



EU Elections – New MEPs

INTRODUCTION

The European elections took place between 4 and 7 June to elect 736 MEPs from the 27 Member States. An additional 18 observers ("virtual MEPs") have been elected and will take their seat after the adoption of the Lisbon Treaty. Overall, the European Parliament results show a triumph for the right and centre-right, and defeat for the Socialists and Social Democrats. The centrists and the Liberals confirmed their positions as the third strongest block, despite a slight decrease in their vote share. The Greens gained significant ground, and so did the extreme right, the Eurosceptics and the populists.

Interel provides in this document a brief overview of the results in the 6 largest Member States (which hold together 415 seats (56 %), and highlights the names of prominent MEPs that have been elected or re-elected. A Glossary of terms is provided at the end of this document.

In the coming weeks, MEPs will arrive in Brussels for discussions within and amongst political groups to define the new parliamentary Committees' structures and chairs. Interel will closely follow these discussions and will send another update with more information on the Committees' composition and the key posts that have been filled.

GERMANY

The outcome of the elections in Germany could be deceptive due to the low voter participation, but it did not come as a complete surprise. While with 37.9% of the votes, the conservatives came out of the European elections as the clear winners (CDU and CSU, which will both be part of the EPP group, have 42 seats together), the Socialists were faced with a historic defeat with only 20.8% of the votes (only 23 seats in the new EP), which is the lowest outcome in an election ever since 1945.

The Greens scored very well with 12.1% of the votes and hence see their political course confirmed. They will have 14 seats in the new Parliament. Similarly, the Liberals, which in the past decade were struggling in getting sufficient votes to sit in the Bundestag (threshold of 5% of the votes), obtained a very good result in the European elections with 11% (12 seats). Die Linke (far left) won 8 seats and will sit within the Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL).

On the list of the **99 MEPs** elected on the German list on 7 June there are 41 newcomers, which accounts for 40.59%. Amongst the most prominent MEPs that have not managed to get re-elected are figures such as MEP Christoph Konrad (EPP), who as a member of the Economic Affairs Committee (ECON) has been very involved in issues relating to the automotive industry and competition law, and Erika Mann (PSE), active in international trade and media/ICT issues. It is said that this outcome is largely due to the fact that both MEPs were facing party internal issues at national level and had hence been placed quite low on their respective electoral lists.



Among the 58 reelected MEPs, the most significant ones are:

- **Elmar Heinrich Brok (EPP)**, who is MEP since 1980 and is said to be one of the most influential Germans in Brussels. He is well connected with all prominent figures of the Deutschland AG. He has been involved on the Amsterdam, Nice and EU Constitutional Treaties.
- **Prof. Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering (EPP)**, MEP since 1979, who is the (current) President of the EP, the Parliament's Bureau and the Conference of Presidents for the EPP during the 2004-2009 legislature. EPP Chairman from 1999 to 2007. Elected MEP of the year for 2004 (award granted by European Voice).
- **Dr. Werner Langen (EPP)**, who was Head of the CDU national delegation and as Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee (ECON) member very vocal on monetary affairs (rapporteur for several directives),
- **Kurt Lechner (EPP)**, as a member of the Internal market and Consumer Affairs Committee (IMCO), he has been the rapporteur for several important opinions such as the Green Paper on Mortgage Credit and the Services Directive. He has also been vocal on the Consumer Credit Directive. He is one of the most active German MEPs.
- **Bernhard Rapkay (PSE)**, Head of the German national delegation in PSE (SPD)
- **Klaus-Heiner Lehne (EPP)**, who was the Rapporteur on several important reports such as the White Paper on damages actions for breach of the EC antitrust rules, the shareholder rights directive, the proposal for a Council regulation on the Statute for a European private company , the cross-border transfer of the registered office of a company and many more. He was coordinator of the EPP group in the Legal Affairs Committee.
- **Doris Pack (EPP)**, who was coordinator for the EPP group in the Committee on Culture and Education and as such has been very vocal on issues such as adult and life-long learning, collective rights management in the field of music, cultural diversity etc. She was also member of the Conference of Delegation Chairmen and the EPP Bureau.
- **Markus Ferber (EPP)**, who was the Rapporteur on the Postal Services Directive in the Transport Committee.
- **Martin Schulz (PSE)**, who currently still is the President of the European Socialists (PSE) as well as the President of the PSE Bureau and Member of the Conference of Presidents. He is considered as being one of the most prominent German Socialist politician in Brussels and one of the most outspoken German MEPs (in terms of publicity).
- **Evelyne Gebhardt (PSE)**, who was the coordinator for the PSE in IMCO and rapporteur for the Services Directive.
- **Josef Leinen (PSE)**, who was the Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and hence is very involved in the implementation process of the Lisbon Treaty.
- **Dr. Georgios Chatzimarkakis (ALDE)**, who as a member of Industry, Research and Energy Committee (ITRE) was the rapporteur on the CARS 21 initiative. He is part of the High Level CARS21 Group and is very vocal on automotive issues.



