

2024 European Parliament Elections Outcomes & Analysis

Eurelectric's analysis of the 2024 European elections

Eurelectric represents the interests of the electricity industry in Europe. Our work covers all major issues affecting our sector. Our members represent the electricity industry in over 30 European countries.

We cover the entire industry from electricity generation and markets to distribution networks and customer issues. We also have affiliates active on several other continents and business associates from a wide variety of sectors with a direct interest in the electricity industry.

We stand for

The vision of the European power sector is to enable and sustain:

- A vibrant competitive European economy, reliably powered by clean, carbon-neutral energy
- A smart, energy efficient and truly sustainable society for all citizens of Europe

We are committed to lead a cost-effective energy transition by:

investing in clean power generation and transition-enabling solutions, to reduce emissions and actively pursue efforts to become carbon-neutral well before mid-century, taking into account different starting points and commercial availability of key transition technologies;

transforming the energy system to make it more responsive, resilient and efficient. This includes increased use of renewable energy, digitalisation, demand side response and reinforcement of grids so they can function as platforms and enablers for customers, cities and communities;

accelerating the energy transition in other economic sectors by offering competitive electricity as a transformation tool for transport, heating and industry;

embedding sustainability in all parts of our value chain and take measures to support the transformation of existing assets towards a zero carbon society;

innovating to discover the cutting-edge business models and develop the breakthrough technologies that are indispensable to allow our industry to lead this transition.

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Contents

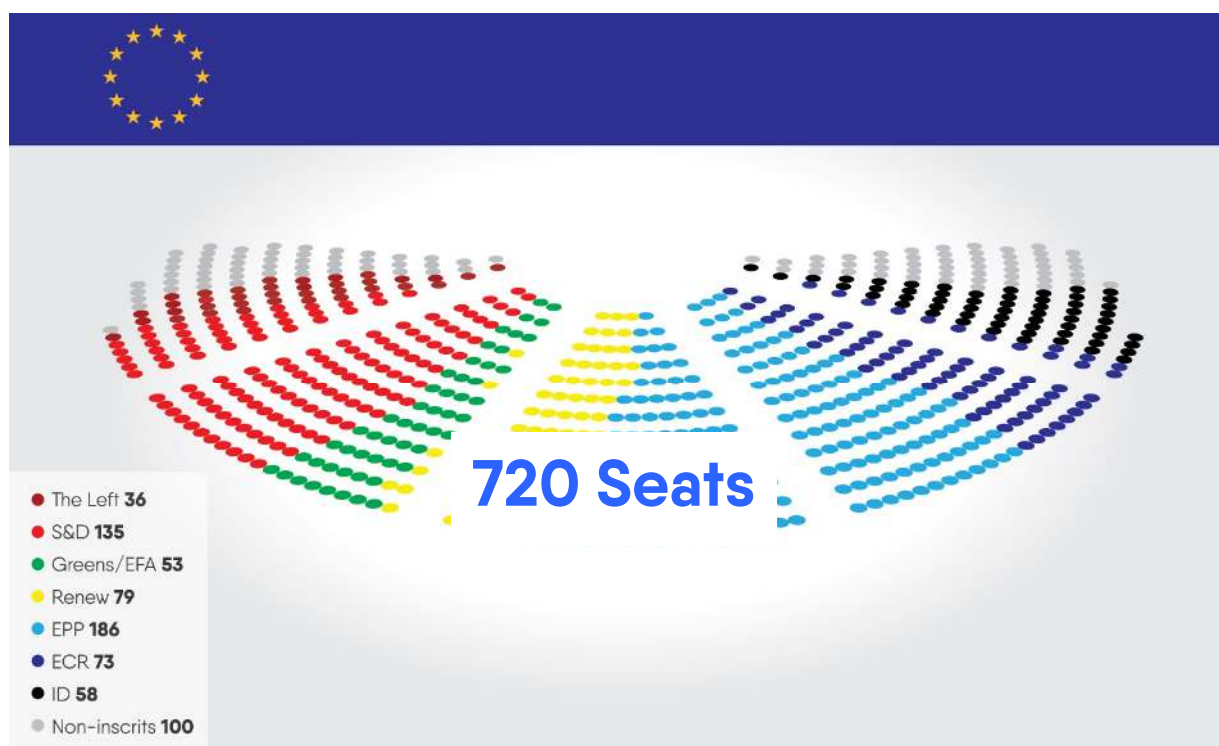
Background.....	1
1. The results	1
2. Our key takeaways	3
3. What do the results mean for the Green Deal.....	4
I. Existing legislation.....	4
II. New legislation.....	4
4. Expected priorities for the new Commission.....	5
I. High-level priorities	5
II. Energy and climate priorities.....	6
5. Key people for energy and climate.....	6
I. European Commission President.....	6
II. Climate and Energy Commissioners	7
III. Vice President for Industry Competitiveness.....	7
IV. MEPs – key returning energy and climate names.....	8
Next Steps.....	9
Annex.....	10
I. Breakdown of the Far-Right – A loose grouping.....	10
II. Eurelectric’s priorities for the new Commission	10
III. MEPs expected in climate and energy committees	11
Returning MEPs for energy and climate.....	11
New MEPs with interesting climate and energy backgrounds.....	14
High-level MEPs.....	16

****Disclaimer: this is an initial analysis. Not all results have been counted. The situation, in particular with regards MEPs and the Committee allocation, will evolve throughout the summer of 2024.***

Background

On 6–9 June 2024, voters from across Europe went to the polls to elect their representatives in the European Parliament, known as Members of European Parliament (MEPs). This analysis looks at the outcome of these elections, focusing in particular, what it means for i) the direction of the European project, ii) EU climate & energy policy, and iii) who is likely to get the top European jobs.

