

European Elections June 2024- Outcome and some first comments by country

European Elections 2024, all countries by political groups

<i>Political group</i>	<i>Seats 2024</i>	<i>2024 vs. 2019</i>	<i>percentage</i>
<i>EPP</i>	189	+13	26.3
<i>Socialists (S&D)</i>	135	-4	18.8
<i>Renew</i>	79	-23	11.0
<i>Cons.&Reform. ECR</i>	73	+4	10.1
<i>Identity and Dem. ID</i>	58	+9	8.1
<i>Greens</i>	53	-18	7.4
<i>The Left, GUE/NGL</i>	36	-1	5.0
<i>Non-attached</i>	97	-35	13.5
Total	710		

For individual countries see: <https://results.elections.europa.eu/en/>

BELGIUM,

(Graham Keen)

<i>Party</i>	<i>EP group</i>	<i>Seats 2024</i>	<i>2024 vs 2019</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	
<i>VI. Belang</i>	Far right *	ID	3	14.5	
<i>N-VA</i>	Right (separatist) *	ECR	3	14.0	
<i>MR</i>	Right **	Renew	3	+1	12.6
<i>CD&V</i>	Centre *	EPP	2	8.3	
<i>Vooruit</i>	Socialist *	S&D	2	+1	12.6
<i>PS</i>	Socialist **	S&D	2	+1	7.4
<i>PVDA</i>	Far left *		1	+1	5.1
<i>Groen</i>	Green *	Greens	1	6.3	
<i>Open VLD</i>	Centre *	Renew	1	-1	5.8
<i>PTB</i>	Far left **	Left	1	5.6	
<i>Les Engagés</i>	Centre/right **	EPP	1	5.2	
<i>Ecolo</i>	Green left **	Greens	1	-1	3.6
<i>CSP</i>	Christian democrats ***	EPP	1	0.2	
Total			22		

* Flemish speaking party

** French speaking party

*** German speaking party

See also: <https://results.elections.europa.eu/en/belgium/>

In Belgium we also had **Federal and Regional** elections.

In FLANDERS the far right Vlaams Belang increased by 4% to 22.7% of all Flemish voters but remained in second place. NVA declined by 1% but remained the leading party with 23.9%

Vooruit, the Flemish socialists, increased to 13.8%. CD&V dropped to 13 %

Open VLD (Prime Minister De Croo's party) fell 5% to 8.3%. And Groen (Greens) fell 2.8% to 7.3% of the Flemish vote.

In Wallonia and Brussels the two centre / right parties MR and Les Engagés (formerly CDH, Christian democrats) were the 2 big winners. In Wallonia the socialists had a heavy fall, only a small fall in Brussels. Ecolo were down 7% in both Wallonia and Brussels.

Bart de Wever, President of NVA, is expected to become prime minister with MR and Les Engagés in his government. A few years ago the NVA was threatening to make Flanders a separate country. Today they have changed their tune, just seeking to transfer some portfolios to the regions, which MR and Les Engagés accept.

They will need other parties to form a majority but that is expected to happen rather quickly. Wallonia is also clear cut – MR and Les Engagés can form a majority together. Brussels will be more complicated.

(19th June) *NVA is in discussions with CD&V (centre) and Vooruit (socialists) to form a government in Flanders. MR and Les Engagés are discussing a joint programme for Wallonia. The Federal government is likely to be those five parties.*

FRANCE

(Graham Keen)

See: <https://results.elections.europa.eu/en/france/>

RN / Rassemblement National (former National Front), Jordan Bardella

31.4% of votes = 30 seats (+12). Their ID group in the EP scored only 6/100 in 4-year voting record for climate-related issues.

Renaissance / Mr Macron under 15%. Renew group (scored 71/100)

Emmanuel Macron announced the dissolution of parliament and national elections on 30th June (second round 7th July). "Political suicide" ? At the time of writing we are waiting to hear whether the 2nd round would enable RN to form a government.

