

European Elections Project
May 21st, 2014

WEEKLY UPDATE

OSF's European Parliament Elections Webpage

Make sure you visit [OSF's page for the EU elections](#), where all elections related content is posted, this week featuring the following:

- [For EU Voters, a Digital Matchmaker.](#)
- [Why the European Elections Matter.](#)
- [From Crisis to Hope in Europe.](#)
- [Mobilizing Roma Voters in Bulgaria.](#)



How often have Eurosceptic and far right parties voted together in 2009-2014?

[VoteWatch Europe](#) just published a [report](#) on how often have Eurosceptic and far-right parties voted together in 2009-2014. They analysed and combined voting records of United Kingdom Independence Party (UK), Lega Nord (Italy), Slovenská národná strana (Slovakia), Front National (France), Partij Voor de Vrijheid (Netherlands), Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs (Austria) and Vlaams Belang (Belgium).

The analysis of the voting matches between these seven national parties shows little compatibility. On average, these parties have a 51% voting match. Moreover, the PVV 2009-2014 roll-call votes match more with UKIP (67%) than with FN (51%), its possible ally in a new far-right EP group.

Social Europe – strategic investment, not cost!

“Unlike the American Dream, the European Dream was a guarantee that you will not fall through the safety net and end up existentially endangered, even if you were not the best. Today, the European Dream is endangered by austerity measures and policies based on the assumption that investing in people is an expenditure we cannot afford”. A [thematic debate on the subject of Social Europe](#) was organised in Croatia by [GONG](#), [Centar za mirovne studije](#), and other partners.



Populist Rhetoric: Austrian Freedom Party

[The latest on a series of briefings](#) examining the rhetoric of populist politicians in the European Parliament has been published by [Counterpoint](#). The briefing focuses on FPÖ and provides an analysis and three case studies of its rhetoric.

Your Vote Can Unite

[ENAR](#), [Hope not Hate](#) and [United for Intercultural Action](#) have been cooperating in the campaign [Your Vote Can Unite](#), which aims at mobilizing local communities in five

countries (France, Greece, Italy, Hungary and The Netherlands), but with a broader focus in all EU members, to act against the election of populist and far right parties in the European elections, rejecting hate and choosing unity instead of more division. A leaflet explaining their campaign in detail is available [here](#).



The Basics

[Bite the Ballot](#) has launched an [online game](#) this week (available in English, French, Greek and Polish), which aims to empower youth in their political decision making by presenting them with the real world implications of voting and making political decisions, and also to present them vital election related information.



The game is an online version of [The Basics](#), the highly successful face-to-face game Bite the Ballot uses to engage audiences of young people who previously held negative views about participating in the democratic process, and with participation of their celebrity supporters.

EP2014Watch

The [Transparency International EU Office](#) has been following the campaign trail European Parliament election campaign of the leading EU candidates across Europe, as part of the [EP2014Watch campaign](#).

The map, which visualises the campaign travels, starting 1 March 2014, currently until 19 May 2014, contains information related to the candidates' agenda, social media related information for the different visits, news, and other important data, is available [here](#).



Our Home Europe: Euroelections and the Political Participation of Polish Migrants

“After 10 years in the European Union, Poles no longer go abroad only to work and send money home, as they did in the past. Now they leave their homeland to start new lives studying, working and raising their children in several other member states. They also have political power, and they seem to realize that using it will only benefit them, changing their image in society and forcing politicians to take their needs into account”. Check out this [analysis on the participation of Polish migrants in the European elections](#), as their conditions have changed 10 years after Poland joined the EU.

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).