1. The results



The 2024 hemicycle of the European Parliament increased from 705 seats to 720. The 15 new seats are divided among 12 countries. France, Spain and the Netherlands each gained 2 seats (6), while Austria, Denmark, Belgium, Poland, Finland Slovakia, Ireland, Slovenia and Latvia each gained 1 (9).

During the election, Europeans vote for national parties that officially affiliate with a group in the European Parliament following election results. Some are considered affiliated before the results are tallied while others remain “non-inscrits” either until the affiliate with a group or remain so throughout the term.

Based on the early results of the election, the seats will break down roughly as follows¹:

¹ At the time of writing, all ballots have not been counted and political groups have not been confirmed. The final distribution of seats could differ from this initial analysis. Projections from 17:30, 10 June 2024

Political Group	2019 seats	2024 seats	Seat gains/losses
European People's Party (EPP-centre right)	182 (25.8%)	186 (25.8%)	+4 (0%)
Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (PES – S&D centre left)	154 (21.8%)	135 (18.8%)	-19 (-3.0%)
Renew Europe (centre)	108 (15.3%)	79 (10.9%)	-29 (-4.4%)
European Conservatives & Reformists (ECR-right)	62 (8.8%)	73 (10.1%)	+11 (+1.3%)
Identity and Democracy (ID-far right)	73 (10.3%)	58 (8.1%)	-15 (-2.2%)
Greens/European Free Alliance (Greens/EFA-centre left)	74 (10.5%)	53 (7.3%)	-21 (-3.2%)
European Left (left)	41 (5.8%)	36 (5.0%)	-5 (-0.8%)
Non-inscrits	57 (8.1%)	100 (13.9%)	+43 (+5.8%)

These results show that there are a couple possible coalitions that can form to take power:

1. **Grand Coalition (most likely):** EPP, S&D and Renew can form the same coalition as they had in the last mandate to give them 400 seats and 56% of the voting power in the European Parliament, making them the strongest coalition.
2. **Centre and Right Coalition:** A more unlikely scenario would see a centre and right coalition form in different variants:
 - a. **Centre and Right (unlikely):** Renew, the EPP, ECR and ID could all join forces to give them 396 seats and 55% of the voting power. This situation is unlikely, though, due to a so-called *cordon sanitaire* – a refusal to work with the right, and especially far-right ID group, stemming from the Renew group.
 - b. **Right wing (very unlikely):** EPP, ECR and ID could potentially try to form a right-wing coalition if they can coax the large number of non-inscrits to join their coalition. Important to note is that the ID group no longer includes the seats of the *Alternative für Deutschland* party who won roughly 16% of the German vote and 15 seats. In Hungary too, the ruling *Fidesz-KDNP* party got roughly 45% of the vote and 11 seats. This still does not work out to a majority in the Parliament – 20 more of the remaining 74 non-inscrits would need to be convinced to join the right-wing coalition. Given the fragmentation and nationalist tendencies of the far-right, however, this would be a near insurmountable task.

2. Our key takeaways

This election resulted in a shift to the right in the hemicycle of the European Parliament. Compared to the last election where the Green Wave delivered record seats for the Greens and a strong centre in the 2019, we see more seats for the right at the Greens and Renew's expense.

The key takeaways from initial results are:

- 1. The centre holds:** The biggest and most important takeaway from the election is that the centre holds. Pre-election some analysts had predicted that an agreement would have to be found with the far-right groups, but this has now proven to be the case. Instead, the EPP has gained seats in the hemicycle which strengthens their position in the Parliament. Meanwhile, the S&D only lost a handful of seats but remained the second largest party. Together with Renew, these three form a strong majority of 56% of the vote and should enable a Grand Coalition that will enable business as usual in the Parliament.
- 2. An increase in support for the right and far-right:** In terms of numerical gain, the ECR is the biggest winner of the election, increasing their seats by 11 to give them 73 in the hemicycle. With a stronger right-wing voice in the Parliament, the dynamic of the next parliament is set to change, but it is important to note that the far-right parties often do not partake in the policymaking process out of protest of the system. How this materialises will be important for the new dynamic in this legislative term.
- 3. Greens and Renew take a big hit:** Renew, who was a big part of the Grand Coalition in the last mandate, has lost 29 of seats in this election. This especially manifested in France where Emmanuel Macron's *parti Renaissance* was obliterated by the *Rassemblement National*/right-wing party. Meanwhile, Greens lost 21 seats, weakening the Parliament's support for ambitious green policies.
- 4. Powerful EPP:** The changed dynamic of the hemicycle means that the EPP has more power to get their way. In the last term, a small majority of left-wing MEPs were able to get through progressive policies, even if the EPP and other right-wing parties voted against them. This time around is different. While it is likely that the EPP will work with S&D and Renew to form a Grand Coalition, they will still be able to leverage votes from the ECR to get support for its own policies and vote down progressive ones from the left.
- 5. Ursula von der Leyen in a good position:** Given the strong turnout for the EPP and a held centre, Ursula von der Leyen will likely be able to muster up the support of 361 Members of European Parliament needed to be return as the next European Commission President. Something to watch will be whether France supports her in the European Council, as President Macron dissolved Parliament on the back of a staggering defeat, and the likely winners in their upcoming election are not von der Leyen-friendly.