- **Dr. Wolf Klinz (ALDE)**, who is a very active German MEP and coordinator of ALDE in the ECON Committee and has been rapporteur for a number of important financial issues (UCITS, asset management).
- **Dr. Silvana Koch-Mehrin (ALDE)**, first deputy leader of the ALDE Bureau and Chairwoman of the national delegation (FDP) in the ALDE group. In 2004, she was elected MEP of the year by a prominent German women's magazine. In Germany, she is considered the top Liberal candidate for the Liberals in the European Parliament.
- **Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (ALDE)**, who is, apart from being the nephew of a very prominent German Liberal politician, Vice-Chairman of the IMCO Committee.
- **Alexander Alvaro (ALDE)**, who is coordinator of ALDE in the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee (LIBE).
- **Rebecca Harms (Green)**, who is the Vice President of the Greens Group in the European Parliament
- **Heide Rühle (Green)**, a very active German MEP, who is coordinator of the Greens in the IMCO Committee.
- **Helga Trüpel (Green)**, coordinator of the Budget Committee and Vice Chairwoman of the Committee on Culture and Education.

There is only little to say about the profiles of the 41 newly elected MEPs from Germany. A number of them are quite prominent figures in Germany, such as

- **Dr. Lothar Bisky (Die Linke)**, member and co-Chairperson (together with Oscar Lafontaine) of the rather extreme left party Die Linke in Germany.
- **Reinhard Bütikofer (Die Grünen)**, used to be the Chairman of the Green party in Germany and is their top candidate for the European elections.
- **Monika Hohlmeier (CSU)**, who is the daughter of the prominent Bavarian politician Franz Josef Strauss (between 1953 and 1970 he was federal minister for several dossiers, including finance and defence, Chairman of the CSU, and Prime Minister of Bavaria until his death; he was one of the main drivers of the establishment of Airbus). She was Minister in Bavaria for education and culture (1998 – 2005). She has been the object of several political scandals in Bavaria.
- **Birgit Birgit Schnieper-Jastram (CDU)**, who was senator (minister) for social and family issues in Hamburg from 2001 to 2008 and is also responsible, since 2006, for health issues; she is second mayor of Hamburg since 2004. From 1998 to 2001, she was spokesperson and then, until 2001, manager of the CDU/CSU in the Bundestag.



FRANCE

European elections in France were seen as a major test for President Sarkozy and his UMP party as in the past European elections have traditionally been a success for the main opposition parties. By gathering 28% of the votes while competing with 13 other significant lists, the UMP clearly won the 2009 elections, although the turnout rate (40%) was historically the most modest ever, below the EU average (43%).

The UMP success is also an historical defeat for the Socialist Party, not only because of its modest 16%, but also because it was put on equal footing with the Green Party (16%), another major winner.

Another loser is the Center Party Modem (8%), which many expected to get between 15% and 20% of the votes. On the far left side, the results were more in favour of the traditional communist party (6%) than the more radical and dynamic trotskist fraction (5%), which many observers expected to get close to 10%. Eurosceptics, sovereignists and the far right also made poor results with a total 13%, while they expected to be around 20% together.

Of the 72 French seats, the UMP will get 29, the Socialist Party and the Greens 14 each, the Modem (to seat in ALDE) six, the Communist Party five, the sovereignists one, and the far right three. The share of women MEPs (44%) remains stable, having doubled since 1979.

From the list of the **72 MEPs** elected on French lists on 7 June, it should be noted that only one failed to be re-elected because of the bad results of his party, e.g. the young and ambitious spokesperson of the Socialist Party, Benoit Hamon, who sat in the ECON Committee in the past legislature, being very active on financial services governance, including tax heavens.