<i>Party</i>		<i>EP group</i>	<i>Seats 2024</i>	<i>2024 vs 2019</i>	<i>percentage</i>
<i>RN</i>	Far right	ID	30	+12	31.4
<i>Besoin Europe</i>	Macron	Renew	13	-10	14.6
<i>Réveiller l'Europe</i>	Socialist	S&D	13	+6	13.8
<i>La France</i>	Far left	GUE	9	+3	9.9
<i>Insoumise</i>					
<i>Les Républicains</i>	Right	EPP	6	-2	7.3
<i>LE - EELV</i>	Green	Greens	5	-7	5.5

FINLAND

(Päivi Härkönen)

In advance the polls predicted perhaps a slight drop in support for the governing parties, even though the far-right party, The Finns Party - Perussuomalaiset was supposed to get more seats.

The turnout rate was low, just a bit over 40 %. The right-wing prime minister's party, the National Coalition Party, always benefits from the low turnout and the Finns Party lost as well as the Left Alliance. Many Finns think that the EU is so far away and we Finns have only so few seats that it's no use to vote even though we have had many impressive members in the EU-parliament.

There are two clearly pro-climate and pro-environment parties in Finland, The Left Alliance and Greens as the EU Parliament Scoreboard 2019-2024 (caneurope.org) shows. The Left had hoped to win because of their chair, Li Andersson and Greens were supposed to loose.

But the polls turned out to be wrong. The prime minister's right-wing party, The National Coalition Party - Kokoomus (EPP) got 24,8 %, 4 MEPs +1.

The Left Alliance - Vasemmistoliitto got their best result ever, 17,3%, 3 MEPs +2.

For other parties see: <https://results.elections.europa.eu/en/finland/>

(The Greens - Vihreät, 11,3 %, 2 MEPs, +/-0)

Li Andersson of the Left Alliance got a record, about 250 000 votes, ~14% of all votes from across the country. It is necessary to tell a bit more about her and her party. She was the Minister of Education in Sanna Marin's government, is known for fact-based argumentation and doesn't let populist nonsense and bullshit get through in election debates or interviews. That's why she is very popular. She is just 37 years old, but has been the chair of The Left Alliance for eight years and a member of parliament for nine years.

The other MEPs of the Left Alliance, Jussi Saramo and Merja Kyllönen have served as ministers, Merja Kyllönen as MEP as well. They both have expressed their willingness to be godfathers/-mothers of Finnish ClimateGrandparents in the Finnish parliament. So, let us see, if we can establish a new contact with them in the new EU-parliament.

The Left in Finland is pro-climate, pro-human rights and pro-justice party and condemns Russia's invasion of Ukraine as well as Israel's actions against Palestinians. The party is a strong supporter of Ukraine and opposes vigorously Putin's regime in Russia.

European Grandparents for Climate have already met the other of our two Green MEPs, Ville Niinistö, who came to meet us in EU-parliament in Brussels. He is very convincing, as you probably remember, hardworking, and knows his stuff.

The other Green-MEP is Maria Ohisalo, also a minister in Sanna Marin's government. Clever and hard working as well. She has been close collaborator of Climate Grandparents of Finland.

DENMARK

(Eva Riemer)

Contrary to many other countries, Denmark did not see a surge to the right, and from a climate perspective, Danish voters did the right thing. They gave the Socialist People's Party an amazing winner's position among all Danish parties, with 17,4 % of the votes, thus adding a third member to the Danish representation in the Greens/EFA. One of these, Kira Marie Peter-Hansen, even scored most personal votes among all Danish candidates.

In terms of green/pro-climate MEPs, Denmark kept one member of the Left group who will also work for climate and social justice, and three Social-democratic Danes in the S&D. At least one Danish member of the Renew Europe group is dedicated to the climate, and one or two of the others are also bent on being pro-climate, to a certain extent.

For details see: <https://results.elections.europa.eu/en/denmark/>

The NETHERLANDS

Hugo Swinnen and Philip Beekman

The turnout in the EP elections was significantly higher in the Netherlands this year than in 2019: 46.20% against 41.93%, which is still far less than for the national elections (77.7%). The voters on the "green" side showed a clear higher turnout than the voters for extreme right wing parties.