3. What do the results mean for the Green Deal

This legislative term will have two tasks regarding climate and energy. The first will be to implement existing legislation passed in the last legislative term as part of the Green Deal. The second will be to propose and pass new legislation. This distinction will be important. For existing legislation, despite the rightward shift of the Parliament, we do not expect to see any rolling back of Green Deal legislation. The European Commission has the sole power to propose legislation and repealing existing legislation at EU level is very difficult given the process. Watch, rather, for legislation to focus on cutting red tape, reindustrialisation and kickstarting the European economy. For new legislation, we can expect this upcoming European Parliament to be less ambitious compared to its predecessor.

I. Existing legislation

The legislation process is such that, once it becomes law, it is very rarely repealed. This will be the case here. The legislation passed as part of the Green Deal will remain, meaning that the Green Deal and its legacy will live on.

Legislation passed as part of the Fit for 55 package to lower Europe's emissions to 55% below 1990 levels by 2030 should not be tampered with. Therefore, the focus will be on how to reach the targets set. The list of targets under the Green Deal is given in Annex.

The Green Deal and its accompanying legislation put pressure on new policymakers, as these targets all come due just after the end of this term. But beyond that, the Electricity Market Directive revision that took place due to concerns over electricity market functioning following the shock of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and subsequent blackmail will also be subject to implementation. It, alongside other Green Deal policies with baked in clauses to revisit and revise could come under scrutiny during this legislative term.

II. New legislation

Regarding new legislation, such targets as were set over the past five years will likely go out of fashion. As policymakers focus on reaching the targets set already, there will be greater appetite to streamline business, cut red tape, make European business more competitive, derisk value chains and shore up security and Europe's place in the changed global order.

Nonetheless, one target to expect from new policymaker is a 2040 emissions reduction target that must be set, according to the European Climate Law. A proposal on this from the new Commission can be expected sometime in early to mid-2025, but it is likely that the new Parliament will try to lower the suggested 90% target that the Commission communicated in February 2024.

While scarce on details in terms of the accompanying legislation, we can also expect a wider project from the new Commission invariably named the "European Industrial Deal". At the behest of over 1,000 signatories – including Eurelectric – the Commission has been asked to introduce such a deal that puts industry in Europe at the top of the political agenda in this legislative term.

Finally, from Eurelectric's side, we will continue our strong advocacy efforts to drive electrification forward and ensure that we can rapidly increase the currently stagnant electrification rates across the continent. We call on the new Commission for an Electrification Action Plan within the first 100 days of its mandate that sets an indicative target for 35% electrification in Member States' national energy and climate plans (NECPs) for 2030.

We will also continue to push the Commission to present their Heat Pump Action Plan that was planned for before the elections but was later postponed by Commission President, Ursula von der

Leyen. Heat pumps are currently an item of contention, especially in Germany, which led the Commission to delay any ambitious provisions related to their roll-out, such as the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation's (ESPR) ban on stand-alone fossil fuel boilers. Eurelectric will continue and expand our outreach and communication efforts to position electrified solutions as strategic priorities and decrease their controversial reputation. Eurelectric will also ask policymakers to remain committed to the 2035 deadline for the sale of combustion engine cars in Europe.

4. Expected priorities for the new Commission

Based on the analysis above, we can deduce the new Commission's priorities quite well. While the bulk of the Commission's staff do not change in an election, the political direction is highly influenced by the results of the election of the European Parliament. The rightward shift will mean that getting Commissioners into the open positions will need to be signed off by a more conservative group than before.

Compared to 2019 when the Green Wave brought in a European Commission dedicated to setting the continent on a course to carbon neutrality by 2050, the same cannot be said for 2024. The new Commission will much more likely focus on issues of European competitiveness, security and industry – the issues that European voters indicated were more salient in their minds when choosing the new Parliament. These MEPs must sign off on the Commission President's picks to take on certain portfolios in hearings and a final vote.

Taking this into consideration, the new Commission President will have to be savvy in doling out roles and what the roles entail – they will have to take the political alliances in the Parliament into consideration. At a higher level, we will see a focus on EU enlargement/integration and defence. At the level of energy and climate policy, we expect there to be greater focus on industrial competitiveness, dealing with China and energy security.

I. High-level priorities

- i. **Defence:** the invasion of Ukraine has brought war back to Europe, prompting defence to be a major priority for the next EU mandate. Provided that the EPP, ECR and ID have already called for greater European defence efforts, it is expected that new proposals will be made to either expand the EU budget or re-allocate existing funds for increased defence measures. What exactly those defence measures will be will depend on agreement among Member States, but some common priority threats may be: Russia, illegal migration, terrorism, etc.
- ii. **EU enlargement:** currently, there are nine countries in the EU's formal accession process. Five of the candidate countries—Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia—are in the Western Balkans. Georgia and Moldova are both former Soviet republics with pro-Russia breakaway regions and Turkey's accession process has been stalled since 2018 without any foreseeable prospects. Lastly, there is Ukraine, which represents the only nation at war to have applied for EU membership. It is the latter country that is also likely to dominate the discussion of EU enlargement and integration given the significant challenges such a large and unstable country could pose to the functioning of the EU, namely the internal market, Common Agricultural Policy, and the cost of rebuilding a war-torn country.