27 MEPs have been re-elected and 45 – two thirds! - are newly elected members.

Among the 27 re-elected MEPs, the most significant ones are:

- **Pervenche Berès**, who sat as Chairperson of the ECON Committee in the past legislature,
- **Jean-Marie Cavada**, who was the Chairperson of the LIBE Committee,
- **Daniel Cohn Bendit**, the German co President of the Green Group,
- **Joseph DAUL**, the President of the EPP ED Group,
- **Jean-Paul Gauzès**, who was the Rapporteur on payment institutions and credit rating agencies in the ECON Committee in the past legislature,
- **Françoise Grossetête**, one of the most active French MEP, seating in the Environment Committee (ENVI),
- **Alain Lamassoure**, a respected former minister, who drafted the political programme of the EPP, and
- **Catherine Trautmann**, who was the Rapporteur on the latest telecom package in the Industry, Research and Energy Committee (ITRE).



Among the 45 new members from France, a number of them have a fairly significant profile, in particular:

- **Michel Barnier** (EPP), a former Regional Policy Commissioner, a former Foreign Affairs and the French Agriculture Minister that many see as a future Commissioner again,
- **Dominique Baudis** (EPP), an influential journalist and politician who became, among many other things, the President of the French Audiovisual Regulator,
- **Yannick Jadot** (Green), a former Director of Greenpeace France, who took an active part to the negotiations on the 2008 Environment Political Package (so called 'Grenelle de l'Environnement') with the French government and the industry,
- **Eva Joly** (Green), a former famous judge dealing with corruption and financial crime in France, then an advisor to the Norwegian government on the same issues,
- **Jean-François Kahn** (ALDE), an 'extreme centre' thinker and unpredictable columnist,
- **José Bové** (Green), a famous and activist anti GMO campaigner,
- **Rachida Dati** (EPP), the controversial Justice Minister in France,
- **Sylvie Goulard** (ALDE), the very active President of the European Movement in France, who was an adviser to President Barroso in the Commission in 2001/2004,
- **Corinne Lepage** (ALDE), a recognised lawyer specialised on environmental issues and a former Environment Minister,
- **Jean-Luc Melenchon** (GUE), the leader of the No Campaign against the Constitutional Treaty in 2004/2005,
- **Michèle Rivasi** (Green), a scientist and a former President of Greenpeace in France, and
- **Robert Rochefort** (ALDE), a respected researcher in consumer issues.



UK

The biggest story of the UK elections to the European Parliament was the election of two right-wing British National Party (MEPs) for the first time, and the strong performance of the United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP), which pushed the UK Labour Party into third place behind UKIP and the UK Conservatives. Internal changes and withdrawals from politics meant a number of changes within the UK Conservative Party. The contingent of Labour Party MEPs remains largely unchanged and the Green Party MEPs remain as before with the same two MEPs as before.

Of a total of **72 MEPs**, there are 19 new ones. As part of a generally poor showing for the governing centre-left UK Labour Party, Labour lost ground to its rivals. Richard Corbett, Socialist group and Labour spokesperson on the Constitutional Affairs Committee since 1999 and MEP since 1996 lost his seat in the 'Yorkshire and Humberside' region to the right-wing British National Party (BNP) candidate Andrew Henry William Brons. Labour MEPs Neena Gill and Glyn Ford also failed to get re-elected.

In addition:

- Two big names from the UK Conservative Party – **John Bowis** and **Caroline Jackson** – did not stand for re-election. They were both active in the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. John Bowis (EPP) was rapporteur on the controversial 'Patients' rights in cross-border healthcare' dossiers. The Parliament had only completed a first reading of the dossier. John Bowis was also EPP coordinator of the ENVI Committee.
- (Baroness) **Emma Nicholson** (ALDE) was replaced by **Catherine Zena Bearder**.
- **Neil Parish** (EPP) and **Chris Heaton-Harris** (EPP-ED) have safe seats in Westminster – and are almost guaranteed to return to the UK national Parliament at the next UK general election.

It is important to note that the following MEPs have been re-elected:

- **Chris Davies** (ALDE) was the ALDE coordinator on the Environment Committee.
- **Elizabeth Lynne** (ALDE) was Vice-Chairwoman of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs.
- **Elsbeth Attwooll** (ALDE) was Vice-Chairwoman of the Fisheries Committee. She was not re-elected.
- **Philip Bradbourn** (EPP) was Vice-Chairman of the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee.
- **Timothy Kirkhope** (EPP) was Vice-Chairman of the Constitutional Affairs Committee.
- **Baroness Sarah Ludford** (ALDE) was Vice-Chairwoman of the Human Rights Committee.
- **Richard Howitt** (PSE) was Vice-Chairman of the Human Rights Committee.
- **Arlene McCarthy** (PSE) was Chairwoman of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee.



