Sumar
 - Sinn Fein (Ireland, 2)



EUROPE OF SOVEREIGN NATIONS

Also known as the Sovereignists
New group (founded July 2024), far right

- Acronym: ESN
- 27 MEPs from 8 countries
- Main countries: Germany 15, Bulgaria/Poland 3
- Main parties:
 - Alternative for Germany (AfD) (15)
 - Revival (Bulgaria, 3)
 - Confederation Liberty Independence (Poland, 3)



‘Non-inscrits’ (Non-attached)

- 30 MEPs from 11 member-states (49 from 12 countries in October 2023)
- Main countries: Germany (9), Slovakia (6), Greece (4)
- Significant parties:
 - SMER (Slovakia, 5)
 - Sahra Wagenknecht Alliance (Germany, 5)
 - Communist Party of Greece (2)
 - Greece: Freedom’s Course (1), Victory (1)
 - Cyprus: Fidias Panagiotou, Independent (19.4% vote)