II. Energy and climate priorities

- i. **Industrial competitiveness:** the EPP's lead candidate, Ursula von der Leyen, indicated this as a key priority when she attended the initial signing of the Antwerp Declaration. This Declaration calls, first and foremost, for a European Industrial Deal to help European industry remain competitive in the face of increasingly fierce foreign competition. While not rejecting the Green Deal, it calls for a pivot of attention towards helping Europe's industry cope with the change driven by Green Deal legislation in Europe's business environment.
- ii. **Dealing with China:** already in the last term, the Commission was beginning to take a tougher stance on China, launching an investigation into Chinese state subsidies for electric vehicles as an anti-competitive trade practice. With a focus on European competitiveness and no rolling back on the Green Deal foreseen, we can expect the new Commission to continue down this path as it seeks to at least de-risk and diversify supply chains in clean technologies that are heavily dominated today by China. This includes batteries, solar photovoltaics (PV), electrolyzers, materials refining, etc.
- iii. **Energy security:** Russia's invasion of Ukraine led to an energy crisis in 2022-23, exposing Europe's extreme vulnerability of being reliant on energy imports. Fortunately, this has also revealed the strategic role the Green Deal can play for European energy security, given the push for more domestic clean and renewable energy generation. Thus, fast-tracking the Green Deal's implementation has been a part of the EU's overall strategy for achieving energy security, alongside the re-shoring of gas and raw material imports from like-minded countries, namely the US and Norway. With the new geopolitical context, strengthening European energy security will undoubtedly remain at the top of the agenda.

5. Key people for energy and climate

With the changeover, there are a number of top jobs that will need to be filled. Who gets these jobs depends on the majorities in the European Parliament, but also strongly on the Heads of State and Government that represent the Member States in the European Council.

I. European Commission President

In the European Commission, a new President must be nominated by the Heads of State and Government in the European Council before the new MEPs in the Parliament can vote on the pick.

The *Spitzenkandidat* system if followed, dictates that the party that holds the most seats in the Parliament after the election puts their lead candidate forward as the nominee. The lead candidates in this election are listed below.

Based on this, **Ursula von der Leyen is in the position to be nominated for a second term as Commission President.** Indeed, according to the bookmakers she has a 66% chance of being re-elected.

Nonetheless, it is worth noting that Ms von der Leyen herself was not a lead candidate in the 2019 election and was in fact chosen by the Council out of obscurity. The same could happen this time, especially if a strong consensus indicates that they would vote against her in the Parliament. What is more, with elections now coming up in France, President Emmanuel Macron may not be inclined to back von der Leyen as it could risk political blowback for his already floundering party. As a result, there could still be a nominee that is not last term's President.

Names such as last term's President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola, European Central Bank President, Christina Lagarde, former Italian Prime Minister, Mario Draghi, Greek Prime Minister, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic and President of Romania, Klaus Iohannis are being pushed through the rumour mill as potential replacements in the case of a failed von der Leyen. The Council's pick for President should be made public following the European Council meeting on 27 and 28 June.

II. Climate and Energy Commissioners

Following the confirmation of the Commission President, the President will then set to work on divvying up roles in the new Commission to the nominated Commissioners from the 27 EU Member States. It is up to the Commission President to decide what topics fall into what portfolios, and they can choose to fold multiple topics into the same position. For example, climate and energy could be designated a single Commissioner for this term. Who gets these portfolios depends on the alliances formed in the Parliament and what has been promised as part of that alliance-making process.

At present, **Teresa Ribera of Spain** is seen as the clear favourite. She would be ambitious on the Green Deal. Indeed, she has already criticised Commission President Von der Leyen for backtracking on some elements of the Green Deal. Currently the Minister for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge of Spain, Ms Ribera recently made a strong name for herself on energy and climate during her country's presidency of the Council in the second half of 2023.

While most favoured for the position, especially if the position includes both climate and energy, Ms Ribera has also hit out at Ms von der Leyen for her willingness to work with the ECR if she remains Commission President. This could jeopardise her ability to clinch the high-level portfolio. Nonetheless, her government supports her bid for Commissioner, and this is the most suiting role she could take on in Brussels. The Greens have also backed Ms Ribera for a Green Deal portfolio and the S&D will likely get a key role in the new Commission as part of a coalition deal with the EPP. This could be that role.

Some other names floating around for climate and energy Commission positions include:

- **George Lakkotrypis (CY):** The former energy minister of Cyprus' name is in the mix as a potential Commissioner from Cyprus, however, interim Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Stella Kyriakides seems more likely to secure another term.
- **Dan Jørgensen (DK):** Currently the Minister for Development Cooperation and Global Climate Policy in Denmark, Mr Jørgensen is a strong candidate for Commissioner of Energy, Climate, or both. Little more is known about the preferences of the Danish Government at this time, however.
- **Miriam Dalli (MT):** Currently the Minister for the Environment, Energy and Enterprise, Ms Dalli seems to be the preferred pick of the Maltese Government. However, a desired portfolio in the Commission is unclear and other candidates have a stronger profile for the role.