On the contrary, **Neil Parish** (EPP) who was Chairman of the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee was not re-elected.

Moreover, among the 19 new British members, a number of them have a fairly significant profile, in particular:

- **Nick Griffin**, Chairman of the British National Party (BNP) was elected. He has been accused of racism and incitement to racial hatred on numerous occasions and takes a hard line on immigration.
- **Andrew Henry William Brons** (BNP) was elected.
- Former MEP **Jacki Foster** (UK Conservative), who served the 1999-2004 but not the 2004-2009 term was elected.
- **Marta Andreasen** (UKIP), formerly the EU's former Chief Accountant, and now UKIP Treasurer. She went public with her concerns about EU fraud and has adopted a fiercely anti-EU stance since then.

ITALY

Voter turnout in Italy was the highest for the 27-nation European Union at 66.5%, although less than the 73% recorded in the last EU elections in 2004.

Berlusconi's governing People of Freedom Party (PDL) remains the largest in Italy, with 29 seats at the European Parliament. PDL, which belong to the European People's Party (EPP), collected 35.3% of the vote, slightly down from 37.4% in general elections a year ago. Until the very end of his election campaign, notoriously overshadowed by a strongly negative media coverage, the Italian prime minister had hoped that his centre-right party would attract up to 45% of the vote. Instead, the catholic side of its party appeared to have punished him for a series of scandals and controversies in his personal life.

The current major party of opposition in Italy, the centre- left Democratic Party (PD), has seen its support sharply drop. The PD secured 26.2% of the vote compared with 33.2% a year ago, resulting in 21 seats at the European Parliament. It is interesting to note that elected MEPs from the PD have just formed an alliance with the Socialist Group to create the Alliance of Socialists and Democrats for Europe. This will increase the number of MEPs in the Socialist group by 21, to 182 (82 fewer than the EPP). The decision was announced by Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, president of the Party of European Socialists (PES) on 12 June. This clearly reflects also the existing fragmentation among Christians and Reformists in the PD.

The real winner of the 2009 elections in Italy are the two most controversial and populist parties: **The Northern League** and **the Italy of Values Party**. The Northern League, an anti immigration and xenophobic party lead by Umberto Bossi, gained an incredible 10.2% compared with the 8.3% gained in last year's general election. Interesting to see as Northern League was supported and voted also in Italy's southern regions. The Northern League will have 9 seats at the European Parliament. The other winner is the Italy of Values Party, which increased by 7 its contribution to the European Parliament's ALDE group.



In total Italy will have **72 seats**. Among the 21 re-elected MEPs, the most significant ones are

- **Walter Mario Mauro.** Mario Mauro was elected on the Forza Italia ticket and sits with the European People's Party group in 2004. He is a candidate as next President of the European Parliament.
- **Gabriele Albertini.** Gabriele Albertini (former mayor of Milano) has been elected at the EP for the first time in 2004. Part of the European People's Party, he seated on the Committee on Transport and Tourism. He was also a substitute for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, a vice-chair of the Delegation for relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and a substitute for the Delegation for relations with the United States.
- **Antonio di Pietro.** Antonio Di Pietro was a Member of the European Parliament elected in 2004, and formerly Italian Senator, and Minister of Government Prodi. He was prosecutor in the team known in Italy as Mani Pulite in the early 1990s. Today he is the leader of Italy of Values Party.
- **Vittorio Prodi.** Vittorio Prodi is a Member of the European Parliament for North-East with the Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe and sits on the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. He is a substitute for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, a president of the Delegation for relations with South Africa and a substitute for the Delegation for relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council. He is one of Romano Prodi's six brothers and two sisters
- **Mario Borghezio.** Mario Borghezio is an Italian politician, often accused of having xenophobic ideas. He is Member of the European Parliament for North-West with the Lega Nord, part of the Non-Inscrits and sits on the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and its Committee on Petitions. He is a substitute for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection. On September 11, 2007, he was arrested by Belgian police for participating in protest against islamization of Europe.

In addition, among the 51 new Italian members, a number of them have a fairly significant profile, in particular

- **Ignazio La Russa.** Ignazio Benito Maria La Russa became Minister of Defence in the fourth cabinet of Silvio Berlusconi on 8 May 2008. On 11 May 2008 he was also elected Acting president of the National Alliance Party.
- **Sergio Gaetano Cofferati.** Sergio Cofferati is an Italian politician, and mayor of Bologna as of 2004 for the Democrats of the Left
- **Umberto Bossi.** Umberto Bossi is a former singer and leader of the Northern League, a party seeking autonomy or independence for Northern Italy. On May 8, 2008, he became Minister for Institutional Reforms again, in Silvio Berlusconi's fourth cabinet.



