### Importance of voting: Decisions on the future of Europe are made at the Elections to the European Parliament



## By voting you can decide who represents you in the European Union.

The European Parliament exercises wide-ranging powers. Together with the Council of Ministers it decides on almost all EU laws and the EU budget. If the Parliament and Council of Ministers do not agree, it is impossible to make any decisions in the European Union.

With the Treaty of Lisbon the Parliament's powers have increased. Now the Parliament has more say in passing laws.

# Members of the European Parliament represent you: Every member of the European Parliament (MEP) has a lot of influence. They represent the citizens of their own countries.

Every MEP is a member of some Committee. The Committees prepare special issues for the sessions of the Parliament. By working in the Committees, the MEPs become experts. Every proposal for a law is presented by a MEP. It is a position many MEPs want. The people chosen for this position are competent MEPs with good intrapersonal skills.

#### All representatives chosen by voters

All the members of the European Parliament are elected by direct public ballot. It is only by voting that you can have a say in who will be elected to the Parliament.

In the European parliamentary elections the whole of Finland is a single election district. In this way, the voters can choose from among all the candidates. Altogether there will be about 200 candidates in the country.

http://www.europarlamentti.info/en/elections/importance-of-voting/

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20181122STO19860/all-you-need-to-know-about-the-2019-european-elections (video)

#### European elections—23 -26 May 2019 (In Cyprus 26th May, 2019)

## The next European elections take place on 23-26 May 2019 giving all adult EU citizens the opportunity to select who will represent them in the European Parliament. Help shape Europe's future and vote!

The last European elections in 2014 were the largest transnational elections ever held at the same time. This time the stakes are even higher. By voting, you help decide what kind of Europe we have in the years to come.

The European elections in May 2019 will have a direct impact on your life. They will decide how Europe will act in the coming years to address your concerns about jobs, business, security, migration and climate change.

Because Europe belongs to all of us, we should all take these decisions together. So it's not only important that you vote, but also your family, friends, neighbours and colleagues. When everybody votes, everybody wins.

#### **Casting your vote**

Although there are some common rules regarding the elections, some aspects can vary by country, such as whether it is possible to vote by mail or from abroad.

Specific details such as who the candidates will be and where your local polling station will gradually become available. For the latest data, check with your national election authority.

If you live in another EU country, you should be able to vote for your MEP there. If your country of origin allows voting from abroad, you might also have the option to vote there instead. To know if this is a possibility, check with your embassy. Of course, you can only vote once. So you either vote in your county of origin or in your new host country, not both.

We have to change Europe and make it more effective by answering citizens' concerns and building upon what we have already achieved,

#### **Parliament President Antonio Tajani**

- Why should you vote in the European elections?
- The European Parliament has done much to help improve different parts of your life over the last few years. Work will need to continue in the next term. <u>Check out this overview</u> and share the reasons you find most important with your friends.
- The EU is involved with many things, from boosting trade to protecting consumers and stimulating research. It is changing your city and region. Find out how the EU has benefited you.

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/en/be-heard/elections

#### **Importance Of Voting: Why Should Every Citizen Vote?**

by Everett Vasquez | Nov 16, 2017 | Info |



<u>Voting</u> is a fundamental right of any citizen that enables them to choose the leaders of tomorrow. In many countries, the minimum age for voting is 18 years. Voting not only enables the citizens to vote for political parties, but it also helps them to realize the importance of citizenship. Many people do not vote thinking one vote will not make a change, but as a matter of fact, it does. A nation's political foundations are built using elections.



#### **Benefits of Voting:**

Voting is a basic process that keeps a nation's governmental system works. It enables the citizens to choose their own government. It also allows the people to choose their representatives in the government. The purpose of every government is to develop and implement various policies for the benefit of its citizens.

It also enables the person with the right to question the government about issues and clarifications. Voting is the way to express the opinion of a citizen in a democratic nation. Voting is crucial to activating the democratic process.

On the day of the election, voters won't just have the capacity to choose their representatives in government for the following term, and they can also decide on measures like security issues that concede the government authority to borrow funds for development projects and different advancements. Also, in some cases, voters cast their voting sheets on social issues.

#### Right to vote:

Right to vote energizes <u>social awareness</u> since it empowers political cooperation. The citizens can follow the progress of the political representatives and the legislature. This consistent process enables the general population to settle on educated choices about whom to vote in favor of in the following term. Also, the legislature can't generally act arbitrarily when the entire nation is observing.

Every adult is given the right to vote, irrespective of sex, class, occupation and so forth. This is representative of uniformity and congruity. It is a fundamental right in which all citizens get an opportunity to choose who represents them.

Every party that is competing in any elections announces and establishes various benefits and social reforms for their people. Some of these political parties might be deceiving with their initial reforms, but can have the intention of corruption. It's the responsibility and skills of citizen that decides which government is elected.

It is the right, benefit and obligation to vote as a citizen of your nation and an individual from your society. Individuals may figure their vote does not make a difference, but rather votes can shape remote monetary and social arrangements.

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