III. Vice President for Industry Competitiveness

Following the Antwerp declaration, it seems very likely that the next Commission will come forward with a new Vice President for Industry Competitiveness/an Industrial Green Deal. It remains to be seen if this position will also have Climate & Energy under their portfolio. If so, it would become an all powerful post.

Some names floating around for this post include:

- **Wopke Hoekstra (NL):** Currently the Commissioner for Climate, it is unlikely that Mr Hoekstra stays on in the face of a new government that does not include his party. The only path to a renewed position would be if the new Dutch coalition cannot agree among themselves for a new nominee.
- **Maroš Šefčovič (SK):** Currently the Green Deal chief in the Commission and being in favour with his government, Mr Šefčovič looks set to return to the Commission. Being a veteran Commissioner as well, he would likely not give up such a strong portfolio. With talks of a new European Industrial Deal, however, it could be possible that he is transferred into this role, as focus shifts from green policy to industrial policy.
- **Jozef Sikela (CZ):** Currently the Minister of Industry and Trade in Czechia, Mr Sikela also made a name for himself during the six-month Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU in the latter half of 2022 following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Determined to address the unfolding energy crisis, he coined the now infamous sentence "we will convene as many energy councils as necessary". However, this is a long shot pick as internal Czech negotiations have indicated that coalition partners favouring other candidates will make different nominations. Nonetheless, the Czech Prime Minister leans more towards Mr Sikela, so his appointment is not out of the question.
- **Thierry Breton (FR)** – Currently the Commissioner for the Internal Market, Mr Breton has been a heavyweight Commissioner in the last term. However, given the turmoil in France following the outcome of the election as well as attacks on Breton over his record running of the French company, Atos, he may also be on President Macron's chopping block.

IV. MEPs – key returning energy and climate names

Of the 720 MEPs elected to the Parliament not all of them will be relevant for climate and energy legislation. While all MEPs get a vote in the Plenary, the Committees responsible for climate and energy topics do the heavy lifting, drafting the legislation, amendments and negotiating in trilogues with the Commission and Council to reach consensus. Of the committee responsible for energy, only 31 of the 77 MEPs have been re-elected (12 remain unclear). The returning MEPs who had the most impact in energy and climate last time around include:

1. **Niels Fuglsang (S&D):** A returning Danish MEP, Niels Fuglsang was a key ally in the last term as an ITRE committee member. He worked on dossiers such as the Energy Efficiency Directive.
2. **Seán Kelly (EPP):** A returning Irish MEP, Mr Kelly was rapporteur for the Energy Performance of Building's Directive and Eurelectric worked well with him on a number of other dossiers in the last term.
3. **Nicolás González Casares (S&D):** A returning Spanish MEP, Mr Casares was the rapporteur on the electricity market design.
4. **Bas Eickhout (Greens):** A returning Dutch MEP, Mr Eickhout was the Vice Chair of the ENVI Committee and played a key role in the CO2 emissions for heavy duty vehicles and the F-Gas regulation.
5. **Christian Ehler (EPP):** A returning German MEP, Mr Ehler was involved in a number of files regarding net-zero industry. Given the importance of this topic in the new term, we expect him to play a key role in the coming years.

Next Steps

The finalisation of the changeover has only just begun with the election marking the first step in a process that will take us to the end of the year. The next step is for the Heads of State and Government of the 27 EU Member States to come to a decision on who to nominate for the top job openings. This includes the European Commission President and European Council President. They will also agree on the Strategic Agenda that lays out the aims of the new European Commission for 2024–2029. This will happen at a European Council Summit on 27 and 28 June.

In July from 16–19, new MEPs will meet in Strasbourg for the first plenary of the new term. Here they will vote on their own President, as well as establish Committees and who is to be in them. Depending on who gets their way, there could also be a vote on the European Council's choice for Commission President, but it could also wait until the next plenary on 16–19 September.

Once the vote for the Commission President passes (if it does not, an unprecedented scramble to find another candidate commences), the President then begins divvying up roles for new Commissioners who are nominated from each Member State's leader. These nominees must first undergo a hearing in the Parliament and get the support of the MEPs, with a final vote on the entire College of Commissioners once all hearings are complete. This process can take a while and lasted into December in 2019. If a nominee does not stand up to the hearing, they are rejected, and their Member State must then name a new nominee to undergo another hearing. Only once the vote of approval on the entire College gives a majority yes can the new Commission begin work.



Annex

I. Breakdown of the Far-Right – A loose grouping

In the media, the far-right groupings have often been classified together under one big large grouping. It is important however to break-down what is actually quite a heterogeneous bloc.

On the right, ECR will have more influence than ID because the EPP has shown more willingness to work with ECR on overlapping issues. This bodes well for the European project since ECR's leadership, such as Italy's Prime Minister, *Giorgia Meloni*, has shown their ability to work productively on and compromise on issues at the EU-level. ID particularly is known as a group that does not partake actively in policymaking (e.g., attending technical or shadow rapporteurs' meetings). Instead, they usually try and boycott entire legislative process by tabling Plenary amendments against a dossier as a whole. ECR on the other hand is likely to be much more involved on a granular level in the process of developing new laws.