POLAND

Poland will be represented by **50 MEPs** in the European Parliament, 60% of them (30) are newly elected MEPs.

The Polish Civic Platform (PO) with 25 seats will be part of the EPP, the Law and Justice Party in the previous legislature (part of the UEN Group) will most probably be part of a new group formed by the British Conservatives (European Conservatives and Reformists – TBC) and will have 15 seats in the new Parliament; the Democratic Left Alliance will be part of PES with 7 seats and the Polish Peasants' Party will increase the EPP's number by 3 additional seats.

Dariusz Rosati (PES) and **Janusz Onyszkiewicz** (ALDE), well known MEPs in 2004-2009, failed to be re-elected mainly due to unsatisfactory results of their party.

Prof. Jerzy Buzek, rapporteur of the FP7 dossier, achieved the best election result in Poland (393.000 votes) He also has a big chance of becoming the next European Parliament's President.

Former Commissioner responsible for Regional policy, **Danuta Huebner** (EPP), was also one of the unquestionable candidates in the EP elections as well as **Jacek Saryusz-Wolski** (EPP) Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Newly elected candidates well known in Poland such as **Wojciech Michał Olejniczak** (PES) a Polish leftist politician or **Jarosław Kalinowski** (EPP) deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Agriculture in 1997 will most probably actively represent Poland in the new legislative mandate.

SPAIN

In Spain, the Conservatives fared far better than the Socialists, who seem to have been penalized by the Spanish economic crisis. The Socialists lost 4 seats (21 instead of the 25 if compared to 2004) while the Conservatives gained one (24 MEPs). The Greens and the Liberals secured the same number of seats, 3 and 2 respectively; whilst a new group (Union Progreso y Democracia) – whose objective is to bring more diversity to the Spanish political system– has entered the hemicycle with 1 MEP. It is still uncertain at this stage to which European party the group will belong - the Liberals or the Non-Attached. The final decision will be taken before the 23rd of June.

Of the **50 elected Spanish members**, 28 are returning MEPs. **Jaime Mayor Oreja**, head of the Spanish EPP-ED delegation, **Alejo Vidal-Quadras** (EPP), former Vice-Chairman of the Parliament and face of the liberalisation of the electricity sector and **Pilar del Castillo** (EPP), former Spanish Minister for Education and active member of the Industry Committee, have all been elected for another term. It remains to be seen whether Ms. del Castillo's report on the creation of the European Electronic Communications Market Authority, pending a 2nd reading, will be adopted before the end of the year.

Likewise, two very well-known and active MEPs in the Transport Committee, **Luis de Grandes Pascual** (EPP) and **Inés Ayala Sender** (PSE) have also been re-elected.



As for the newcomers, most of them belong to the Spanish Socialist party including:

- **Juan Fernando López Aguilar**, former Minister of Justice, who will be heading the Spanish delegation of the Socialist group. During the campaign, he showed interest in competition related dossiers.
- **Magdalena Álvarez Arza**, former Minister for Public Works.

The liberal group will see the arrival of two representatives from the Catalan and Basque regions:

- **Ramon Tremosa i Balcells**, Professor of Economics and active contributor to discussions on the economic crisis. He is a staunch defender of the EU single market and competition policy.
- **Izaskun Bilbao Barandika**, former President of the Basque Parliament (2005-2009), will join him in the ALDE group.

Francisco Sosa Wagner, renowned Professor of Administrative Law and former member of the Expert Group on the Spanish Regional model, was also elected MEP, but it is unclear if he will join the ALDE group or will become an Non-Attached member.

Josep Borrell (PSE), former President of the European Parliament and **David Hammerstein**, Green MEP and active member of the Industry Committee are amongst the members non returning to this legislature.



GLOSSARY

ALDE	Alliance of Liberals
ECON Committee	Economic Affairs Committee
ENVI Committee	Environment Committee
EPP	European People's Party
Greens	Greens-European Free Alliance
GUE/NGL	European United Left / Nordic Green Left
IMCO Committee	Internal Market and Consumer Committee
IND/DEM	Independence/Democracy
ITRE Committee	Industry Research and Energy Committee
LIBE Committee	Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee
PSE	Party of European Socialists
UEN	Union for Europe of the Nations

ANNEX – INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES TIMELINE

