

European Elections Project  
June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014

## WEEKLY UPDATE

### Let's tackle the youth democracy crisis, now

Our friends from [Bite the Ballot](#) are currently pushing forward their [Voter Registration Bill](#), which aims to radically improve democracy in the UK and make voter registration easier, accessible and engaging: *"In February 1974, 70% of 18- to 24-year-olds voted in the General Election. Fast forward to today, and our democracy is in crisis. Only half of the 5.6 million young people in the UK are registered to vote. Why? Because for millions of citizens, especially young people, 'politics' is seen as boring, out of touch, elitist, corrupt, complicated and unrepresentative".*

Help them spread the word!



### New Europeans is one year old – 18 June 2014!

[New Europeans](#) was launched at the House of Commons with cross-party parliamentary support on 18 June 2013. They have been working to change the narrative on migration, champion the rights to free movement and make the value and

importance of European citizenship more widely felt in everyday lives of Europeans.

Their Vote!Vote!Vote! campaign for the European elections reached many hundreds of thousands of EU expats in the UK and British expats in Europe.

Congratulations for your hard work during this first year!



### Le Pen fails to create far-right EP faction

Far-right duo Marine Le Pen and Geert Wilders have failed to form a group in the European Parliament. A parliament group means more money and more influence in the EU assembly.

Wilders told Dutch media outlet ANP on Monday (23 June) they were unable to meet the minimum parliament criteria of having members from at least seven different member states on time for the June 24 deadline.

Read the complete review provided by EUobserver [here](#).

## **The EU will survive**

Check out [this report](#) published by the [Political Capital Institute](#) on the outcome of the European elections, which provides an analysis for both the EU results and the Hungarian results.

Some of the conclusions for the EU are:

- The strengthening of extremism is an important signal, but the EU-committed “mainstream” remains strong. If the notion of the crisis becomes stronger within the EU, the prediction of “Europe will fall” can fulfil itself.

- Since the Eurosceptic parties often admit their Russian commitment, it is an open secret that their larger proportion of mandates can definitely strengthen Russian influence in Europe. Besides the Russian world power and regional issues, these parties are staunch proponents of key Russian energy industry interests too.

## **Our Elections, Our Europe! – The Final Update**



Puppets and puppeteers have met to celebrate after the elections. Even if some of the results in Europe were not good, the euroscepticism did not win in Italy!

“After the project evaluation and the scrumptious food, Mother Europe said yes to a dance to say bye before coming back to Brussels”. More information on this project and the achieved results is available [here](#).

## **Integration of migrants in Europe: the need for a proactive, sustainable and global policy**

A [report](#) prepared for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on the integration of migrants in Europe, published by the [Migration Policy Group](#), calls for a proactive, sustainable and global policy. The rapporteur, Marietta Karamanli from France, looks in particular at the labour market, education, political participation and anti-discrimination and uses extensively Migration Policy Group’s Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) as well as statistical data to describe the current situation. She is making proposals, which would improve policies and countries’ MIPEX scores.

## **Towards a new Parliament**

The European Parliament has published in its website a couple of infographs on the [new Parliament](#), and the [new Commission](#), which explain in detail information related to the upcoming events during the next days (post-election and first days of work of the new Parliament).



*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](mailto:osife.intern@opensocietyfoundations.org)).*