There are 2 main far-right groups, ECR & ID;

- a. **ECR:** The European Conservatives and Reformists group consists of conservative political parties. The group split from the EPP in 2009 under the leadership of former British Prime Minister, David Cameron. Its constituency consists of a combination of social conservatives and supporters of economic liberalism. The ECR is critical when it comes to European cooperation but is not outright Eurosceptic. In particular, it emphasises a commitment to economic cooperation and free trade but restricts cooperation in other areas.
- b. **ID:** The Identity and Democracy group was formed in June 2019 as a successor to Europe of Nations and Freedom, which was formed in 2015. The group was founded by the Danish People's Party, the Finnish Party, Germany's *AfD*, and Italy's Lega. Known as euro-critical, the ID group is composed of nationalist and far right-wing parties that were originally members of the relatively more moderate ECR. Its central focus is on preserving the national sovereignty of all Member States and opposing further integration by limiting the number of EU competencies. In addition, the group favours a stricter migration policy and wants to end the accession negotiations with Turkey.

A key caveat to the outcome of the election is the **100 non-inscrits** who still have the ability to join or create their own political groups. A number of these non-inscrits can be considered right or far-right MEPs who could swing the power more in favour of the right in Parliament. How this plays out is hard to predict at this point and will be determined in the coming month as political groups meet and formally include national parties into their Parliamentary groupings.

II. Eurelectric's priorities for the new Commission

Leading up to the election, Eurelectric detailed five key priorities for policymakers in the new legislative term in our [election manifesto](#). Overall, our big focus will be on electrification of Europe, with a special focus on how to ensure this enables industrial competitiveness. These priorities can be broadly boiled down into three points that we are calling the three 'I's':

- 1. **Implementation:** this was also a single priority in our elections manifesto, and it remains a key priority for us as the new legislative term takes off. Implementation means two things. First, it means focusing on delivering on the objectives set in the last legislative term and not overburdening the power sector with even more targets. Second, it means not rolling back

the legislation that has been passed. Eurelectric fully supports the Green Deal and its targeted ambitions. Now is the time to deliver.

2. **Investment:** delivering needs money. To build out the clean and renewable energy generation needed to reach emission reduction targets, electrify at speed, ensure a stable source of energy and build out our clean technology industrial base, Europe needs to earmark vast amounts of funds for the energy transition, both public and private.
3. **Infrastructure:** this area specifically is calling for much needed investment. According to our [*Grids for Speed*](#) study, distribution grids alone will need €67 billion a year from now to 2050 to keep up with the rate of electrification. This is because infrastructure needs modernisation, digitalisation, hardening to provide resilience, flexibility to manage variable energy sources and expansion to handle the vast amount of new connection requests expected with an electrified future.

III. MEPs expected in climate and energy committees

Returning MEPs for energy and climate

The following MEPs are the returning Parliamentarians that worked on climate and energy in the previous term. Either in the Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) Committee or the Environment, Health and Food Safety (ENVI) Committee. While the committees may not have the exact same remit as the last term, and the names from national parties will not be officially communicated to the Parliament for a couple days, we can expect the following names to be leading figures in this term's corresponding committees:

MEP	Party	Profile
Pascal Canfin	Renew	former ENVI Committee Chair; shadow rapporteur for CO2 emission performance standards for heavy duty vehicles
Bas Eickhout	Greens	former ENVI Committee Vice Chair; rapporteur for CO2 emission performance standards for heavy duty vehicles and the F-Gas Regulation
Seán Kelly	EPP	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur on the implementation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive
Niels Fuglsang	S&D	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur for Energy Efficiency Directive (EED); shadow rapporteur for Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), energy storage, strategy for offshore renewable energy and geothermal
Mohammed Chahim	S&D	former ENVI Committee Vice Chair; rapporteur for Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM); shadow rapporteur for Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA) and Industrial Emissions Directive (IED)
Christian Ehler	EPP	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur for various topics on Net Zero technology when it comes to European ecosystems
Ville Niinistö	Greens	former ITRE & ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources; shadow rapporteur for comprehensive European approach to energy storage

Michael Bloss	Greens	former ENVI and ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur for many files for on topics such as Market Design and greenhouse gas emissions
Jutta Paulus	Greens	former ENVI Committee Member and ITRE Committee Substitute; rapporteur on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector; shadow rapporteur for energy efficiency (recast)
Peter Liese	EPP	former ENVI Committee Member; rapporteur for enhancing the EU's greenhouse gas emission allowance trading system and improve the market stability reserve's operation
César Luena López	S&D	former Vice Chair of ENVI Committee; rapporteur of the Regulation on Nature Restoration
Nicolás González Casares	S&D	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur for electricity markets design
Emma Weisner	Renew	former ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for STEP
Adam Jarubas	EPP	former ENVI Committee Member; rapporteur for European Hydrogen Bank; shadow rapporteur for CBAM
Günther Sidl	S&D	former ENVI Committee Member; rapporteur F-Gas Regulation and methane emissions reduction in the energy sector
Beata Szydło	ECR	former ITRE Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for European Hydrogen Bank, just transition and impact investing, Social Climate Fund (SCF) and EPBD
Sunčana Glavak	EPP	former ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure, regional environment strategies in the fight against climate change and New Industrial Strategy for Europe
Marc Botenga	Left	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur for withdrawal from Energy Charter Treaty; shadow rapporteur for Net-Zero Industry Act
Georg Mayer	ID	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur on European Strategy for Hydrogen
Alexander Bernhuber	EPP	former ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur on EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
Iskra Dimitrova Mihailova-Koparova	Renew	former ITRE Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for maximising the energy efficiency potential of EU building stock and New European Bauhaus
Romana Jerković	S&D	former ITRE Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for maximising the energy efficiency potential of EU building stock
Giorgos Georgiou	Left	former ITRE Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for a comprehensive European approach to energy storage
Christophe Hansen	EPP	former shadow rapporteur on European green bonds
Ondřej Knotek	Renew	former ENVI Committee Substitute; shadow rapporteur for F-Gas Regulation
Alexandr Vondra	ECR	former ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for