For details of the parties see: <https://results.elections.europa.eu/en/netherlands/>

At first sight, if one looks to the EP groups repartition, the election outcome in the Netherlands shows a turn to the right, although the extreme populist right wing PVV did not consolidate its national elections success of November 2023.

We have to look at the percentages and seats by party to evaluate the national outcome (see the table below).

The first important point is that since 2023 social democrats and ecologists made a coalition for the elections. They have now 8 seats in the EP, split equally between S&D and Greens/EFA. In 2019, together they had 9 seats, which means that they lost one seat, but turned out to be the first party in the Netherlands.

The extreme right wing populist party of Geert Wilders had no seats in the EP and has 6 seats now. Its percentage of votes is 17.7% against 23.49% in the national elections of November 2023. Moreover, another 3 extreme right wing MEPs lost the seat they had in the 2019-2023 period.

Two new parties were established in the Netherlands recently:

- The BBB in the slipstream of the farmers protests against climate and environment measures. This party, heavily supported by the agro-industry, had a massive increase in regional elections in 2023, and somewhat less success at national elections in November 2023. In the EP elections they "only" got two seats.

- The NSC in the slipstream of a national scandal about family subsidies for childcare, in which thousands of families were unjustly accused of fraud. NSC had a massive success at the national elections in November 2023, and got two seats at the EP now.

In the table below we placed the parties according to their (expected) position towards climate and environmental measures: green = pro; grey = uncertain; brown = against.

Percentages and seats by party

National party	% of votes	seats	2019-2024
GroenLinks-PvdA	21.6	8	-1
D66	8.1	3	+2
PvdD	4.4	1	+1
CU	2.7	0	-1
	36.8	12	+1
VVD	11.6	4	-1
CDA	9.7	3	-2
Volt NL	4.9	2	+2
NSC	3.8	1	+1
	30	10	0
PVV	17.7	6	+6
BBB	5.3	2	+2
SGP	3.4	1	0
FvD	2.5	0	-1
SP	2	0	0
Other	2.3	0	0
Former FvD		0	-3
	33.2	9	+4

All together the Netherlands voted clearly pro-Europe: at least around 63% of votes: The green and grey (except probably NSC) highlighted parties.

Our conclusion is that the EP elections in the Netherlands turned out less dramatically than expected. But this should not hide the fact that the parties against climate and environmental measures became much more important. We are also faced now with a far right wing government. Two of the coalition parties are strongly Eurosceptic and against most climate measures. The other two are not clear about climate issues. And the former Dutch government voted against the Nature Restoration Law.

GERMANY

Christina Heydenreich

The German results can be seen on:

https://www.bundeswahlleiterin.de/info/presse/mitteilungen/europawahl-2024/40_24_vorlaeufiges-ergebnis.html

See also: <https://results.elections.europa.eu/en/germany/>

The reasons for the result are mainly:

The German population is very dissatisfied with the national government and voted to punish it.

The migration topic is very virulent (because of threatening political communication) and outweighing the climate topics.

People know about the radical nazi contents of the radical right party (AFD), but those are the only ones who promise to "do away with" burdensome issues like migration, climate protection, new heating concepts and other perceived severe problems.

Young people often get informed only by TikTok and don't use other means of information. They know that these contents are poisonous and determined by radical right-wingers, but they don't do research themselves.

Voter turnout was 64.8%, an increase from 61.4% in 2019.

The percentage of all votes and number of seats for the main parties was as follows:

Party	Share of votes / number of seats	
	2024	2019
CDU/EVP	23,7 % 23 seats	22,6% 23 seats
AfD	15,9 % 15	11,0 % 11
SPD	13,9 % 14	15,8 % 16
GRÜNE/Greens	11,9 % 12	20,5 % 21
CSU/EVP	6,3 % 6	6,3 % 6
BSW	6,2 % 6	- -
FDP	5,2 % 5	5,4 % 5