		F-Gas Regulation
Christel Schaldemose	S&D	former ENVI Committee Substitute; shadow rapporteur for CO2 emission performance standards for heavy duty vehicles
Thierry Mariani	ID	former ITRE Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for common rules for the internal markets in renewable and natural gases and in hydrogen
Christophe Grudler	Renew	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur on the report on a European strategy for energy system integration; shadow rapporteur on NZIA
Marina Mesure	Left	former ENVI & ITRE Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for electricity market design
Damien Carême	Left	former ITRE Committee Substitute; shadow rapporteur on the report on a European Strategy for Hydrogen; shadow rapporteur on the report on small modular reactors
François-Xavier Bellamy	EPP	former ITRE Committee Member
Marie Toussaint	Greens	former ITRE Committee Member and ENVI Committee Substitute; shadow rapporteur for guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure
Alessandra Moretti	S&D	former ENVI Committee Member; rapporteur for eco-design requirements for sustainable products
Silvia Serafina Sardone	ID	former ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for CO2 emission performance standards for heavy duty vehicles and eco-design requirements for sustainable products
Jens Gieseke	EPP	former ITRE and ENVI Committee Substitute; shadow reporter on the proposals focuses on strengthening CO2 emission standards for vehicles
Christine Schneider	EPP	former ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for nature restoration
Norbert Lins	EPP	former ENVI Committee Substitute; shadow Reporter for ENVI for Ambient Air Quality Directives
Hildegard Bentele	EPP	former ITRE and ENVI Committee Member; rapporteur for critical raw materials; shadow reporter on the proposal for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and reversing EU-driven global deforestation
Angelika Niebler	EPP	former ITRE Committee Member; shadow Reporter for ITRE on a European Strategy for Hydrogen
Jens Geier	S&D	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur for common rules for the internal markets in renewable and natural gases and in hydrogen (recast) and the European Strategy for Hydrogen
Karin Karlsbro	Renew	former ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for the Directive on batteries and waste batteries
Pilar del Castillo Vera	EPP	former ITRE Committee Member; rapporteur for the Data Act
Tom Berendsen	EPP	former ITRE Committee Member; shadow rapporteur on trans-European energy infrastructure, and on new industrial strategy

Pablo Arias Echeverría	EPP	former TRAN Committee Member; shadow rapporteur for guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure
Javi López Fernández	S&D	former ENVI Committee Member; shadow rapporteur on Binding Annual Greenhouse Gas Emission reductions
Lina Gálvez Muñoz	S&D	former Vice Chair of ITRE Committee
Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy	Renew	former Vice Chair of ENVI Committee from 2012 to 2014; ENVI Committee Member from 2014 to 2019
Laura Ballarín Cereza	S&D	former ITRE Committee Substitute; shadow rapporteur for the Green Claims Directive
Marcos Ros Sempere	S&D	former ENVI Committee Substitute; shadow rapporteur for the Strategy to Reduce Methane Emissions

New MEPs with interesting climate and energy backgrounds

Beyond these names, some new MEPs who have interesting profiles and are likely to work on energy and climate include:

MEP	Party	Profile
Thomas Pellerin-Carlin	S&D	an expert on energy policies doing his first mandate, previously Director of the EU Programme at the Institute for Climate Economics (I4CE) at the European Commission; taught at Sciences Po in Paris, and at the College of Europe Energy Union Training Programme in Bruges; worked at the Jacques Delors Institute, founding and directing the Jacques Delors Energy Centre
Daniel Obajtek	ECR	in 2017, became the president of Energa SA (a Polish corporate group dealing in the generation, distribution, and supply of electricity to approximately 2.7 million people in Northern Poland); held the office of the Executive Chairman of PKN Orlen, a Polish petrol retailer and oil refiner from 2018-2024
Bruno Tobback	S&D	former Minister of Environment and Pensions in Belgium from 2004 – 2007
Dzhevdet Chakarov	Renew	former Minister of Environment and Waters in Bulgaria
Lena Schilling	Greens	a young MEP from the top of the Green's list in Austria, climate advocate, author of the book "Radikale Wende"; subject of recent personal character revelations in a report by Der Standard
Ondřej Krutilek	ECR	former EU legislative analyst primarily specialized in the environment; worked as an analyst of EU legislation at the Centre for the Study of Democracy and Culture (CDK) and as an assistant at the European Parliament; also worked for think tanks such as the European Information Project, Right Bank

Verena Mertens	EPP	Project Manager at ISFH (Institute for Solar Energy Hamelin)
Sigrid Friis	Renew	Danish politician engaged in the green transition; advocates for green electricity and phasing out fossil fuels from Russia
Per Clausen	Left	Danish politician from the Red-Green Alliance; has served on the Aalborg Municipal council in Aalborg Municipality since 2013, becoming deputy mayor for climate and energy in 2022
Oliver Schenk	EPP	worked from 1994 to 1999 in the Saxon State Ministry for the Environment and Regional Development
Maria Ohisalo	Greens	Former Minister of the Environment and Climate Change (2022 – 2023) of Finland
Sabrina Repp	S&D	Policies focusing on enhancing marine protection by ending overfishing and restoring marine ecosystems; promoting sustainable agriculture by aligning the Common Agricultural Policy with Green Deal goals, reducing pesticide use, leveraging digital technologies, and ensuring fair treatment for agricultural workers
Virgil-Daniel Popescu	EPP	Romanian politician, serving as Minister of Energy in the Ciucă Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Nicolae Ciucă, as of 25 November 2021
Nela Riehl	Greens	German member of VOLT and advocate for real climate action
Farantouris Nikolaos	Left	Greek with professional experience as Chairman of the Board of Directors, Gas Corporation of Greece (DEPA SA), 2017; Founding member & Member of the Board, Energy Law Association, 2013-2017; Arbitrator, Regulatory Authority of Energy, Greece, 2011- present
María del Carmen Crespo Díaz	EPP	Former Minister of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development of the Junta de Andalucía in Spain
Brigitte van den Berg	Renew	former Alderman and 2nd deputy mayor in Beverwijk, portfolio: Economy, Sustainability and Energy transition, Environment and Healthy living environment, Tata Steel, Waste and Raw Materials, Labor Market and Participation, Vocational Education and Local Media
Elena Sancho Murillo	S&D	professional engineering background; currently a Purchasing and Warehouse Director for a Spanish company working in PV installations and Energy Efficiency
Anja Hazekamp	Left	Vice Chair of ENVI; Shadow Reporter on many ENVI matters
Antoni Comín Oliveres	NI	Former ENVI Committee Substitute; shadow rapporteur on the report on the implementation and delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals

High-level MEPs

Finally, some high-level individuals elected to this Parliament include the following:

MEP	Party	Profile
Teresa Ribera Rodríguez	S&D	Minister for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge of Spain since 2018
Valdis Dombrovskis	EPP	former Executive Vice President of the European Commission for An Economy that Works for People; former European Commissioner for Trade
Adina Ioana Vălean	EPP	former European commissioner for transport since December 2019; previously Romanian MEP for the Partidul Național Liberal, part of the EPP, between 2007 and 2019; elected chairwoman of the European Parliament's ITRE Committee in July 2019
Sophie Wilmès	Renew	former Prime Minister of Belgium and Minister of Foreign Affairs
Elio Di Rupo	S&D	former Prime Minister of Belgium and incumbent Minister-President of Wallonia
Dubravka Šuica	EPP	former Vice President of the European Commission for Democracy and Demography
Klára Dostálová	Renew	former Minister for Local Development of the Czech Republic and then deputy
Danuše Nerudová	EPP	Czech economist and university professor; interested in becoming the next Czech EU commissioner
Stine Bosse	Renew	Danish businesswoman, professional board member of several companies, including Aker (Norwegian industrial investment company with interests in oil and gas, renewable energy, and green technologies) where she is a non-executive director
Jüri Ratas	EPP	Former Prime Minister of Estonia (2016 – 2021) and deputy
Li Andersson	Left	Former Minister of Education in Finland (2021 – 2023)
Merja Kyllönen	Left	Former Minister of Transport in Finland (2011 – 2014)
Katri Kulmuni	Renew	Former Vice-Prime Minister (2019-2020), Minister of Finance and Minister of Economic Affairs in Finland
Anna-Maja Henriksson	Renew	Former Minister of Education (current since 2023) and Justice (2019-2023) in Finland
Maria Guzenina	S&D	Former Minister of Social Services (2011 – 2013) in Finland; member of the Finnish Parliament since 2007

Mihai Tudose	EPP	Deputy in the Parliament of Romania; former Minister of Economy in 2017 and former Prime Minister of Romania in 2018
Vasile Sebastian Dîncu	S&D	Romanian politician, sociologist, professor, and writer; served as Deputy Prime Minister in the Cioloş Cabinet; Minister of National Defence in the Ciucă Cabinet
Ilie-Dan Barna	Renew	Former Deputy Prime Minister of Romania
Ludovít Ódor	Renew	Former Prime Minister of Slovakia from May to October 2023; also served as Minister of the Interior from July to October 2023
Marjan Šarec	Renew	Former Prime Minister of Slovenia from 2018 to 2020; has served as the Minister of Defence in the government of Prime Minister Robert Golob since 1 June 2022
Paulo Do Nascimento Cabral	EPP	Former advisor (Azores and Energy), Permanent Representation of Portugal to the European Union (REPER) from 2022 to present
Letizia Moratti	EPP	Minister of Education, University and Research (2001 – 2006); mayor of Milano (2006–2011); president of the board of directors of UBI Banca (2019–2020)
João Oliveira	Left	Former member of the legislature of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal; served on the Committee on Local Government, Environment and Spatial Planning
Irene Montero	Left	Minister of Equality (2021 – 2023) in Spain; Member of the Congress of Deputies where she was the Spokesperson for the “Parliamentary Group Unidos Podemos–En Comú Podem–Galicia en Común”

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- Commitment, innovation, pro-activeness

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